

**Minutes of the Meeting of
The Town Board of Commissioners
Town of Hamilton, NC
November 2nd, 2023**

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hamilton met in a regular meeting on Thursday November 2nd, 2023, at 7:05 p.m. at the Town Hall, 109 N Front Street, Hamilton, NC.

PRESENT Mayor: Ervin Williams

Commissioners: William Freeman, Judith Stewart, and Larry Jackson, Linda Goodrich, Kerry Spivey

ABSENT None

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

Approval of the agenda or Adjustments to agenda

Motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Commissioner Spivey, seconded by Commissioner Goodrich. Motion Carried 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

No motion to approve the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Patricia Moring requested the basketball schedule from Commissioner Freeman, who stated at this time we don't have a schedule. Moring stated the gym was off limits for upcoming community event so the event was moved to the Morris Lynch Center. She Congratulated Commissioner Goodrich for a job well done with painting the Morris Lynch Center and how great the building looks.

Memorial Presentation on behalf of the board of commissioners and mayor presented in Honor of the late Franklin D. Mobley to his son Brandon Mobley for his dedication of years of service to the town of Hamilton.

Kerry Spivey read a list of concerns that were made to the League of Municipalities by a resident of the town. They included: 1. Abiding and obeying the laws by the board of Commissioners & Mayor; 2. Town usage of resources for outside information not pertaining to the town business; 3. Requested to know if ALL keys have been turned into the Town Hall; 4. After hours meetings with employees; 5. Concerns of replacing positions; 6. Failure to enforce Town Ordinances. The board of commissioners discussed and reviewed the items. The clerk informed the board of commissioners of the concerns that have been expressed with the League of Municipalities. However, the league would like the Board of Commissioners to handle the concerns of the

community. Recent chicken coop and RV trailers located on front street other new concerns have come up states Resident Moring.

OLD BUSINESS

Dilapidated Properties

The owner has been addressed and asked to clean up the location multiple times and several people have offered to help them clean up the location. We need to enforce the ordinances that we have within the town. We need to send out letters to any and everyone in this town in violation of ordinances. Commissioner Stewart read the recent returned response for the property owner. Commissioner Spivey states that within the next 30 days as he cleans up the property and we see the owner effectively taking actions to clean up the lot we will give him till January 1st, 2024.

Motion to have the Town Commissioners to respond back via letter to the recent response back to the property owner to reject the response to hold off till January 1st, 2024, per Commissioner Spivey, Commissioner Freeman. Motion carried 5-0.

Hamilton Festival

Commissioner Stewart requested to hold the collected funds for the festival that have not been used into a restricted line item. The funds are to be used for upcoming festivals. The next festival will be the first Saturday in October and rain date would follow the dementia alliance walk. Commissioner Stewart states she is putting together a booklet with the festival details and expenses for upcoming festivals to keep at the Town Hall.

Public Power Week

Public Power Day was held on October 12th, 2023, at 3:00PM. Commissioner Freeman thanked everyone who attended and announced that Mary Taylor was the winner for the Public Power Day questionnaire completion.

Mosca Designs Banners

Mayor Williams called on the Clerk to explain the recent banners. Clerk Roebuck states that she received the designs, and we will be checking into other areas to price banners before final decisions are made.

Chief Deputy Department Memorandum of Understanding

Motion to accept the MOU made by Commissioner Spivey, Seconded by Jackson. Motion Carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Engagement Letter & Town of Hamilton 2023 Audit Contract

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Motion to accept the engagement letter as present by Rebekah Barr CPA made by Commissioner Spivey, seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Motion Carried 5-0.

Motion to accept the Town of Hamilton 2023 Audit Contract as presented by Commissioner Goodrich, Commissioner Spivey. Motion carried 5-0.

Fire & Rescue Expense Budget

Mayor Williams called upon the clerk to express recent concerns of the fire and rescue budget. The clerk states that she received a call inquiring about our budgeted items for the Fire & Rescue Expense Budget. Commissioner Spivey states that the fire department is on thin funds and possibly in need of funds. The clerk asked for a motion to determine the funds and how they will be handled for the donation for 2023-2024 due to the recent concerns of budgetary donations.

Motion to change line item in books to Emergency Services by Commissioner Spivey, Commissioner Freeman. Motion carried 5-0.

Animal Ordinance

Commissioner Stewart states that we should review the animal ordinance within town referring to chickens. The board would need to come up with regulations specific to the chickens and check with surrounding towns' ordinances. Also, there is a need to look over the Leash law and enforcing the issues of loose dogs around town. The Board requested the animal control ordinance be put in with the upcoming billing statements.

Christmas Parade

Mayor Williams states the Hamilton Parade will be on December 14th, 2023, at 4:00PM. Commissioner Goodrich suggested that if we do another Christmas tree lighting ceremony that we move the tree that is in front of the Town Hall location to the Morris Lynch Center because it is much larger.

Financials / Budget Amendments

Motion to approve and accept the financials as presented by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Spivey. Motion carried. 5-0.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Jackson not at this time.

Commissioner Stewart talked to Tina Brown in Robersonville about having a sweet potato drop and we will update the Facebook page.

Commissioner Spivey sewer motor burned up and sewer backed up at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Commissioner Goodrich The maintenance crew fixed a water leak at Duck Thru, assisted with setting up for festival, bucket truck is in shop for repairs, sewer jet is working great and will be uploading the old one on govdeals, replaced lights at old town hall building in the back by EMS, all invoices will be getting paid back for all the recent storm damage. At Morris Center he located the leak referred to by Commissioner Freeman as a thermostat and he then replaced the thermostats and the flooring around the area. For the deposits to be returned to the MLC the outside needs to be checked also. Speed Limits are still concerns of speeding and flying through town; they slow down long enough to get by the speed checker we have in place. Suggestions to update the stop light coming into town be a permanent red light and you must stop and then the light will change. She has checked with DOT and the light change would be a simple fix if the town decides to make the change.

Commissioner Freeman nothing at this time.

Mayor Williams states that EMS has stated the heat is not working at the EMS building and the recent thermostats were loosened. Commissioner Goodrich states that she noticed it was cold in there, but they did not mention the heat not working. Requesting Mike to check the heat at their location as well as the seal under the garage door.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes without any adjustments was made by Commissioner Goodrich, seconded by Commissioner Freeman. Motion Carried 5-0.

Motion to adjourn at 9:35PM made by Commissioner Jackson, seconded by Commissioner Stewart. Motion carried 5-0.

Submitted By:

Approved By:

Allison Roebuck, Town Clerk & Finance Officer

Ervin Williams, Mayor