



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
January 17, 2023  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM**

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Mayor Huneycutt welcomed everyone and asked the town clerk to call the roll. Commissioner Brett Barbee, Commissioner Lanny Hathcock, Mayor Chris Huneycutt, Commissioner Latoya Jackson and Commissioner Bud Smith were all present. Mr. Doug Burgess, Town Administrator, Mr. TJ Smith, Chief of Police, Mr. Josh Almond, Parks and Recreation Director and Mr. Reggie Bowers, Utility Supervisor were also present. Town Attorney Albert Benschhoff was present.

Mayor Huneycutt opened the public hearing and stated that the purpose of this public hearing is to hear comments for, or against, amending the existing Unified Development Ordinance Article 5, Use Regulations, Division 4 Common Accessory Uses Section 543 Measurements and Definitions, Division 3, Definitions, Section 1030 Defined terms to add definitions of bee hive, bovines and swine. No one spoke for or against and the public hearing was declared closed.

Mayor Huneycutt asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance to the flag and that was followed by Commissioner Smith leading in devotions. He spoke on devoting time to people and that nothing in town is bigger than people. He mentioned how proud he was of Commissioner Barbee and Commissioner Jackson because they were students he had.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to amend the agenda to include the rules for appointing the vacant seat. A motion was made by Commissioner Barbee and a second by Commissioner Jackson. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2022. Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to approve the minutes from December 19, 2022 and Commissioner Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$151,625.34. Commissioner Barbee made the motion to approve the accounts payable and Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt recognized Mr. and Mrs. Tim Pressley who were present to speak on the Toys for Tots. Mrs. Debbie Pressley stated this was the eighth year in Stanly County and the fifth year in Oakboro. They received over 6,800 toys to donate to children along with many bikes. Next, she recognized K9 Joker and stated that he raised \$7,720 for Toys for Tots this year. Mrs. Pressley presented the Chief of Police, TJ Smith and Sergeant Eschert with recognition awards for their service to this great cause.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a decision regarding the public hearing. A motion was made by Commissioner Hathcock to adopt the changes to the Unified Development Ordinance with only allowing hens and no roosters. It was seconded by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously.

**Open Forum**

Ms. Cindy Feis had signed up for open forum, but decided she didn't need to speak. Open Forum time was closed.

## **Department Updates**

### **Budget and Finance**

Commissioner Barbee referred to Mr. Burgess for an update. Mr. Burgess reported that revenue in the general fund is at 84% and expenditures at 61%. In water fund, revenue is at 35% and expenditures were at 30%. With sewer fund, revenues are at 52% and expenditures are at 45%.

### **Cemetery and Streets**

Commissioner Hathcock mentioned that pot hole patching around town will be taking place as soon as the weather cooperates. He stated that if anything comes up that is bad to let him know and they will work on putting cold patch in it.

### **Police Department**

Commissioner Hathcock referred to Chief Smith. Chief Smith updated the board on the two new hires. Mr. Allen's paperwork came back yesterday so everyone would see him around town. Our rookie, Mr. James graduates from Stanly Community College tomorrow night and Chief Smith invited the board to attend. Chief Smith started with the monthly report. Fifty-one citations were given, nine arrests made, 475 neighborhood checks, one case summary, and 113 incident reports.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Commissioner Jackson referred to Mr. Josh Almond. He reported on the NCDOT grant that will be a pedestrian, bicycle, sidewalk grant. There is a requirement of a steering committee that will consist of 8-16 people. He has some names in mind, but if the board has anyone they want to suggest, he asked them to get with him. Mr. Almond has a conference call to learn more next week. Spring soccer registration started last week. Basketball games are underway now.

### **Public Works**

Commissioner Smith referred to Mr. Reggie Bowers. Mr. Bowers stated that in the water department, three meters were installed and two meters were replaced at residential houses. They also repaired two 2" water lines and a six-inch water line. In sewer, a two-inch force main blew out on New Year's Eve that had to be repaired. Regarding I & I, Mr. Bowers is working with Mr. Mark Cash and they have found several big leaks with one being at the school which he believes is now fixed. The new water tower had lights installed and the electrical is in process. The new pump station is also in the process of getting electricity. In Forest Creek Subdivision, they are working on the streets.

Mr. Burgess recommended a rate increase in water and sewer to accommodate the increase from Stanly County. There will be no change in minimum amounts, but past 2,000 gallons, an increase of \$1 for water and \$2 for sewer is what Mr. Burgess recommends. A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve these rate increases effective immediately. It was seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Voted and carried unanimously.

### **Advisory Board/Code Enforcement**

Commissioner Hathcock referred to Mr. Efird. Mr. Efird stated they are still working with subdivisions to get final plans completed. He is also working with Blue Dot Concrete to get them started. There is some property on the corner of East Third Street and Dorsett Street that the owner wants to rezone. He's working with the builders on S. Dorsett St with the townhouses. In addition, Mr. Efird is working with rezoning at the Big Lick intersection with the new convenience store.

#### **Rules for Filling the Vacant Seat**

Mayor Huneycutt asked if there were any questions regarding these rules. Commissioner Barbee stated they were going to take nominations and have a ballot vote. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to adopt the rules presented. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Commissioner Smith asked a question regarding the nominations. Commissioner Barbee stated he felt like the discussion was to make the nominations tonight and put those nominations on a ballot. The votes will be made tonight by ballot. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barbee made a nomination for Mr. Joey Carpenter. Commissioner Smith nominated Mrs. Lisa Cratty and Mrs. Joyce Little. Accolades were given to each nominee.

Commissioner Smith stated the way we did these nominations made it awkward. He will work with whoever is selected. His suggestion is to have an application in the future.

The ballots were passed out by the town clerk. The first ballot included a spoiled vote. The second ballot was passed out and also included a spoiled vote. The third ballot included votes for Joey Carpenter, Lisa Cratty and Joyce Little. At this point, anyone not receiving two or more votes were dismissed from the ballot. The fourth and final ballot showed that Mr. Joey Carpenter received four votes and will serve on the board in the vacant seat.

#### **Board Comments:**

**Commissioner Jackson** thanked everyone for coming and offered her congratulations to Mr. Joey Carpenter.

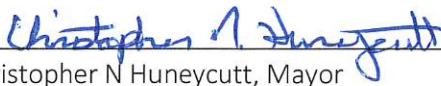
**Commissioner Barbee** also thanked everyone for being present tonight. He realized tough decisions had to be made but feels we have a good board going forward.

**Commissioner Hathcock** thanked everyone for coming. He especially wanted to thank Mr. Bowers and his group for all of the work they do. He thanked Mr. Almond for keeping the park looking great and opening it up for our citizens. He also commented to keep BJ Hill in your thoughts and prayers as he goes to the super bowl again.

**Commissioner Smith** wanted to thank Mr. Bowers as he sees their trucks roaming around. He congratulated the police department, K9 Joker and Toys for Tots. He wanted to thank everyone for being present tonight. Commissioner Smith also congratulated Mr. Joey Carpenter as our new commissioner.

**Mayor Huneycutt** stated he had a new appreciation for Mr. Bowers because he has seen what the team does personally. He appreciates all those involved with Toys for Tots. He feels that this board is going to work diligently to serve the town. He also thanked Mr. Burgess for all he does for the town.

Commissioner Barbee made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

  
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Christopher N Huneycutt, Mayor

  
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Leslie H. Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer