



**Board of Commissioners  
Minutes  
January 24, 2022  
7:00 PM**

---

**Mayor Little opened the Public Hearing. The purpose of this Public Hearing was to hear comments, for or against, concerning a request from Baldemar Alvear Lara to have zoning changed from R-15 to R-9 for the property located at 424 Dorsett Street, Oakboro, NC 28129.**

**Jennifer Mabry spoke against allowing the zoning change. She says she is afraid it will cause water to run across her property. She wanted to know if property could be split into even smaller lots at a later date.**

**Linda Austin spoke against allowing the zoning change. She also had water concerns for her back yard and she, too, wanted to know if property could be split, again, at a later date.**

**With no one else signing up to speak, Mayor Little announced the Public Hearing closed.**

**Mayor Little welcomed everyone to the meeting and had the Town Clerk call the roll with the following present: Commissioner Efird, Commissioner Hathcock, Commissioner Huneycutt, Mayor Little, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Watkins and Doug Burgess, Town Administrator.**

**The Pledge of Allegiance of the US Flag was led by Mayor Little.**

**Commissioner Huneycutt had devotions.**

**Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.**

**Open Forum:**

**Heather Rushing:** She voiced her support for Chief Smith.

**Undrey Bost:** She stated that there is discrimination against her side of town. There are blunts all over Hamilton Street.

**Sinka Fair:** She voiced her support for Chief Smith.

**Josh Ballenger:** He voiced his support for Chief Smith.

**Alexis Hughes:** She voiced her support for Chief Smith.

**Jesse Lewis:** He was upset that one of the doors to the Board room was closed. He had concerns about the town's water.

**Karrie Walkers:** She was speaking for her client, Vax Vann. She stated that it was legal for people to self-administer vaccines under supervision of pharmacist or healthcare worker.

**Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from December 13, 2021 and December 20, 2021. Commissioner Efirnd seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.**

**Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable in the amount of \$946,063.77. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.**

#### **Decision on Public Hearing:**

**Commissioner Efirnd answered the questions from Jennifer Mabry and Linda Austin. He assured him that Mr. Lara would have to screen his property and plant whatever shrubs necessary to assure water didn't run to their properties. Also, this cannot be split again in the future.**

**Commissioner Efirnd made a motion to adopt the Statement of Consistency and Reasonableness for zoning change from R-15 to R-9 at property located at 424 Dorsett Street, Oakboro, NC. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried with a 3-2 vote. Commissioner Watkins and Commissioner Smith voted no.**

**Commissioner Efirnd made a motion to have zoning changed from R-15 to R-9 for property at 424 Dorsett Street, Oakboro, NC 28129. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried with a 3-2 vote. Commissioner Watkins and Commissioner Smith voted no.**

**Toys for Tots presentation:** Tim Pressley with the US Marines recognized the Oakboro Police Department for its generous contributions from “Cop on the Top” stating that 471 toys, 55 bikes, 27 books, 1328 stocking stuffers and \$6072.44, helping 1512 kids in Stanly County. A plaque was presented to Chief Smith.

Tim Pressley also wanted to recognize “K-9 Joker” and his handler, Jason Eschert with the Oakboro Police Department for raising \$5870.00 for the Toys for Tots program. A plaque was presented to Jason Eschert.

**Department Updates:**

**Budget and Finance:** Commissioner Smith referred to Town Administrator, Doug Burgess. Mr. Burgess reported that filing fees for Municipal Elections need to be set. In the past it was \$25.00 for Mayor and \$25.00 for Commissioners.

Commissioner Smith made a motion to set Municipal Election fees at \$25.00 for Mayor and \$25.00 for Commissioners. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

**Cemetery and Streets:** Commissioner Hathcock reported that speed bumps need to be removed on Hamilton.

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to have speed humps on Hamilton removed. Commissioner Huneycutt seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

**Police Department:** Commissioner Huneycutt called upon Chief Smith for a report. He reported that his department conducted 647 field contacts, 107 citations, 12 arrests and 184 incident reports.

**Parks and Recreation:** Commissioner Watkins reported that Head of Parks and Recreation, Josh Almond had been notified that he would be awarded a “matching” grant for paving and concrete at the Oakboro District Park. It is a \$20,000.00 matching grant with Oakboro paying half and Stanly County

paying half. Mr. Almond has already talked with Castleberry Paving and they agreed to \$20,000.00.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to amend the budget \$20,000 to include this grant. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

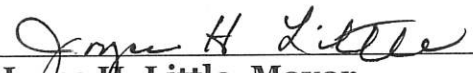
**Water and Sewer:** Commissioner Efird reported that 60-70% of the new waterline is in place. Rain and snow caused a little slow down.

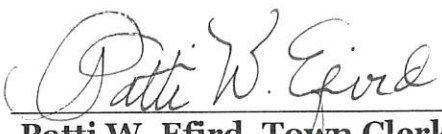
**Advisory Board/Code Enforcement:** Commissioner Efird reported that he has been in contact with Katherine Liles from Carthage about rewriting the 2022 Comprehensive Land Use Plan. Her fee is substantially smaller than anyone else he could find. Her charge will be \$21,000.00 and she will be paid \$3500.00 per month.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to use Katherine Liles to rewrite the 2022 Comprehensive Land Use Plan with a fee of \$21,000.00 to be paid \$3500.00 per month. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

Commissioner Huneycutt made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Watkins seconded the motion and it carried, unanimously.

This the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce H. Little, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patti W. Efird, Town Clerk