

April 14, 2025

Town Hall Meeting

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Mayor Larry W. Adams was present along with the following Commissioners: Kurt Held, Earl Norman, Martin Hauser, Neal Nichols, and Dawn Hobson.
2. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the March 10, 2025, minutes as written. Commissioner Hobson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
3. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the March 27, 2025, Special Called Meeting minutes as written. Commissioner Hobson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: Jan Hicks said they had a great time Saturday at the Egg Hunt, and they had a great turnout. She also Thanked Gavin for mowing the grass and making the Town Park look great for the Event. Clerk Miller relayed a Thank you from Larry Garris for the Flowers and card he received after the loss of his brother. Mayor Adams stated that a donation was also made to the cause requested by the family in memory of Gavin's Mother. Both Larry and Gavin sent Thank you cards to the Town which are displayed on the board by the front door. Mayor Adams also mentioned how great the side of the Town Hall looks after the Graffiti was removed. He also commented on the Police Car and how great it looks after the Graffiti was removed. Commissioner Nichols invited everyone to come to the Skeet Shoot on May 3, 2025, behind the East Bend Senior Center at 9:00 AM.

Clerk Miller introduced Terra Greene from Capital Management of The Carolinas, LLC, whom she invited to give a presentation to the Board on who Capital Management is and what services they could offer the Town through their Trust for our Investment needs. Packets were given out for the board for review and this item was tabled until the next board meeting.

Mayor Adams pointed out the approval of the Closed session minutes were omitted from the agenda. Commissioner Nichols made a motion that the rules be suspended to add this item to the agenda for the approval of the minutes.

Commissioner Hobson seconded. Motion carried 5-0. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the March 10, 2025, closed session minutes as written. Commissioner Hobson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

Jan Hicks spoke to the board concerning the condition of the banners in Town. Her attention was drawn to the matter because one had fallen, and she and Archie Hicks cleaned and repaired it. When Bettina and Gavin were notified, Gavin

mentioned that there were several others that are in poor condition. She presented a quote from Mosca Design and photos of new banners. The Banner Committee is recommending to the board that the banners in Town be replaced. If Clerk Miller can order tomorrow there will be time to have them up by the God and Country Parade. Commissioner Held made a motion to purchase new banners for the town.

Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

5. Clerk Miller informed the board it was time to renew the Sam's Club Membership for the town. Board discussed continuing with the current service or upgrading the service plan. Commissioner Nichols asked that we check into a Digital Option. Item was tabled until the next meeting.
6. Mayor Adams opened the discussion of setting a Public Hearing to review the 2025-2026 Budget. Commissioner Hauser made a motion that the Public Hearing be set for May 12, 2025 at 5:45pm. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
7. Commissioner Hauser presented a Quote from HCTEC for computer upgrades. One option is for replacing all Windows 10 devices for \$17,936.29. New server in house with all other hardware upgrades was presented but not recommended for \$35,735.65. Quotes include Setup, Warranties, Tech support, and shipping. Commissioner Hauser is checking into obtaining grants and other quotes. Board tabled item until the next board meeting.
8. Chief Shore reported that it has been a busy couple of weeks. The Graffiti incident has been turned over to Juvenile services, there was one domestic breaking and entering. The house fire on Cherry Street has been classed as unnatural but undetermined. There will be a cross carrying on Friday from the School to the Methodist Church which Chief Shore will assist with. He mentioned that the Body Cams that we currently have are 10 years old. He would like direction from the board as to replacing them this year or next. We would need three. Commissioner Held asked that he get quotes and Commissioner Nichols added that we get quotes for this years budget for three.
9. Chief Shore informed the board that the Town Hall needs to purchase 6 new cameras for the Town Hall to replace aging equipment. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to purchase 6 new cameras and Commissioner Held seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
10. Chief Shore discussed the option of having a School Resource Officer. The school system applied for a grant of \$11,000 for each school for a 2-year period and the county matched at \$11,000. This would give the town \$22,000 to get an officer in the school for 6 hours a day. The town would have to make up the difference and put a full-time officer in there or a part-time officer, but it must be someone from the

police side. Commissioner Nichols suggested that Chief Shore look for a part time officer. Chief Shore is looking for candidates.

11. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the bills and any that come in prior to the next meeting. Commissioner Hauser seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
12. Attorney Epley gave an update on the water dispute. Mediation did not resolve the Water Dispute Issue.
13. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to go into Closed Session. Commissioner Hobson seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
14. After returning from Closed Session, Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve Offer in Closed Session. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried 5-0.
15. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 5-0.

5-12-2025

DATE

Larry W. Adams
Larry W. Adams, Mayor

Bettina Miller

Bettina Miller, Town Clerk/Administrator