



**Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.**

Mayor O’Cain called the Regular Council Meeting to order at 9:29 a.m. on December 17, 2024, in person at Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park, NC 28739 and electronically through Teams platform.

The following attended in person at Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park, NC 28739:

- Mayor Carey O’Cain
- Mayor Pro Tempore A. Paul Hansen
- Commissioner George W. Banta
- Commissioner Deb Bridges
- Town Manager Cara Reeves
- Town Clerk Tamara Amin
- Finance Officer Cortney Kidd
- Police Chief Bobbie Trotter
- Public Works Director Brandon Johnson
- Parks Operation Coordinator Bryan Hensley
- Kaitland Finkle- Land of Sky

Absent:

- Crew Leader Matthew Pearce
- Commissioner Travis Bonnema
- Fire Chief Tim Garren

Mayor O’Cain opened the Regular Meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor O’Cain asked if there was any public comment; there were seven.

Mary Margaret Licisyn of 100 Poplar Spring said first she is pro airplane and traffic and second, she would like the Town Council to move forward with the language change in the UDO for the community and helping to rebuild.

Tim McVey sent in an email about Airplane noise.

- a. McVey Email - The aforesaid email is attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 1.

Rich Cooke of 77 Reisha Lane sent in an email about Airplane noise.

- b. Cooke Email - The aforesaid email is attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 2.

Kirk Nordmeyer of 166 Alta Circle sent in an email about Airplane noise.

- c. Nordmeyer Email - The aforesaid email is attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 3.

Tim Soehl of 204 Timber Creek Road said the town promised the lines to be painted after the roads have been paved. They would like to have them painted as soon as possible because it is a dangerous to drive on roads that have no lines. He also said there needs to be a stop sign on the corner of Laurel Park Highway and Hebron.

Philip Wiehe of 3676 Laurel Park Highway wanted to reinforce what Ms. Mary Margaret Licisyn said. He believes that this is an urgent manner. He also asked Council to consider Mr. Edward Eaves for the Planning Board.

Mary and Robert Malak of 305 Ficker Circle presented Council with pictures of 205 Moore Street violations and urged Council and the Town to take action.

- d. 205 Moore Street Pictures - The aforesaid pictures are attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 4.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Staff asked Council to add Budget to Actuals as New Business before Old Business to the Agenda. Commissioner Banta moved to approve the amended agenda. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved to approve the consent agenda. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

- e. Monthly Report - The aforesaid report is attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 5.

NEW BUSINESS

BUDGET VS ACTUALS

Town Manager Reeves said a lot of credit goes to Cortney and Bronwyn who worked tirelessly on the attached Budget to Actuals.

- f. Budget Vs. Actuals Report - The aforesaid report is attached to, and made part of, these minutes as Appendix 6.

Finance Officer Cortney Kidd said the auditors on site on Thursday.

Finance Officer Kidd departed the meeting at 10:07 a.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Manager Reeves said a discussion was held at the work session to pay all employees who worked during Hurricane Helene an additional amount to bring their Hurricane/Holiday pay up to \$1,500.

There was much discussion and Council decided to go into closed session at the end of the meeting.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Town Manager Reeves gave a debris management, asbestos, and lead report updates.

Mayor O'Cain asked Staff to get a budget ready for abatement to comply with the asbestos and lead reports.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS

Public Works Director Johnson said he had no updates. Mayor O'Cain asked Mr. Johnson to remove logs on the ROW and put them up at Public Works for the County to pick up at one time.

POLICE

Chief Trotter said she is still looking into the deer situation. Chief Trotter said Michael Erwin wrote something for the Newsletter.

FIRE

Fire Chief Tim Garren was not present.

ADMINISTRATION

Town Clerk Amin said the State of the Town dinner is still schedule for March 1st. I will be checking with the Country Club about holding a History Presentation hors d'oeuvre dinner for May 22 per the Centennial Committee.

The tree lighting and centennial bear reveal on December 14 was a success.

She also reminded folks that the office will be closed December 24-26 and January 1 for holidays.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Motion to approve the budget amendment in the amount of \$18,700 from the general fund to pay employees for their work during the hurricane.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved to adjourn at 11:16 a.m. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

J. Carey O’Cain
Mayor

Bobbie K. Trotter
*Interim Town Clerk/ Deputy Tax
Collector*

Date