

**DARLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL & UTILITY BOARD MINUTES**  
**October 5, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Nicole Parker opened the meeting with four council members present; Vice President Nick Riddell came at 5:45 p.m. Joining the council was Clerk-Treasurer Michelle Cash, Attorney Tyler Nichols.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion to approve the September 7, 2023 monthly meeting and the September 21, 2023, special meeting was made by Teresa Sutherlin, seconded by Marilyn Cohee. Motion Approved (5-0).

**MONEY MATTERS:**

The motion to approve the payroll docket accounts receivable and appropriation report for September 2023 was made by Teresa Sutherlin and seconded by Nick Riddell. Motion Approved (5-0). All reports are emailed *before* the meeting to be reviewed.

A motion to approve a transfer in ARP fund 2476 – Other line (2476001365.000) for \$15,000.00 to Repairs and Maintenance (2476001361.000) for repairs to the wastewater system was made by Marilyn Cohee, and seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (5-0)

A motion to approve a transfer in ARP fund 2476 – Machinery and Equipment line (2476001451.000) for \$37,000.00 to Repairs and Maintenance (2476001361.000) for repairs to the wastewater system was made by Teresa Sutherlin and seconded by Nick Riddell. Motion Approved (5-0)

A motion to approve a transfer in General -Police Repair and Maintenance – (1101001361.000) for \$500.00 to Fuel (1101001221.000) for shortage due to high prices was made by Marilyn Cohee, and seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (5-0)

A motion to approve a transfer in General -Code Enforcement Officer – (1101001115.000) for \$171.25 to Police (1101001113.000) for serving paper to residents after hours was made by Nick Riddell and seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (5-0)

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Ordinance 5-2023 - the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the 2024 Salary Ordinance was read.

A motion to approve the 2024 Holiday Schedule and 2024 Council Meeting dates was made by Teresa Sutherlin and seconded by Marilyn Cohee. Motion Approved (5-0)

The clerk-treasurer reported the Festival Committee disbanded, and per the SBOA, Nick Riddell made a motion to approve the disbanding of the committee and zero out fund (2214). The remaining balance will be receipted into the park concession/baseball fund (2211), which served as a fund to maintain the grounds where the festival was held. The motion was seconded by Teresa Sutherlin. Motion Approved (5-0)

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Jim Hill with Alpha Engineering gave the council an update on the electric line upgrade and the timeline of the bid process. Mr. Hill presented a bid for the project's labor, and President Parker asked why it was separate from the materials and tree trimming. Attorney Nichols believed there would be no issues doing separate bids and quotes for the project. Clerk-Treasurer Cash cautioned the council about the process and provided an email from the State

Board of Accounts explaining that the process indeed can't be split into different bids. This violates the state statute IC Code 36-1-12-19. Attorney Nichols will look further into the process. After much discussion, the project was tabled until more clarification can be made as to the process required by the state. This will be revisited at the November 2023 meeting

**STAFF & ELECTED OFFICIAL REPORT:**

Attorney Report –no report.

**Wastewater Report –**

Tom Astbury sent a report via email and reported that the wastewater received full compliance for September 2023. Mr. Astbury was unable to attend the meeting.

Electric Report – Nothing

MVH Report- Nothing

Darlington Police Department – Marshall Kevin Crull sent the September activity logs and the October 2023 police schedule email.

Park – Nothing

Code Enforcement Officers – Nothing

Clerk-Treasurer Cash presented the billing report for September 2023.

A motion to approve several invoices for Astbury was made by Teresa Sutherlin and seconded by Marilyn Cohee. Motion Approved (5-0)

A motion to approve Alpha Engineering Inc. for \$36,250.00 was made by Marilyn Cohee and seconded by Nick Riddell. Motion Approved (5-0)

A motion to approve the Bose McKinney & Evans Bond Council (\$45,000.00 and Krohn & Associates CPA (\$35,000.00) to issue the 2.5 million bond for the Electric Utility project. Invoices 862661 and 100623 by Marilyn Cohee, seconded by Teresa Sutherlin. Motion Approved (5-0)

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT**

Marilyn Cohee – MVH update on the roads.

Teresa Sutherlin – Nothing

Noelle Suiter – Nothing

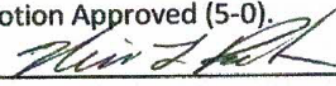
Nick Riddell – Nothing

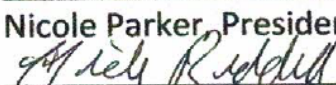
Nicole Parker – Nothing

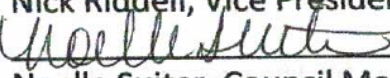
**PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

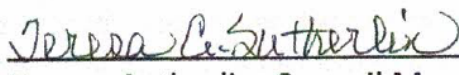
The next scheduled Town Board and Utility meeting will be on November 2, 2023 – at 5:00 p.m. – at the Darlington Community Center.

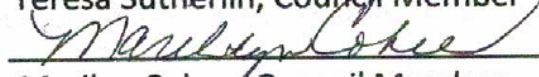
The motion to adjourn was made by Vice President Nick Riddell and seconded by Noelle Suiter. Motion Approved (5-0).

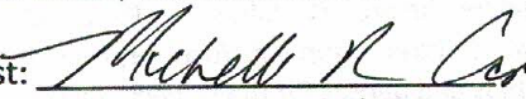
  
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Nicole Parker, President

  
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Nick Riddell, Vice President

  
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Noelle Suiter, Council Member

  
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Teresa Sutherlin, Council Member

  
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Marilyn Cohee, Council Member

Attest:   
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Michelle R. Cash, Clerk-Treasurer