

## **TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING**

June 4, 2024

Present: Mayor Pro Tem Eric Bumgarner  
Councilwoman Tamara Odom  
Councilman Jack Simms  
Councilwoman Kim Brown

Absent: Mayor George Holleman

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Pro Tem Bumgarner at 5:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Pastor Neil Walker of Oxford Memorial Baptist Church. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to approve the minutes as presented from May 7, 2024 regular meeting as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

### Open Forum:

Linda Coxen, resident of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street spoke before the town board requesting that the busy intersection of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street be considered for a 4-way stop. She states that she has almost been in accidents at the intersection.

Carol Rogers, resident of the corner of 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street came before the Town Board about the excessive noise that cars make as they travel on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Streets disturbing the neighborhood. There were no other comments in open forum.

Matt Braswell, Martin Starnes & Associates presented information on the audited financial statements of the Town for FY 2021-2022. Revenues exceeded expenses with an increase in fund balance of \$353,757.00 in the general fund. Sales tax revenues were a great factor due to an overall increase of \$125,038.00 additional revenue over the previous year's totals. The W&S fund had operating revenues of \$2,347,301.00 which resulted in an unrestricted net position of \$1,897,816.00 for the end of FY 2021-2022. The complete audited financial statements for FY 2021-2022 are available at Town Hall.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to accept the FY 2021-2022 audit as presented by Martin Starnes & Associates. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Odom and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to open the public hearing for the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed budget for FY 2024-2025 for the Town of Taylorsville. Manager Aaron Wike gave an overview of the proposed budget as follows:

Proposed General Fund Budget	\$2,799,955.00
Proposed W&S Fund Budget	<u>\$2,804,250.00</u>
Total of All Funds	\$5,604,205.00

The proposed tax rate will remain the same at .35/100 valuation with an estimated collection rate of 97.5%. It is estimated to collect \$942,500.00 in property taxes and \$1,112,500.00 in other taxes including motor vehicle and utilities tax revenues. Investment earnings are up due to interest received from a large CD that matures in July 2024. There are plans for needed construction repairs to the Urgent Care building and Matheson Park, along with cemetery expansion plans and town website updates. One new police vehicle purchase is planned in addition to purchasing 3 cars outright when the original lease is up next February 2025. We have added the position of Finance Director under Administration. The town will see an increase of 6.9% for garbage collection and 28% from Duke Power for street lights. The contribution for Alexander Central Fire Department will now be based on the actual fire tax collected and is estimated to total \$132,286.00 which includes hydrant flow testing of \$15,000.00. A 5% COLA is proposed for all employees. In the W&S department we are continuing to comply with the lead & copper rules by contracting with 120 Water to identify the amount of lead and copper lines within the town. The wastewater system will now be mapped within the GIS mapping system. We will purchase outright at the end of the lease this coming February 2025 the public works department truck and plan to finance another one in this budget year. The W&S minimum will increase \$1.50 for each service; however, the capital charge will reduce by .50 cents. The tap fees will increase by \$500.00 each and any taps over 1 inch will be individually quoted as needed due to the continual increasing costs. Reconnection fees will increase to \$40.00 and the returned check fee will increase to \$30.00 per instance. We now have 23 pump stations and the overall expenses have increased by 18% over the previous year expenses. The cost to purchase bulk water is increasing 4%. With no additional information, Manager Wike stated the proposed budget is balanced and available for review and discussion.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Odom and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve the Classification and Pay Plan study completed by the MAPS Group as presented and to implement option #4 for the police department. The police department was the only department which was shown to be under paid compared to surrounding peer groups. That option was already factored into the proposed FY 2024-2025 budget. There is an educational incentive pay plan for employees in the Classification and Pay Plan study which will reward employees for reaching certain levels of education and training. The motion was passed unanimously. The complete Classification and Pay Plan study is on file at Town Hall.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to approve the adoption of a Resolution which opposes the request from Charlotte for an Inter Basin Transfer of water from the Catawba River Basin. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to approve a Budget Project Ordinance totaling 1.5 million with the NC OSBM for sidewalk and

street resurfacing repairs. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes herein.

Staff Reports: Police Chief, Mike Millsaps.

Chief Millsaps states there were 779 total calls in the month of May 2024. The police department is now fully staffed with full time personnel. The Governor's Highway Safety Program Click It or Ticket It was recently held here in Taylorsville and resulted in 11 traffic violations. Each violation removed from the streets results in points awarded to the department which can result in free equipment for the department.

Town Manager/Public Utilities Manager: Aaron Wike

Aaron noted that a flash flood occurred due to a significant rainfall event that happened on May 7, 2024 resulting in the submersion of fairway oaks and water filled w. jay dr. pumpstations and the culvert washing away at the wwtp. The repairs to the culvert at the wwtp were almost \$10,000.00. He recently went to look at a pumpstation in Boone that is elevated. He plans to elevate the fairway oaks pumpstation by 5 ft with a separate landing for the generator to hopefully eliminate this problem in the future. A tree came down Memorial weekend on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. We had to close the street, get the tree removed and the public works crew has already repaired the sidewalk. Councilwoman Brown and Councilman Bumgarner expressed their gratitude to all town staff for their dedication and hard work for the town and citizens.

Town Attorney – Monroe Panel

No business to address for this meeting.

Councilwoman Odom: Downtown Revitalization Update:

The first meeting has been held and Connie Kincaid gave an overview of the Mainstreet Conference and purpose to strengthen the downtown economy and encourage historic preservation. The committee has conducted a walkthrough of our downtown area from the old hotel to the V point at 1<sup>st</sup> Baptist church, noting the power poles need replacing and uniformity of the outside business buildings would enhance the appearance of the downtown area. Councilwoman Brown noted that there are only 3 buildings in the downtown area that are vacant.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Simms to set the next meeting for June 18, 2024 at 5:30 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the proposed FY 2024-2025 budget in the Council Chambers of Town Hall and will be presented in a public hearing. The motion was passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm by a motion from Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Odom. The motion was passed unanimously.

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Mayor

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman

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Councilman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk