

TOWN OF WALLACE
Special Called Meeting
November 3, 2022
6:00 p.m.

The Town Council of the Town of Wallace held a special called meeting on Thursday, November 3, 2022 at 6 pm to receive an update on the request for closure of a street/alley and to discuss the interim Town Manager position.

The following Governing Body members were present:

Mayor Jason Wells
Council Member/ Mayor Pro-Tem Wannetta Carlton
Council Member Frank Brinkley
Council Member Jeffrey Carter
Council Member Jason Davis
Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz

The following Governing Body members were absent:

None

Also present were:

Larry Bergman, Town Manager	Anna Heath, Town Attorney (via Zoom)
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief
Rob Taylor, Finance Director	Ken Floyd, Wallace Chamber of Commerce

Mayor Jason Wells reconvened the meeting with a quorum of the governing body members present.

Hatcher Request for Street/Alley Closing

Town Manager Larry Bergman stated that he and Town Attorney Anna Heath have both been researching the issue. Manager Bergman has contacted the ABC Commission for their input and has not yet received a response. He said that ABC laws do not allow consumption of alcoholic beverages in public spaces, of course it has not been determined if the street/alley is public property. The regulations also state that if the closing of the street/alley would be detrimental to the public interest or an individual property owner would be deprived of reasonable means of ingress and/or egress it cannot be closed. Joseph Merritt spoke to this at the public hearing in October. Manager Bergman said that a workable solution may be the recently enacted allowing the adoption of a "social district where people can take alcohol within a certain designated area. Police Chief Jimmy Crayton said that he had a contact at the ABC Commission who is willing to meet with the Town. The Manager and Council asked him to set that up.

The Council took no action on this matter.

Closed Session

Council Member Frank Brinkley made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel (G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6)). The motion was seconded by Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Manager Bergman said that he had discussed with Finance Director Rob Taylor becoming the Interim Town Manager. Finance Director Taylor indicated that with him as Interim Town Manager that the Finance Office would need additional help on a part-time temporary basis. The Council discussed other future changes to Town administration and to start the Town Manager search process in December with plans to interview starting in January.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to end the closed session that was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved by unanimous vote.

Council Member Rivas-Diaz made a motion to appoint Rob Taylor as Interim Town Manager beginning December 1, 2022 which was seconded by Council Member Carlton and approved unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss Council Member Brinkley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Wells, Mayor

Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk