



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
December 19, 2022  
Organizational Meeting  
7:00 PM**

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Mayor Little called the organizational meeting to order.

Mayor Little welcomed everyone and asked the assistant town clerk to read the "Abstract of Votes" from the regular election that was held on November 8, 2022. Mrs. Leslie Murray read the voting results as follows:

For Mayor:

Lisa Cratty received 266 votes, Chris Huneycutt received 478 votes and Robert (Bobby) Watkins received 89 votes.

For Commissioners:

Brett Barbee received 470 votes, Joey Carpenter received 358 votes, Lee Huntley received 169 votes, Latoya Jackson received 439 votes, Charles (Chip) Osborne received 123 votes, Bud Smith received 455 votes and Fred Smith received 199 votes.

Next, the assistant town clerk swore in Mr. Chris Huneycutt as mayor, Mrs. Latoya Jackson as commissioner and Mr. Brett Barbee as commissioner. Each raised their right hand and placed their hand on the Bible held by someone special to them and repeated the oath. Afterwards, they took their seats.

Mayor Huneycutt welcomed everyone and asked the assistant town clerk to do the roll call. Commissioners Barbee, Hathcock and Jackson were present. Mr. Burgess was also present. Commissioner Smith was absent.

Mayor Huneycutt called on Pastor Jonathan Waits for the invocation.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to appoint Commissioner Barbee as Mayor Pro-Temp. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to appoint Commissioner Barbee as Mayor Pro-Temp and Commissioner Hathcock seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to follow the agenda as written. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt appointed the commissioners to the different departments.

**Budget and Finance:**

Chair: Brett Barbee

Assistant: Latoya Jackson

**Advisory Board/Code Enforcement & Farmers' Market:**

Chair: Lanny Hathcock

Assistant: Brett Barbee

**Police Department:**

Chair: Lanny Hathcock

Assistant: TBD

**Cemetery & Streets:**

Chair: TBD

Assistant: Lanny Hathcock

**Parks & Recreation**

Chair: Latoya Jackson

Assistant: Bud Smith

**Public Works:**

Chair: Bud Smith

Assistant: Latoya Jackson

Next, the appointments for the different positions within the town needed to be done. Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to appoint TJ Smith as Chief of Police. A motion was made by Commissioner Hathcock and seconded by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to appoint Leslie Hatley-Murray as town clerk & finance officer. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to appoint Mrs. Murray as town clerk and finance officer. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by the commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to appoint Mr. Doug Burgess as town administrator. Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to appoint Mr. Burgess as the town administrator and Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to appoint Mr. Albert Benschhoff as town attorney. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to appoint Mr. Benschhoff as the town attorney and Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt stated it was time for the clerk's oath of office. Being a notary, Mrs. Murray's father, Mr. Larry L. Hatley swore in Mrs. Murray for the town clerk and finance officer position. Mayor Huneycutt stated the board also needed to authorize Mrs. Murray to be added to the account as town clerk and finance officer allowing her to be able to sign the checks. A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson and seconded by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

Mayor Huneycutt referred to the meeting schedule for 2023 and entertained a motion to adopt this schedule. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to adopt the meeting schedule for 2023 and Commissioner Hathcock seconded. Voted and carried unanimously by all commissioners present.

**Board Comments:**

Commissioner Jackson thanked everyone for voting for her and said that she was excited about serving with this new board. She stated she had been on the board before and had learned so much.

Commissioner Barbee thanked everyone for being present at the meeting and stated that he got emotional when he looked at his mom holding the Bible. He was reminded of a time he was at Claude Teeter's store with his grandfather and he never dreamed that God would put him in this position to be where he is today. He thanked the town for the votes. He said he would work hard for the town and make factual, educated decisions. He is looking forward to working with the new board and he feels they will be a good team. He also looks forward to see what they can do for the citizens of Oakboro. Commissioner Barbee finished by thanking everyone for their support.

Commissioner Hathcock looks forward to working with the members of the board. He feels like Commissioner Smith would feel the same way if he were able to be at the meeting tonight. He looks forward to seeing what they can do for the Town of Oakboro citizens. He emphasized that they were there to help and if the citizens' need them, the numbers are on the website. He thanked the citizens for attending the ceremony and stated that those who were sworn in appreciated it. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mayor Huneycutt concluded by saying thank you to everyone that came out to the meeting tonight. He looks forward to the board working together for the good of the town. He hopes that the citizens will return to another meeting. He wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and asked everyone to slow down and appreciate each other and their family.

Mayor Huneycutt requested that the meeting be continued until Tuesday, January 10 immediately following the Planning & Zoning Board meeting which starts at 6pm.

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to continue the meeting until January 10. Seconded by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously by the commissioners present.

  
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Christopher N. Huneycutt, Mayor

  
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Leslie H. Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer