



## *Council meeting May 6, 2024*

Present: Mayor Chris Lelle; Councilmen, Doug Koestel, Tommy Buchanan, Eric Dailey and Sally Brown; Clerk, Kathy Bridges; Attorney Brian Dempsey

Visitors: Beth Buchanan, Nocole Hunter, Tim Cummings, Jakob Sullins

The meeting opened at 7:00 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor asked for the agenda to be amended to add discussion of the town marshal and the town hall meeting dates. Sally Brown made the motion to amend the agenda, Eric Dailey seconded, and the vote was unanimous.

The Mayor opened the public hearing on the rezone of 0 Harrison Mill Road from Ag to C-2.

Jakob Sullins spoke as a representative of the owner who plans a 5000 square foot facility as a shop for selling/storing concrete tools and materials. He said there would be no retail sales and low traffic. The facility would basically be an office for a concrete business. The council heard opposition from citizen Nicole Hunter, a resident of Harrison Mill Road. Jean Ross, a resident of Bethlehem Church Road spoke about the DOT's plans for closing Harrison Mill Road to traffic off of 316.

The public hearing closed at 7:20.

The Mayor asked if the council had reviewed the minutes of April 29. Sally Brown made the motion to accept the minutes as written, Doug Koestel seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

In new business the Mayor asked for discussion on the rezone at 0 Harrison Mill. Sally Brown voted to approve the rezone with the conditions set forth by the Barrow County Planning and Development staff recommendations which are as follows:

- (1) Highway Corridor Overlay guidelines will be adhered to.
- (2) Should the property owner avail itself of the automatic reduction of zoning buffer per Bethlehem UDC Section 89-865, the structural buffer shall consist of a 4' high berm with an 8' high screening fence which is constructed of a rot-resistant material, to create a total structural

buffer of 12' in height. The buffer must be designed in accordance with Bethlehem UDC Section 89-863(e).

(3) No mixing, manufacturing, or crushing of rock, gravel, or concrete may occur at the subject property.

(4) No outdoor storage is permitted.

Eric Dailey seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

The Mayor moved on to the supplemental LMIG funds of \$18,329.21 which were to be used for Shepherd Street improvements. Doug Koestel made the motion to approve the application and with a second by Sally Brown the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Title VI non-discrimination agreement was next on the agenda. A representative must be appointed to be responsible for initiating and monitoring Title VI activities, preparing reports and other responsibilities as required by 23 Code of Federal Regulation 200 and 49 Code of Federal Regulation 21. Councilman Eric Dailey volunteered to be the representative. Sally Brown made the motion to sign the agreement naming Dailey, Doug Koestel seconded, and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

The rescue funds amended budget resolution was passed by a motion from Sally Brown, a second by Doug Koestel and a unanimous vote.

The council discussed the town marshal position and agreed a job description was needed and would be reviewed by the Barrow County Sheriff's Office. Sally Brown suggested attire specific to Bethlehem.

The council agreed to a town hall meeting on Monday June 17 at 7 p.m. and directed the clerk to send postcards to the citizens.

At 7:50 Eric Dailey made the motion to go into executive session to discuss real estate and with a second by Doug Koestel the vote was unanimous.

At 8:26 Eric Dailey made the motion to come out of executive session and end the regular meeting and with a second by Sally Brown the vote was unanimous.