## Minutes of the Meeting of The Town Board of Commissioners Town of Hamilton, NC September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hamilton met in a regular meeting on Thursday September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at 07:01 p.m. at the Town Hall, 109 North Front Street Hamilton NC 27840.

**PRESENT** Mayor: Ervin Williams.

Commissioners: William Freeman, Tamika Council, Edgar Taylor,

Brandon Raynor, Larry Jackson

Town Clerk & Finance Officer: Allison Roebuck

**ABSENT:** NONE

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams; the prayer was given by Commissioner Jackson. The pledge was recited by all.

#### Approval of the agenda or Adjustments to agenda

Motion to approve agenda without adjustments was made by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Jackson. The motion unanimously carried 3-0.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes from August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025, monthly board meeting made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Motion Carried 3-0.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### Linda Goodrich - Taxes

Resident Goodrich states at the last meeting we discussed the town's back paid taxes requesting to send out letters to the residents to try to help with collections. Spoke with different town clerks there is no law that exists per the School of Government. However, with a motion made and passed by our town board this could be something the town commissioners could do. Garnishment of wages are allowed, recently spoken with the Martin County tax collector and clerk could make the arrangements to draft the accounts. Spoken with the tax collector and issued the commissioners with the general statutes listed that tax collections may proceed in collection of the wages, salary or other compensation of officials. Any money that the town owes the commissioner money for their elected positions should be subject to garnish those wages. Goodrich is requesting a motion for the public perception, in the future anyone who has not paid their taxes that Allison would be allowed to garnish their wages. Commissioner Freeman states that the county used to garish wages from employees who did not pay their taxes, when did counties stop garnishing wages? Three years and the items come up for public auction and the county is not auctioning off property we haven't seen that being done. Goodrich offered to call

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back to talk with them about garnish wages. Why is the country not going after these back taxpayers? Commissioner Taylor states that with the new tax rates they doubled and tripled in price with the new tax evaluation they did in Martin County. Taylor states the town could use the money in around \$40,000 that is owed. Why doesn't the board talk to give feedback to the public who come out to the board meeting? Residents can't work for the town due to work comp, and this is not something the town could do. Residents requested the board to start paying their taxes due to the town residents being expected to pay theirs the commissioners should also.

#### Patrica Mooring – Dementia Alliance Walk

The clerk presented the sponsor commitment form to all the board of commissioners brought into the office by Resident Morring. The request was for a donation request for sponsorship for the 2025 Dementia Alliance Walk to be held in the Town of Hamilton on October 11th, 2025, Registration will start at 9AM and the walk will start at 10:30am. 1301 South Front Street Hamilton NC 27857. Commissioner Jackson requested to cut the sponsorship donation in half instead of normal sponsorship in the amount of \$500.00 we will cut our donation in half amounting \$250.00 donation.

Motion to donate to dementia alliance in the amount of \$250 by Commissioner Jackson, Seconded by Commissioner Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### UPDATED ON DILAPIDATED PROPERTY ON WEST MAIN STREET

Per Mayor Williams spoke with homeowners, and they will be moving forward to get the property cleaned up. Williams talked with the 3 or 4 people involved who would be involved to start the process. Danny Peaks won bid will start word ending of September 1st of October. Clark Roebuck spoke with Mr. Peaks informed him that he had won the bid, who then informed her that he will start near the ending of September or 1st of October to begin work.

#### UPDATE ON TOWN HALL GENERATOR

Per Mayor Williams Grays Electric will be hooking up our Town Hall Generator by the end of this month of September.

#### **UPDATE ON CAMERAS**

Clerk Roebuck informed the board that all cameras were ordered, and they even sent in the ones that did not have the solar panels so the town would have to order six more solar panels to attach them to the additional cameras that came in without the solar panels. Mike Pickle states that the sheriff's office would like to place some cameras around the stop light right here. At this time, we will be sending back the camaras that are in the timeline to return to sender of Amazon carrier.

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Motion to send the three back with attached solar panels to Amazon and order new panels for the three cameras that are needing panels to get them hooked up by Commissioner Council, seconded by Taylor. Motion carried 4-0.

#### **FLUSHING HYDRANTS**

Mayor Williams asked for the schedule for flushing the hydrants around town from maintenance supervisor Pickle. There is no set date to flush the hydrants, but he flushes the dead ends every week and the others are every two weeks. Resident Griffin requested to know when it was flushed, Mike states this morning and resident said there was no water in the ditch to reflect the flushing of the hydrants. Fire Trucks used to fill out those hydrants and the church did not have these issues. What would happen if the church caught on fire? Water system 2 million dollars for the improvement of the water system improvements. Mike says the one located on front street has busted twice and that hydrant is cut off and a black bag has been placed over it. Commissioner Freeman states that if both sides of the hydrants are getting pulled the water should be good water. Freeman states that go to that last point of water on the location which would be the outside faucet and let the water run. Freeman asks Mike to go by there tomorrow and check the church's water meter. Resident Morring says that the state mandates how much water can run through.

#### LIBRARY

Commissioner Council states that Brandon's wife has gone through everything and cleaned up. Hours as posted is the exact time to make sure that it runs and is posted properly.

#### VALVE REPLACEMENT

Maintenance supervisor Pickle states that he has contacted us and we will be replacing the valve on September 10th and should not take more than three days, and they are scheduled to just wash the tank out.

#### **NEXGRID**

Mayor Williams states he had a Zoom meeting with the town of Scotland Neck to see if they are pleased with the NexGrid services and they are. The poly meters are needed, and we need to make sure that the town will be saving money for the town and Electricities highly recommended.

## **New Business**

#### HAMILTON ROANOKE RIVER FESTIVAL

Our Annual Hamilton Roanoke River Festival is set for October 4th, 2025. The event will start at 11am till 6pm at the various vendors as follows, Sylvan Heights, Our Local Fire department, East Care were asked to bring a unit, Frank Best will be providing a bouncing house and selling

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wristbands for all day usage for \$10 each. Mike requested to know how many people will need outlets so we could prepare for them. The mayor states that Frank Best from Best Rentals will be providing the bouncing houses. Honoring the school system of Edna Andrews and pasted staff, historic walk, bingo inside of MLC building, Food Lion will be supporting us, bring your chairs so you can sit out and enjoy the DJs. Possibly even a comedy shows which would be a separate charge. Commissioner Raynor states that when the Roanoke Festival meeting is held, they will hold them on Thursday mornings and evenings he is requesting to be a part of it. Advertisements through the town's website and on Facebook just something simple advertisement prior to the event. Place a sign out by the Morris Lynch center to at least tell people that we are having a event. Vendor applications will be needed and there will be no charge for booths.

#### FINANCIALS/BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Financial presented to the board for the month of July 2025 by the finance officer Roebuck.

Motion to approve the financials as presented by Commissioner Council, seconded by Commissioner Raynor. Motion carried 5-0.

#### **REPORTS**

Commissioner Jackson ran into a construction worker, Ricky Mason, to see what he has on his agenda for construction work, the other guy is hoping to get in touch with him tomorrow.

Commissioner Raynor cab reports back to the taxes review throughout this month just to clarify throughout the school of the government if someone is elected to serve on the commissioners cannot be denied because they are appointed by the public. However, if appointed to hold a position they could then use the tax collections against them. The garnishment of wages would take place within the Martin County tax collector. Ben Hudson ALA, about bingo games, the town would have to pay an online application fee of \$200 a year and cannot give out or spend more than \$500 a week.

Commissioner Taylor noting to report at this time.

Commissioner Freeman public power week is October 5th -11. Public power day at 3PM, menu unknown at this time.

We received two letters from the DEQ notice of violation to notify us that a sample was not pulled and submitted. Talked with Mr. Mizelle about certain coolers for certain tests for the water. Pretreatment samples were missing, and a violation has been mailed out to us. We received this plaque from ElectriCities, and our debt was paid off. A resolution to submit and see plaque. 3.2 billion dollars in debt to meet the debt and pay off. July 1st, 2025, final payment was completed and demonstrated great leaders as public power. Received approval of the grant funding from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Loan including 100% principal forgiveness. DEQ is requesting an Engineering report submittal, then a bid and design package, advertise project, receive bids, submit bid information and receive authority to award. execute

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construction contracts and would be a process throughout September 2, 2027. Only for infrastructure to the pipes only. DEQ reviewed the land areas that we have in town and the only approval of land was out there at school on the 13 acres of land. Rivers with the water guidelines to help get the grant.

Resident Morring requested to get a committee to take care of the Morris Lynch Center.

Resident Taylor the grant money isn't the same money as Governor Stein has issued the town.

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

#### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

Mayor Williams entertained a motion to adjourn if there is no other business to cover at this time.

Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Council. Motion carried 5-0.

Submitted By:	Approved By:
Allison Roebuck, Town Clerk & Finance Officer	Ervin Williams, Mayor