

RANLO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MARCH 2021 MEETING
RANLO TOWN HALL
1624 SPENCER MOUNTAIN ROAD, RANLO, NORTH CAROLINA 28054
Thursday, March 11th 2021
7:00 PM

MINUTES

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Lynn Black
Mayor Pro-Tem	Katie Cordell
Commissioner	Robin Conner
Commissioner	Jamie Fowler
Commissioner	Effie Locklear
Commissioner	Doug Moore

Staff Present:

Town Manager	Jonathan Blanton
Town Attorney	Jim Windham
Finance Director	Lieke Janssen-Castro

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Black called the meeting to order and Town Manager Jonathan Blanton conducted the roll call. All members were present.

Mayor Black offered the invocation.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Commissioner Locklear motioned to adopt the agenda as amended and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

III. Approval of the February 11th, 2021 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Moore motioned to adopt the February 11th 2021 Board of Commissioners' Regular Meeting Minutes and Commissioner Fowler provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

IV. Comments from Attendees

The Town Manager reported that there were no comments from attendees wishing to address the Board.

V. Public Hearing for an Ordinance Amendment Regarding White Goods and Bulk Refuse Pick-Up

Commissioner Locklear motioned to open the public hearing and Commissioner Moore provided the second. The vote was 5-0. The Town Manager presented the updated white goods and bulk-refuse pick-up ordinance for the Board's consideration. Mayor Pro Tem Cordell clarified that the white good pick-up would only be paid on non-scheduled days and Mr. Blanton confirmed. Commissioner Fowler

motioned to close the public hearing and Commissioner Conner provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell motioned to approve the revised ordinance and Commissioner Fowler provided the second. The vote was 5-0. The Town Manager requested that the Board make the ordinance effective later in April in order to give residents ample notice in regard to the change. The Board reached consensus to proceed with Mr. Blanton's request.

VI. Public Hearing for an Ordinance Amendment Providing for No Parking on Certain Streets

Commissioner Moore motioned to open the public hearing and Commissioner Locklear provided the second. The vote was 5-0. The Town Manager presented the revised non-parking ordinance and explained the issues surrounding public safety regarding the issue of on-street parking in certain neighborhoods. Mr. Blanton explained that the list of streets includes those that the Board reached consensus on and streets that residents wished to see added.

Commissioner Moore noted ample parking on Dellinger Avenue and that no issues had been present in the past regarding fire truck access. Commissioner Fowler inquired about Monterey Park Drive and Strawberry Lane. The Town Manager explained that a resident requested Strawberry Lane and that Monterey Park Drive was previously encompassed in older recorded ordinances. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell inquired as to whether Commissioner Moore was familiar with issues surrounding these two roads from the fire department perspective. He stated that there were none.

The Board reached consensus to remove Monterey Park Drive and Strawberry Lane from the listed streets encompassed in the ordinance.

The Board discussed other streets within the Town that residents requested to be added to the ordinance, as well as the catch-all provisions within the revised ordinances. The Board reached consensus to also remove Crescent Avenue from the listed streets, in addition to Monterey Park and Strawberry Lane. No additional roads were added or removed.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to close the public hearing and Commissioner Locklear provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to adopt the revised ordinance as amended. Commissioner Moore provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

VII. Continued Discussion for Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Planning

The Town Manager noted that the Director of Finance recently compiled financial policies and practices for the Town. Mr. Blanton recognized Mrs. Janssen-Castro to give an overview of the policies and practices.

The Director of Finance gave an overview of the policy and specifically noted the recommended fund-balance policy. The Town Manager noted that this would be beneficial when addressing the Local Government Commission regarding the ability to issue debt.

The Board reached consensus to schedule a special budget meeting for the March 25 at 6:00 pm and to revise the April regular meeting to 6:00 pm with a public hearing for ordinance changes.

VIII. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported that two blood drives are scheduled with the Red Cross at The Lodge on March 19 and March 31. Mr. Blanton also stated that he is coordinating with the North Carolina Department of Transportation for a Clean-Up-Day across Ranlo.

The Town Manager thanked Gaston County for providing COVID-19 vaccines for the Town's employees and reported that over two-thirds of the Town's staff are currently vaccinated.

Mr. Blanton brought attention to the Public Works Department and their recent efforts to unclog a sewer-line in Ranlo. He also noted a continued up-tick in calls for the Police Department.

IX. Comments from the Mayor and the Board of Commissioners

The Mayor inquired regarding whether t-ball would be offered in Ranlo. The Town Manager noted that a recent online survey was provided and had little positive feedback. The Mayor asked about the Recreation Committee.

Commissioner Locklear noted that the Recreation Committee was not intact. She stated that she would like to see a drive-through meal give away during Senior Adult Month in May.

The Mayor and the Town Manager noted that they would reach out to the City of Lowell to inquire about their program. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell stated that combining teams may be beneficial to the Town of Ranlo and the Board discussed how the partnership could work between the two municipalities.

The Mayor brought attention to the new Fire Department and inquired about the best time to visit. Commissioner Moore stated any time between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm would be best.

X. Adjournment

Commissioner Locklear motioned to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Conner provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

ATTESTED TO:

Mayor Lynn Black

Recorder and transcriber of the minutes for Special Board Meeting of March 11th 2021