

**TOWN OF RANLO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MONTHLY OCTOBER 2023
MEETING
RANLO TOWN HALL
1624 SPENCER MOUNTAIN ROAD, RANLO, NORTH CAROLINA 28054
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH 2023 7:00 PM**

MINUTES

Governing Body Present

Mayor Lynn Black
Mayor Pro-Tem Katie Cordell
Commissioner Robin Conner
Commissioner Jamie Fowler
Commissioner Doug Moore (via phone)
Commissioner Wade Morton

Staff Present

Town Manager Jonathan Blanton
Town Attorney Nick Tosco

I. Call to Order

Mayor Black called the meeting to order and the Town Manager conducted the roll call. All members were present with Commissioner Moore calling in.

II. Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Black called for a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular October meeting. Commissioner Moore motioned to approve the agenda for the regular October meeting. Commissioner Fowler seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 5-0 vote.

III. Comments from Attendees

There were no comments from attendees.

IV. Approval of the September 14th 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board

Commissioner Morton motioned to approve the September 14th 2023 regular meeting of the Board and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell provided the second. The motion passed 5-0.

V. Continued Discussion Regarding Potential Partnership with the YMCA

Molly D'Avria with the YMCA addressed the Board regarding a partnership between the YMCA and the Town.

Commissioner Conner inquired about membership with the YMCA for Ranlo children and Ms. D'Avria explained options for participating in YMCA recreational programs.

Mayor Black asked Ms. D'Avria about her vision for teams within the Town and Ms. D'Avria discussed different options to be able to include Ranlo children in YMCA recreational programs.

Commissioner Fowler asked about the YMCA's interest in providing concession services and Ms. D'Avria indicated that the YMCA would be interested in utilizing the concession stand.

The Board discussed the advantages of partnering with the YMCA and Commissioner Morton motioned to direct staff to move forward with negotiation a draft memorandum of understanding with the YMCA. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The measure was approved by a 5-0 motion.

VI. Discussion Regarding Rental Policy for The Lodge

The Town Manager presented the Board with a revised rental policy for the Ranlo Lodge. The Board discussed the policy and directed staff to revise the policy to reflect half-day rentals for The Lodge. The Board reached consensus to allow for four-hour, half-day rentals of The Lodge at the rate of \$75 for in-Ranlo residents and \$150 for out-Ranlo residents with a \$50 security deposit.

Commissioner Fowler voted to approve the revised rental policy and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell provided the second. The measure passed by a 5-0 vote.

The Town Manager reported that staff would revise the policy and bring the revisions back to the Board at the October meeting.

VII. Ratification of Intent to Participate in Municipal Accounting Service Program

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell motioned to ratify the Town's intent to participate in the North Carolina League of Municipalities' Municipal Accounting Service Program and Commissioner Morton provided the second. The vote passed 5-0.

VIII. Consideration of CivicPlus Proposal for Online Reservations of The Lodge

The Board discussed the advantages of the CivicPlus proposal to provide for online reservations for facilities of the Town.

Commissioner Conner motioned to accept the proposal and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell provided the second. The vote passed by a 5-0 vote.

IX. Consideration of New Signage

The Town Manager presented the Board with proposal for a new entrance sign to be installed in front of The Lodge. The Board discussed the proposal and indicated support of funding the signage via the State Capital Improvement Fund. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell motioned to accept the stone based sign and Commissioner Fowler provided the second. The vote passed 5-0.

X. Adoption of Engineering Services Agreement for Environmental Report for HUD Funding

The Town Manager reported that an engineering services agreement was necessary to proceed with securing the recently awarded \$2 million from a federal HUD grant. Commissioner Fowler motioned to adopt the engineering services agreement with The Wooten Company and Commissioner Morton provided the second. The vote passed 5-0.

XI. Approval of Request for Qualifications for Engineering Services for Lead and Copper Grant Funding

The Town Manager noted that the Town was recently awarded a \$240,000.00 grant for lead and copper identification. Mr. Blanton thanked the Public Works Director for identifying the grant and noted the October 2024 deadline to provide information regarding lead and copper identification. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell motioned to approve the request for qualifications and Commissioner Fowler provided the second. The measure passed 5-0.

XII. First Quarter Budget Amendments for FY 24 and Final Budget Amendments for FY 23

The Town Manager presented the Board with the first quarter budget amendments for fiscal year 2024. Mayor Pro Tem-Cordell motioned to approve the budget amendments and Commissioner Fowler provided the second. The measure passed 5-0.

The Town Manager also presented the Board with the final budget amendments for fiscal year 2023. Commissioner Fowler motioned to approve the final budget amendments for fiscal year 2023 and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The measure passed 5-0.

XIII. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager said that \$5,150,000.00 was recently secured through the North Carolina General Assembly's state budget. Mr. Blanton noted that \$150,000.00 from the grant is directed towards new police cars and \$5 million will be for water-line upfitting.

Mr. Blanton also stated \$1 million is currently under consideration for a second interconnect with the City of Gastonia via federal grant funding.

The Town Manager stated that a ribbon-cutting for The Lodge would occur on Thursday, November 9th 2023.

Mr. Blanton gave an update on ongoing grant projects and the status of the South Ranlo waterline upfitting project, the expansion of Ranlo Avenue, and the progress made at the Fulbright-Wagner and Gardin Park.

The Town Manager thanked staff, the Police Department, and the Public Works Department for their recent hard-work.

XIV. Comments from the Mayor and Board of Commissioners

Mayor Black gave an update on the recent MPO meeting that he attended. He reported scores for various projects with the NCDOT.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell thanked staff for their hard-work over the summer and the year.

Commissioner Conner noted a recent Breast Cancer Awareness Group that had their first kick-off meeting in Ranlo.

Commissioner Morton said he hopes the concession stand would be able to be utilized in the upcoming recreational season. Commissioner Morton also noted that has been cancer free for one year.

Commissioner Fowler asked if a monument for veterans was still under consideration and the Town Manager stated that he had been in talks with different monument companies with the hope of having a Veterans Park near The Lodge.

Commissioner Cordell asked when the splash pad closed and the Town Manager responded that the splash pad closed on October 7th.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell noted the idea of providing a memorial option for rocking chairs at The Lodge

XV. Closed Session

Commissioner Fowler motioned to go into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3) for attorney client privilege. Mayor Pro Tem Cordell provided the second. The vote passed by a 5-0 vote.

XVI. Motion Return to Open Session and Motion to Adjourn

Mayor Pro Tem Cordell motioned to return to closed session and Commissioner Conner provided the second. The vote passed by a 5-0 vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Cordell motioned to approve individual holiday bonuses for the Town employees and Commissioner Conner provided the second. The vote passed by a 5-0 margin.

Commissioner Fowler motioned to adjourn the October 12th meeting of the Board. Commissioner Morton provided the second. The vote passed by a 5-0 vote.

ATTESTED TO:

Mayor Lynn Black

Recorder and transcriber of the minutes for the Monthly October 2023 Meeting.