

MINUTES
DANBURY TOWN COUNCIL
At DANBURY LIBRARY
January 26, 2022

A meeting of the Danbury Town Council was held at the Danbury Library on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Janet Whitt, Council members Gary East, Steve Shelton, Wendi Spraker, Town Administrator Mike Barsness and Town Attorney Eugene Russell. Council member Dave Hoskins was absent.

Guests present: Jane Priddy-Charleville.

The mayor called the meeting to order at 6:32 P.M.

On motion of Gary East, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the agenda as proposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the December 29, 2021 meeting.

On motion of Wendi Spraker, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of December 30, 2021 to January 24, 2022.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

The mayor voiced concern and asked council members for comment on First National Bank's announcement that the Danbury branch will be closing permanently on April 22, 2022, and all accounts will transfer to the King branch. Discussion ensued. Comments and concerns: Individual county commissioners have been contacted by mayor and council members to learn the County response. A meeting between County officials and bank representatives is scheduled for 2/2/22 but is not open to the public as erroneously posted on facebook. It could be a disincentive to new businesses and other community opportunities if there are no local banking services. It was surmised that many current FNB customers in central and north county would choose not to do business in King, but instead go to other banks in Walnut Cove, Stuart or Madison.

Jane Priddy-Charleville implored the mayor and council members to contact bank officials, particularly Barry Robinson, and declare the Danbury branch to be a vital community asset and insist it remain open. She said to remind bank officials of their own mission statement (tag line?) "doing what is right".

A separate concern was discussed about the water that accumulates on Courthouse Circle where the culvert was recently replaced. NCDOT will be contacted to discuss potential short term solutions rather than waiting until the street can be repaved in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. REVENUE REPORT (7 months):
All sources of revenue, except general sales tax, are trending near normal, year-over-year. Total revenue is down 0.9%. Expenditures are also near normal for this point in the year.
2. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:
 - a. The ARP Final Rule is official. Of note is the change to the "Lost Revenue" category. Up to \$10 million will be assumed justified and no formula will be required to prove the loss. Amounts over \$10 million will still need to be proven by way of formula.
 - b. Pedestrian Safety Project reimbursement costs in the amount of \$29,245.08 have been submitted to NCDOT.
 - c. An illegal sign at a local business is being addressed.

On motion of Gary East, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. The time was 7:47PM.

Janet S. Whitt
Mayor

Attest:

Dianne B. Starnes
Town Clerk