

Town of Taylorsville



TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Town Council Chambers
Tuesday, April 15th, 2025, 2:00 p.m.

Prepared By: Nicole Mayes

Present: Mayor George Holleman
Mayor Pro Tem Eric Bumgarner
Councilwoman Tamara Odom
Councilwoman Kim Brown

Councilman Jack Simms was absent due to illness.
Attorney Monroe Pannell was present.

Call to Order, Invocation

The Town Council work session was called to order by Mayor George Holleman on Tuesday, April 15th, 2025 at 2:00 pm, followed by an invocation led by Councilman Eric Bumgarner. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilwoman Kim Brown.

Open Forum:

There was not a public comment forum held at the work session.

Discussion Items

Operating Budget FY 2025-2026

a. Solid Waste Fee

Town Manager Nathan Hester presented the proposed budget to the council and explained the budget would balance with a \$3.00 increase in solid waste fees; however, this would not allow for any extra funding for future projects. [At the previous budget workshop on 3.20.2025, it was discussed how Republic Services will be increasing costs by 5.1% resulting in a \$7.00 deficit per household.] Town Manager Hester also, recommended to delay the application to join the Main Street Program by two years to allow the Town to become more stable. By delaying membership, it would allow the Town to add \$10,000.00 to an Economic Development line item and vet some projects to improve downtown.

Mayor George Holleman asked about the consensus of dropping the recycling service; he also asked about adding a recycling station within city limits. Councilman Eric Bumgarner was concerned with citizens having the same amount of solid waste but only 1 rollout bin if the Town done away with the recycling service. Attorney Monroe Pannell mentioned to be aware Republic Services may raise the fee for solid waste collection to recoup their lost revenue if the Town cancels recycling service. Town Manager Hester stated he did not want to decrease the level of service to the community while increasing the solid waste fee. Councilwoman Tamara Odom asked Town Manager Hester what would be a good amount for an increase; he suggested an increase of \$4.00 - \$5.00 as a middle ground of the \$7.00 increase from Republic Services. After further discussion, Town Manager Hester recommend increasing the environmental fee by \$5.00.

b. Payroll System Software – TCP Software

Finance Director Zachary Greene received a TCP Software Proposal (Time Clock Plus, LLC) for a time-keeping payroll software. Mr. Greene covered several features the TCP Software offers including the ability to clock-in on a phone or computer and the ability to create a geo fence requiring employee to be within the city limits before clocking in. Rather than submitting time cards on Monday, TCP Software submits timecards to the supervisor daily for approval. The TCP Software will automatically tract the comp time / overtime within state regulations for the Police Department. The TCP Software will calculate the call-back time for employees of the water and sewer departments. Mr. Greene explained the one-time implementation fee of \$3,150.00 and an annual fee of \$1,350.00; stating the contract can range from 2 to 5 years.

The Council had questions concerning the current payroll process and the new program. Councilman Eric Bumgarner asked if we knew of other towns using this program and what their thoughts were about it. Councilman Bumgarner stated he would not want to agree to a long-term contract then dislike the program or service. Councilman Bumgarner also asked how long the current payroll process took. Councilwoman Kim Brown was concerned if this was included in the proposed budget. Mr. Green explained payroll is done weekly on Mondays and depends on the time it takes each department to submit payroll information, but can take at least half the day. Mr. Greene explained a time station would be needed at the shop since part-time employees do not have a device provided by the Town and we would like to avoid employees from having to add the software to their personal device. Mr. Greene also stated he could speak with other towns to get their opinions on the software. Mr. Greene explained the TCP Software was accounted for in the proposed budget. All councilmembers were in a consensus to move forward with the TCP Software for payroll.

c. Planning & Zoning Software – Cloudpermit

Town Manager Nathan Hester explained the Town would be implementing and adopting the same fee schedule the county used for planning & zoning for the first year. On page 9 of the proposed budget, the Planning & Zoning Revenue line item is the projected revenue from permit fees and land development applications. Town Manager Hester reported funds of \$5000.00 in the line item for Cloudpermit, a planning and zoning software, which will be needed to implement the Town's own Planning and Zoning. On page 21 of the proposed budget, Miscellaneous Governmental Operations line item of \$18,500.00 will be set for contracted services if the Town should need to call on Western Piedmont Council of Government's planning staff to assist with a project. The Council had questions concerning the planning and zoning. Mayor George

Holleman asked if it was the county manager who wanted to end the contract with the Town. Town Manager Hester responded by saying, ending the contract with the County for planning and zoning was a mutual agreement; however, Todd did offer to extend the contract through the end of the year while the Town made provisions and appointed a board. Councilwoman Kim Brown made a comment about getting the town representatives on the county's board to possibly serve on the Town's new Planning and Zoning Board.

Town Manager Nathan Hester presented information on the capabilities of Cloudpermit, a planning and zoning software. The contract would be a three-year term, billed annually with the first year including a one-time implementation fee of \$1,000.00, and totaling \$3,700.00 for the first year / \$3848.00 the second year / \$4001.00 the third year. Councilwoman Kim Brown also wanted to know if the funds for the Cloudpermit Software were included in the proposed budget and will the software work on the computer equipment Town Hall has. Town Manager Hester stated the software is a web-based platform and will work with our current equipment, there are additional services available to purchase online, and the funding for the Cloudpermit Software is in the proposed budget. All councilmembers were in a consensus to move forward with the Cloudpermit Software for planning & zoning.

d. Health Insurance Option Update

Town Manager Nathan Hester explained the Town has been meeting with several insurance brokers over the past few weeks and he provided the information for council to review. Insurance quotes from The Hilb Group, Galligher, and The Robert Taylor Group were provided, comparing current insurance coverage to the options available. Town Manager Hester agreed to request the July 2025 insurance rates; as the quotes provided were based on the June 2025 rates because the new July 2025 rates were not available at the time the quotes were prepared. After further discussion, all councilmembers were in a consensus to move forward with the Hilb Group, Blue Cross Blue Shield Option 3 plan.

2. Capital Improvement Plan Purchases FY 2025-2029

a. Compact Excavator/Compact Tractor

A quote from Bobcat of Lenoir estimated the cost of an excavator with three additional bucket attachments for \$95,829.54 under a state contract. The equipment was already in the budget but was switched out with the compact tractor. The excavator will allow the Town to complete work that would typically be contracted out to Energy United and to complete upcoming FEMA projects.

b. Miscellaneous Equipment

i. Police Department

Town Manager Nathan Hester discussed the equipment needs of the Police Department. On page 17 of the proposed budget, the Police Capital Outlay line item of \$42,000.00 for a vehicle and \$12,000 for vehicle equipment. Finance Director Zachary Greene explained there are funds of \$10,000.00 in the equipment line item of the proposed budget to purchase five safety vests and two computers for the Police Department, contingent on the reimbursement from the League.

Mayor George Holleman asked about when the Town would be absorbing the SRO positions this year. Mr. Greene responded, we will the next year in 2026. Councilwoman Kim Brown asked about the SRO line item of \$82,000 being for one officer at the moment; Town staff clarified it is for two SRO Officers at Taylorsville Elementary and the Student Success Center.

ii. Public Works

Town Manager Nathan Hester reported \$5000.00 in Streets and Sanitation Capital Outlay currently and will be left there.

Town Manager Nathan Hester reported on page 29 of the proposed budget, Enterprise Fund – General Expenditures, the Capital Outlay and Water & Sewer Capital Reserve Fund line items total \$134,100.00 for funding a mini excavator, a trench box [which is an OSHA requirement], and a bush hog. Town Manager Hester also, stated there were funds in the budget this year to purchase the trailer for hauling the equipment.

Town Manager Nathan Hester reported on page 31 of the proposed budget, Enterprise Fund – Sewer Expenditures, the Capital Outlay line-item totals \$50,000.00 for funding a new truck under a state contract. The new truck will replace an F-150.

Staff Reports

Police Chief: Mike Millsaps

Chief Michael Millsaps was not present at this work shop.

Finance Director: Zachary Greene

Finance Director Zachary Greene reported meeting with auditors earlier that morning. He reported the final draft of the 2023-2024 audit should be completed by the end of May.

Public Utilities Manager: Aaron Wike

Public Utilities Manager Aaron Wike reported Kelly Pennell and Eric Church have replaced 70-75 water meters over the past month, reducing the re-read list. On average, 8-10 meters fail a month.

Weather permitting, at the end of the month the project in front of Town Hall will be done, which includes the new service line into the Ancestry Society, a new tap and line into Town Hall, capping off the old service line, and repairing the fire hydrant.

The repairs to fix the drainage issue at Urgent Care is scheduled to for next week, weather permitting.

There will be a future budget amendment from the insurance reimbursement from the accident at Fairway Oaks.

Town of Taylorsville is currently in a negotiation stage with FEMA concerning the culvert project.

Two seasonal mowers were hired about 3 weeks ago and are doing a great job.

Town Manager Report: Nathan Hester

Town Manager Nathan Hester reported Rachel Blake as a new member of Town Hall staff, filling the Accounts Payable / Utility Billing Clerk position.

Council General Discussion

Mayor George Holleman announced Ron Roseman, of the ABC Board, would like to step down now that the ABC Store is operational. Mayor Holleman also stated Taylorsville Presbyterian Church would be serving breakfast Monday through Thursday of this week. Mayor Holleman also mentioned Studio 3 will be having an Easter Service performance in the old sanctuary at the Methodist Church at 7:00 pm.

Councilman Eric Bumgarner questioned how the ABC Store was doing financially since opening. Town Manager Nathan Hester reported the ABC Store was making money and doing well. Councilman Eric Bumgarner questioned the Maintenance & Repairing Sidewalks line item; as in replacing versus rebuilding a sidewalk. Public Utilities Manager Aaron Wike addressed this question.

Public Utilities Manager Aaron Wike reminded council of a road closure request that will be presented at the next regular meeting in May for the Juneteenth Celebration. The road closure request will be different than the previous years. Councilwoman Kim Brown stated the Town needed a better way of securing road closures as individuals were driving through / around cones at Hometown Christmas. Mr. Wike also stated he has marked all the street lights and Duke Energy was to fix them.

Councilwoman Kim Brown asked when the new website would go live and is there a link to view the progress thus far. Town Manager Nathan Hester agreed to email the link so council could view the progress.

Council discussed the property on Linney's Mountain Road owned by the Town. Public Utilities Manager Aaron Wike and Finance Director Zachary Green went out to the property prior to the workshop and took picture of the land to provide to the council for review.

Adjournment

Mayor George Holleman asked for the motion to adjourn, a motion was made by Councilwoman Kim Brown to adjourn and seconded by Councilman Eric Bumgarner. The motion was passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 pm.

Mayor

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Attest: _____
Nicole Mayes, Town Clerk