

August 12, 2024
Town Hall Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Mayor James W. Dunn, Sr. was present along with the following Commissioners: Neal Nichols, Larry W. Adams, and Edward G. Venable were present and Commissioners Dawn Hobson and Kurt Held arrived shortly after the meeting was called to Order
2. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the July 8, 2024 minutes. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 3-0.
3. Commissioner Venable made a motion to approve the July 29, 2024 special minutes. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 3-0.
4. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the July 29, 2024 closed session minutes. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 3-0.
5. PUBLIC COMMENT: Ronnie Fletcher thanked the employees of the Town for their hard work, thanked Gavin Brannon for his work in cleaning out the culverts in town during the rain storm, and commended Chief Shore for his hard work. Kendra McCurdy thanked Vickie Matthews for her work for the Town.
6. Commissioner Adams reported that he, along with Vickie Matthews, Chief Shore, and Commissioner Held conducted interviews. The Town held a special meeting on July 29, 2024 to discuss hiring someone for the position of Town Clerk. A motion was made at the special meeting to conduct a second interview, which was conducted. After conducting the second interview, Jamie Betina Miller was offered the position of Town Clerk. Ms. Miller accepted the offer and her first day at the Town will be August 19, 2024. Commissioner Adams thanked everyone involved for their assistance with the project.
7. Mayor Dunn stated he had been approached by a Yadkin County Commissioner and the County Commissioner stated that there was no way to contact the Town Board directly on the Town's website. Ben Peacock stated it was possible to add a link to website to contact Town officials. The Board discussed this issue and decided to add a "Contact Us" link to the Town's website which would be sent to the Town Clerk and the Town Clerk would then forward the email to the appropriate commissioner. The Board also discussed adding language to the website to further explain this process.
8. Mayor Dunn brought forth a document regarding Guidance Procurement Policy for N.C. Local Governments. The Board asked Vickie Matthews to distribute this to the Town Board and the Board tabled the discussion on this topic until the September 9, 2024 Town meeting.
9. Mayor Dunn stated that he had spoken with a banking institution regarding services that they offer that could assist the Town and that the bank he spoke with could collect the water bills for the Town and that the Town's residence could pay their bill online if these services were utilized. Vickie Matthews stated that the auditors need to be consulted prior to moving collection of this bill online. Commissioner Held stated he was in favor of moving this service online and utilizing this service.
10. Mayor Dunn stated that the Friends of the Town Square have been covering the

handicap signs for the events. Commissioner Venable stated that the Board should notify the Friends of the Town Square that they can't cover the handicap signs during their events. Mayor Dunn suggested an ordinance be created that states all State and Federal laws are to be followed by the Friends of the Town Square in addition to other items the Board may consider. Commissioner Venable stated that the Board should keep in mind that the Friends of the Town Square are volunteers and the Board needs to keep that in mind. The Board instructed Attorney Epley to prepare a letter to the Friends of the Town Square stating that they cannot cover the handicap signs.

11. Commissioner Held stated that there are two parking spots that could be created next to Pauline Street and that he had obtained an estimate of approximately \$9,100 in the worst-case scenario and that the funds would come out of the streets budget. Commissioner Held stated this would also correct the water flow problem at this location. The Board also discussed the potential of these potential spots being handicap spots, but it was determined that was not feasible. Commissioner Adams stated that the Town should take care of current projects and needs prior to taking on new projects. No action was taken as a result of this discussion.
12. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the contract with Charles E. Scott CPA, PA. Commissioner Venable seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.
13. Attorney Epley reported to the Board that he was unable to obtain service on the owners of the East Bend Food Mart, Inc. and explained that the action must be filed where the property owner is located to enforce the lien. A discussion was held regarding the exact whereabouts of the property owner and the whereabouts are indeterminate. Commission Nichols made a motion to dismiss the lawsuit against the owners of the East Bend Food Mart, Inc. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 5-0.
14. Attorney Epley stated that he sent the Board a detailed email regarding the Municipal Accounting Service Cybersecurity and Technical Assistance Memorandum of Agreement. Commissioner Nichols stated he was not satisfied with the services offered or presentation and made a motion not to sign the MOU. Commissioner Held seconded. The motion carried 5-0.
15. Chief Shore stated that he continued to work with Sergio Augusto to get the equipment moved at 313 Cherry Street and that everything had been moved except for a forklift. Chief Shore further reported the trailer was moved quickly after the last meeting and hoped the forklift would be gone soon.
16. Chief Shore reported he went to the LEPC meeting where Keith Vestal spoke. The LEPC signed a plan during the pandemic that allows the Town to access funds in the event of natural disaster. He further reported the N.W. Regional Council Mitigation Plan will renew in 2025.
17. Chief Shore stated everything is going well in the Town and that he has been working with the County on a few items, including breaking and entering's in the county and that the County has had over 40 break-ins since December and that the County has brought in law enforcement at the State level to assist with the issue. Chief Shore further advised the Town's residence to be on the lookout for suspicious activity.

18. Commissioner Hobson made a motion to approve the bills and any that come in until the next meeting. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 5-0.
19. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hobson seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

September 9, 2024
Date

Dawn G. Hobson, Mayor pro Tem
James W. Dunn, Sr. Mayor
Board approved the minutes.
Mayor chooses not to sign.
Dawn Hobson, Mayor Pro-Tem signed.

Vickie J. Matthews
Vickie J. Matthews, Town Clerk/Administrator