



**Town Council  
Work Session Minutes  
January 12, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.**

Mayor O’Cain called the Work Session Council Meeting to order at 9:29 a.m. on January 12, 2023, in person at Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park, NC 28739.

The following attended in person at Town Hall:

- Mayor Carey O’Cain
- Mayor Pro Tempore A. Paul Hansen
- Commissioner George W. Banta
- Town Manager Alex Carmichael
- Town Clerk Tamara Amin
- Assistant to the Town Manager Jordan Jones
- Finance Officer Heather Smith
- Police Chief Bobbie Trotter
- Public Works Director Brandon Johnson

The following were absent:

- Commissioner Deb Bridges
- Commissioner Kristin Dunn
- Fire Chief Tim Garren

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Town Manager Carmichael amended the agenda to include the Legislative Goal Statement. Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved to approve the amended agenda. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**BOARD AND COMMISSION APPLICATIONS- PLANNING BOARD**

Town Manager Carmichael said the Planning Board recommends Ms. Licisyn for the open position.

Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved to appoint Ms. Mary Margaret Licisyn to the Planning Board for a 2-year term ending December 31, 2024. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**JUMP OFF ROCK GRANT**

Assistant to the Town Manager Jordan Jones said Staff has been in communication with Henderson County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) to seek additional funding for the Jump Off Rock parking lot refurbishment. TDA staff would like to know if the Town could appropriate at least 50% of the project cost of \$20,000 or if not, what amount could the Town contribute. The TDA board will meet January 24<sup>th</sup>.

Council decided the Town will appropriate an additional \$5K more and accept the TDA match of \$10K.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **MAYOR PRO TEM OATH**

Mayor O’Cain conducted Oath of Office to Mayor Pro Tem Hansen.

### **NCLM- GOAL STATEMENT**

Town Manager Carmichael said the NCLM would like Council to appoint a member to submit an online ballot for their goal statement.

Commissioner Bridges had highlighted in red 10 statements she thought were more specific to Laurel Park.

Mayor O’Cain suggested keeping “Update annexation petition thresholds to make voluntary annexation easier to initiate” and removing “Provide local revenue options beyond property tax.” Mayor O’Cain moved to appoint Commissioner Bridges. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

## **AGENDA REVIEW FOR THE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY 17, 2023**

Mr. Carmichael said the Town Council will hold their regularly scheduled Town Council meeting on the third Tuesday of the month, January 17, 2023, at 9:30am. The Town Council reviewed the draft agenda.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment**
- 4. Approval of the Agenda**
- 5. Consent Agenda**
  - A. December Monthly Report**
  - B. Minutes- December 15, 2022, Work Session**
  - C. Minutes- December 20, 2022, Regular Meeting**
  - D. Minutes- December 20, 2022, Closed Session**
  - E. Releases and Refunds- Taxes**

6. **Old Business**
7. **New Business**
  - A. Contract for Laurel Green Stream Restoration
8. **Town Manager's Report**
9. **Department Head Reports**
  - A. Public Works
  - B. Fire Department
  - C. Police
  - D. Administration
10. **Mayor and Commissioner Comments**
11. **Adjournment**

Town Manager Carmichael asked to add Chair Gary Anderson from the Parks and Greenways board to discuss the Boards goal list, YAM Yoga Dates, and Signs updates to the agenda.

### **COUNCIL UPDATES**

Commissioner Hansen said Clement to him work on the streams need to be done by March 1 to install live stakes.

Mayor O'Cain said the architects review is next week. Mr. Gray Miller suffered a stroke and can't continue to be on the committee.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved that the Council enter Closed Session at 9:54 a.m. pursuant to [N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a) (6)] to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

*Mr. Jones, Ms. Smith, Chief Trotter, and Mr. Johnson departed the meeting at 9:54 a.m.*

Mayor Pro Tem Hansen moved to reconvene the Council Regular Meeting at 9:57 a.m. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

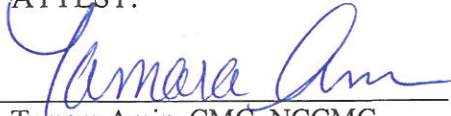
The following were present at Town Hall:

- Mayor J. Carey O'Cain
- Mayor Pro-Tempore A. Paul Hansen
- Commissioner Deb Bridges
- Commissioner George W. Banta
- Commissioner Kristin Dunn
- Town Manager Alex Carmichael
- Town Clerk Tamara Amin

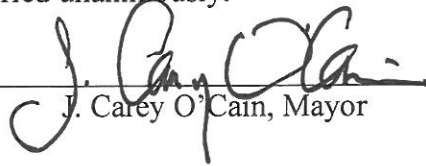
**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Commissioner Banta moved to adjourn at 9:57 a.m. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:



Tamara Amin, CMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
J. Carey O’Cain, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date