

Mayor D. Dwayne Tuggle called a meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on April 27, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street.

It was noted that a quorum was present as follows:

P	D. Dwayne Tuggle	A	Andra Higginbotham
P	Janice N. Wheaton	P	Michael Driskill
P	Sharon W. Turner	P	Douglas Thompson

Also present were the following staff members:

Sara E. McGuffin	Town Manager		Tracie Morgan	Office Manager/Treasurer
Vicki K. Hunt	Clerk of Council			

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the proposed 2023/24 capital improvement plan and 2023/24 budget.

Council discussions involved concerns related salary increases for town staff; proposed salary increase for council members; inclusion of \$250,000 for land acquisition, should the Council choose to purchase land for any park or recreational activities; and promotion of wastewater plant staff and new hire for that department.

After discussion Town Manager was directed to make revisions to the proposed budget for consideration based on the following recommendations from Council:

- Land Acquisition: Removal of proposed \$250,000 for potential land acquisition. Council to pursue other options.
- Employee Salaries: Include a base raise for all employees of five percent (5%) and provide options to Council to address market issues for salaries of employees who are below market value for their positions.
- Council Salary: Removal of mayor and town council salary increase.
- Maintenance Department: Include increase for promotion of Lead Wastewater Operator and new entry level wastewater operator and an amount for purchase of tools, inventory, and equipment; and removal of purchase of new vehicle for use by Maintenance Department.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:41 P.M., until May 10, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. on motion of Mr. Driskill, seconded by Ms. Turner, and carried by affirmation.

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

