

TOWN BOARD MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

December 3, 2024

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

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Holleman at 5:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Mayor Holleman. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

By unanimous approval the agenda was adopted.

Open Forum:

Town resident, Edd Elliott addressed the Town Council regarding the \$49,000.00 dollars spent for the Christmas tree to be placed on the county's park in the middle of town. He feels that tax dollars should have not been spent on this because it is not a service for the citizens. He states Taylorsville is a small town and does not have the funds to be spending like towns or cities with larger tax bases. "If people don't like the way Taylorsville is, then don't live here", he states. There were no other comments in open forum.

Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Councilman Bumgarner and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to approve the following items:

1. Approval of regular meeting minutes from November 5th, 2024
2. Approval of work session minutes from November 18th, 2024

The motion was passed unanimously.

Business Items:

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to open the public hearing for consideration of adoption of an Ordinance designating the Downtown Taylorsville Historic District. The Local Historic Overlay District are within the same boundaries of the Downtown Taylorsville Historic District National Register boundary map. Local Historic Districts are zoning overlay districts created to protect and conserve the heritage and character of Alexander County. Historic Districts are areas defined by historic, architectural and/or cultural significance. The district encompasses the greater portion of five blocks extending north and east from the courthouse square and covering approximately 10.6 acres. The district boundary is drawn to include the concentration of largely intact commercial and governmental resources from the period 1906-1973 on Main Avenue, Main Avenue Drive, and Center Street. All exterior changes and alterations to local historic buildings and sites, excluding ordinary maintenance and repair, must receive a Certificate of Appropriateness from Alexander County Historic Preservation Commission. This is required to encourage design, whether contemporary or traditional, which is harmonious with the character of the historic district and to

ensure, insofar as possible, that buildings or structures in the historic district be in harmony with other buildings or structures located therein. Business owner Dereck Jones asked if the property owner could opt out of the historic overlay? The answer was no. No other comments were made and the public hearing was closed by a motion from Councilwoman Odom and seconded by Councilman Bumgarner. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to adopt the Ordinance Designating A Local Historic District Downtown Taylorsville Historic District. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Bumgarner and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to appoint Ron Roseman as Chairperson for the Taylorsville ABC Board. The motion was passed unanimously.

Discussion was held regarding the board members of the Taylorsville ABC Board. Blake Watts declined the nomination for member on the ABC Board. Brent Icenhour verbally stated his desire to serve on the board. After discussion, a motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to appoint Jonathon Coley to serve on the Taylorsville ABC Board. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to approve the following members for the designated terms on the Taylorsville ABC Board. Ron Roseman for a 1-year term; Jason Durmire to a 2-year term; Jonathon Coley to a 3-year term. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilwoman Odom to adopt a Resolution outlining how the sales profits from the Taylorsville ABC store, after deductions for costs of operations and state mandated distributions according to N.C.G.S. 18B-805, shall be restricted and distributed. They will be directed to the Town of Taylorsville general fund-fund balance account. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Brown and seconded by Councilman Bumgarner to approve the adoption of a Resolution directing the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of a non-contiguous voluntary annexation petition received and to report back to the Town Council at the January 2025 meeting. Eagle Engineering has petitioned for annexation of an approximate 83-acre tract located off NC Hwy 16 South and Happy Plains Road in order to build a 191 home sub-division. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment C, which are hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Bumgarner and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to set a public hearing on the question of the annexation for Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 5:30 in the Council Chambers. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve

the adoption of the 2025 Town Holiday and meeting schedule as provided. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment D, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

A motion was made by Councilman Bumgarner and seconded by Councilwoman Brown to approve the budget amendment for \$3,424.00 from fund balance to police capital outlay for the purpose of purchasing 2 radios. The motion was passed unanimously. See attachment E, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes.

Staff Reports:

Police Chief, Mike Millsaps.

There was a total of 605 calls last month. The Christmas parade is the first Saturday in December and a large crowd is expected requiring all available police presence.

Public Utilities Manager: Aaron Wike

Aaron Wike states that the new playground equipment installation is expected to be finished up next. The park will remain closed until the work is completed. We have received 2 bids for the removal of trees on 1st Street. Taylorsville Hometown Tree Service had the lowest bid and will begin removal soon and then the street will be repaired immediately afterwards.

Town Manager: Nathan Hester

Nathan Hester states that he has spoken with West Consultants, PLLC regarding the sidewalk design plans and they should be finished up next week. They are 95% complete and should go out for bids soon. He will be working with WPCOG on future funding projects made available for public works and infrastructure projects needed. A space analysis and feasibility study for the public works department and town hall will be needed. There has been \$18,500 donated towards the Christmas tree. The parade lineup will begin at 2:15 at the high school for those riding on the town float. The employee luncheon will be Monday December 23, 2024 at 12:00 for all employees.

Mayor Holleman mentioned the disaster relief funding in the NC state budget was for 1 billion because of waiting for congress to allocate additional FEMA disaster relief funding. Alexander County has also announced a new economic incentive program. The annual town /state dinner is planned for February 26, 2026 in Raleigh. This is a chance to talk with our area representatives.

Councilwoman Brown mentioned Hometown Christmas and the official lighting of the Christmas tree set for Thursday December 5, 2024 at 5:30pm. Many activities are planned including horse drawn carriage rides, music, walking bingo, pictures in the sleigh and with Santa along with the availability of food and beverage vendors along the streets.

Councilman Bumgarner personally thanked all the generous donations for sponsors of the Christmas tree.

Councilman Simms wishes all A Merry Christmas.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by a motion from Councilman Simms and seconded by Councilman Bumgarner at 6:20 pm.

Mayor

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Councilman

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk