

RANLO BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING
RANLO TOWN HALL
1624 SPENCER MOUNTAIN ROAD, RANLO, NORTH CAROLINA 28054
Tuesday November 12, 2020
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
Finance Director	Lieke Janssen

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Black called the special 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 Fowler motioned to adopt the agenda and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell provided the second. The vote was 5-0.

III. Approval of the November 12, 2020 Board of Commissioners' Special Meeting Minutes

The Town Manager noted that the Board approved the special meeting minutes in the prior special session and that no action was necessary.

IV. Comments from Attendees

The Town Manager stated that one person had registered to address the Board, but was not present at this time.

V. Discussion of Holiday Activities for the Town and Employees

The Town Manager inquired as to how the Board would like to proceed with Christmas bonuses for the Town's employees. Mr. Blanton gave an overview of prior year practices of the Town and noted that the employees had worked particularly hard this year with battling the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Blanton recommended a \$750.00 bonus for all full-time employees and a \$250.00 bonus for all part-time employees.

The Mayor verified that the \$750.00 would benefit the Town's employees that make the least. The Town Manager noted that all, but three employees would see an increase from last year's bonus: those three being two department heads and the Town Manager.

Commissioner Locklear noted she would not be opposed to \$750.00 per employee, or a week's salary. She commended the Town's employees and stated she would be in favor of a meal voucher. Commissioner Moore noted and the Town Manager confirmed that bonuses were budgeted in the 2020-2021 budget. Mr. Blanton also noted that no bonuses or cost of living bonuses were awarded in July.

Commissioner Conner suggested that in lieu of a meal voucher, that each employee receive an additional \$25.00 in the Christmas bonus total. Commissioner Fowler asked if any employee would not be eligible and the Town Manager stated all employees, part-time and full-time, would be included.

Commissioner Moore advised that in prior years, the bonus was paid prior to Thanksgiving. He stated he would be in favor of the proposal to assist those employees who depend on the yearly bonus. Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell inquired as to whether the \$750.00 would be net or gross pay and the Town Manager stated that \$750.00 net would be affordable to the Town and gave a favorable overview of the Town's current finances.

Commissioner Locklear motioned to award Christmas bonuses to each full-time employee in the amount of \$775.00 and each part-time employee in the amount of \$275.00. Commissioner Conner seconded the motion. After confirming that no conflict existed for Commissioner Moore, the vote was 5-0.

VI. Discussion of San Paula Lane Grinder Pumps

The Town Manager explained that new grinder pumps have been installed on San Paula Lane. In May of 2016, the Board voted to assess a \$17.00 maintenance fee on certain homeowners in the area for the upkeep of the grinder pumps. With the new pumps being installed, the upkeep is projected to be considerably less and the Town Manager petitioned the Board to discontinue the practice of billing the additional \$17.00 each month to the homeowners.

After a brief discussion and clarification on the context of the situation, Commissioner Moore motioned to discontinue the \$17.00 bill practice and Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0.

VII. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported that the CDBG-CV grant was submitted to the North Carolina Department of Commerce last week and that confirmation of the receipt was received. Mr. Blanton thanked those who assisted in the grant process and those that penned letters of support.

Mr. Blanton noted upcoming closings for the Town in regard to the Thanksgiving holidays and a brief discussion was held in regard to continuing to rent the Lodge. Mr. Blanton recommended advising future tenants that there is a ten-person cap on occupying the facility. No formal action was taken.

VIII. Comments from the Mayor and from the Board of Commissioners

The Mayor recommended a 'Deck-the-Yard' themed Christmas contest for residents throughout the Town. Mayor Black inquired if the Board would be supportive and it was the consensus of the Board to proceed with the first three finishers to receive an award from the Town.

Commissioner Locklear inquired as to when the Christmas lights would be turned on and the Town Manager stated that the lights would be turned on after Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Conner asked if the Fire Department would be conducting their annual drive-through parade and Commissioner Moore confirmed that the event would be occurring later in December.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cordell inquired as to how cut-offs for unpaid utility bills would be handled with the Thanksgiving holiday. The Town Manager confirmed that cut-offs would not occur until after Thanksgiving on November 30.

Commissioner Moore stated that the Fire Department would be relocating to their new facility later in the month of December. He stated that a formal grand-opening would be scheduled for early 2021.

Commissioner Conner inquired as to whether the Toys-for-Tots Christmas event was still scheduled and Commissioner Moore confirmed that the event was still planned for early December.

IX. Adjournment

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

ATTESTED TO:

Mayor Lynn Black

Recorder and transcriber of the minutes for the Special Board Meeting on November 12, 2020