



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES  
August 21, 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 Joey Carpenter, Commissioner Lanny Hathcock, Mayor Chris Huneycutt, Commissioner Latoya Jackson and Commissioner Bud Smith were all present. Chief TJ Smith, Mr. Reggie Bowers, Utility Supervisor, Mr. Josh Almond, Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Doug Burgess and Ms. Georgia Osborne-Harvey were also present.

Mayor Huneycutt asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Following the pledge, Commissioner Jackson led in a short devotion centered around 2 Corinthians 1:3-4. She spoke on a merciful and comforting God. Commissioner Jackson led in prayer.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the minutes from July 17, 2023. A motion to approve these minutes was made by Commissioner Hathcock and a second by Commissioner Barbee. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$122,450.52. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$122,450.52. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

#### **Open Forum**

No one signed up for open forum.

#### **Department Updates**

##### **Budget and Finance**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Barbee. He gave an update on the budget. Currently, the revenues and expenditures for each fund are as follows:

- |                |               |                   |
|----------------|---------------|-------------------|
| • Water Fund   | Revenues: 20% | Expenditures: 11% |
| • Sewer Fund   | Revenues: 21% | Expenditures: 8%  |
| • General Fund | Revenues: 4%  | Expenditures: 13% |

Commissioner Barbee shared the need for some audio/video equipment at the Oakboro District Park Community Building. The total cost for the TV, sound bar and installation equipment will be approximately \$800. A motion was made by Commissioner Barbee to purchase this equipment. Commissioner Hathcock seconded the motion. Commissioner Jackson verified which option Commissioner Barbee was referring to. He mentioned it was the 75" TV and the \$158 Sound Bar. There was no other discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

##### **Cemetery and Streets**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Carpenter. Commissioner Carpenter referred to Mr. Reggie Bowers. Mr. Bowers informed the board of the paving/patching that Mr. David Castleberry had been doing this month. The department worked on cleaning out ditches. Mr. Bowers stated that in the future he would like to look into ditch cleaning on a larger scale. There are a lot of ditches with buildup that need cleaning out. Mr. Mark Cash put in a storm drain and helped the department cut ditches on Ninth Street. This had been in the plans for some time.

### **Police Department**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Hathcock who, in turn, referred to Chief Smith. Chief Smith shared the report for the last month:

- 243 incidents
- 25 arrests
- 134 citations (276 vehicle stops; 142 warnings)
- 880 field contacts – residential and business

Chief Smith shared that our K-9 Joker and Sergeant Eschert won the contest for \$500. Because of the closeness of the contest and as a show of good sportsmanship, Sergeant Eschert split his winnings with K-9 Drago and his handler. Due to this post on social media, a lady from California called in and donated the \$250 that Sergeant Eschert shared.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Jackson. Commissioner Jackson recognized our Parks and Recreation Director, Mr. Josh Almond. Mr. Almond informed the commissioners and mayor that Windstream just finished the Fiber Internet for the District Park.

The soccer season is underway and we have 96 children signed up to play. This is normal for the fall soccer; the spring soccer counts are usually higher.

The DOT grant is nearing the end. There will be one more steering committee meeting.

Mr. Almond informed the board that the Pickleball/Tennis/Basketball Court was finished at the Long Street Park. The net is on the way and will be portable.

Mr. Almond referred back to Commissioner Jackson regarding the Food Trucks and Music in the Park. This will be held on Saturday, August 26, 2023 from 4-7pm at the Oakboro District Park Amphitheater. There will be music provided by Valhalla Band from 5-7pm. Lots of food trucks will be present. They are Allen's BBQ, Hot Diggity Dog, BBQ & Gumbo, Everything Rolled, Fat Back Soul Foods, Los Jacubes Mexican Restaurant, A Pop Above, Ice Therapy, Oakboro Sweet Spot and R&B House of Sweets. Commissioner Jackson encouraged everyone to spread the word.

Mayor Huneycutt asked Mr. Almond where the first hole was on the Disc Golf course. Mr. Almond explained it was on the back side of the park next to Bullington.

### **Public Works**

Mayor Huneycutt called on Commissioner Smith for the update on Public Works. Commissioner Smith commended Mr. Reggie Bowers and Mrs. Murray for the professionalism of the interviews held for our public works department. He stated he appreciated the good job done.

Commissioner Smith referred to Mr. Bowers. In the water department, he shared that the Lighthouse Water Tower should soon be completed. The past Monday they set the generator for it and right now it is running wide open. He mentioned that the department worked on six water leaks, replaced six old meters and installed fifteen new meters. Mr. Bowers also shared he had approximately 1,000 locate calls from 811.

Mr. Bowers also wanted to share that we soon need to be thinking about cleaning our old water tower. This needs to be done every 5-8 years. He has been talking to some companies and will get quotes. He also is looking to find someone to fix the lights at the top of the water tower.

Regarding the sewer department, the guys had been working on three pump stations, James Road Pump Station, Oaks at St. Martin Pump Station and Bo Run Pump Station. They also repaired six E-1 pumps and cleaned out sewer lines. The department will begin cleaning out the ten pump stations next week.

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

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Hathcock. Commissioner Hathcock referred to Interim Zoning Officer, Chief Smith. Chief Smith shared a list of permits the town has received since July 1, 2023. He also mentioned that Ms. Valerie Hefty had expressed concern about rezoning a piece of property and he had another person contact him about a dog boarding business on Hatley Road. There have been no applications for either of these turned into town hall yet.

Commissioner Hathcock shared that there was a request from the Planning and Zoning Board to change the text in the UDO at Article 4, Section 423(a), District Intent (page 96). The board discussed holding a work session on October 10 following the planning and zoning meeting.

#### **Historic Committee**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Carpenter. Commissioner Carpenter informed everyone this committee is in place now. Their regular meetings are held on the last Monday of the month. Commissioner Carpenter referred to Chief Smith. He asked the Board of Commissioners to give permission to the Historic Committee for final say of the Oakboro Cemetery Sign Design and Color. The approximate cost at this point is \$3,800. Commissioner Barbee suggested they get the final quote and have that in the packets for next month's meeting. Chief Smith stated he would email the information regarding the sign to the commissioners on Wednesday evening, August 23, 2023.

#### **Board Comments:**

**Mayor Huneycutt** wanted to recognize Ms. Georgia Osborne-Harvey and welcome her aboard. He mentioned that as of October 1, 2023, she will be our new town administrator.

**Commissioner Smith** shared that Ms. Osborne-Harvey would be a great asset to the town. He stated that Mr. Burgess left us in good shape. He also shared that he was glad the historic committee was restarted.

Commissioner Smith thanked Mr. Josh Almond and Commissioner Jackson for teaming up together to do fun things in the park. He concluded by thanking everyone for coming to the meeting.

**Commissioner Hathcock** thanked each committee for the hard work they put into the meetings. He also wanted to thank Mr. Burgess. He thanked all the departments for all of their hard work in the town. He shared he is looking forward to Ms. Osborne-Harvey helping us out. He also wanted to make sure everyone knew about the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cruise In on September 22-23 and invited all to attend.

**Commissioner Barbee** thanked everyone for being present at the meeting. He also thanked Mrs. Lisa Lowder for coming to the meeting as a representative of the Red Cross Town Council. He also thanked the committees and staff for their hard work. Commissioner Barbee wanted to challenge people to speak up and help us be proactive. He also thanked everyone for their interest and for being present at the meeting.

**Commissioner Jackson** thanked everyone for being at the meeting tonight and for their support. She thanked everyone that worked for the town stating that their hard work never goes unnoticed. She welcomed Ms. Georgia Osborne-Harvey back to the Town of Oakboro. She emphasized for everyone to come out this Saturday to the Food Trucks and Music in the Park.

**Commissioner Carpenter** stated it was nice to see Mr. Harold Thompson in the audience. He shared that Mr. Burgess did a good job and that he knew Ms. Osborne-Harvey will keep that going. He appreciates all those who work so hard for our town.

**Mayor Huneycutt** thanked all committees, Mrs. Leslie Murray and Ms. Beverly Parr. He also thanked Mr. Josh Almond for his work at the park and Chief Smith for his help. He reiterated that we are thankful we had Mr. Burgess and again wanted to welcome Ms. Osborne-Harvey. He thanked everyone for being at the meeting and wanted to specially mention Mrs. Lisa Lowder, a commissioner from Red Cross Town Council, and invited her to the Council of Government meeting at the end of the month. Mayor Huneycutt also reminded all board members of the Council of Government meeting on August 29 that is hosted by Oakboro at the Town of Oakboro District Park.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to go into closed session for personnel. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to go into closed session for personnel and Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to go back into regular session. Commissioner Barbee seconded.

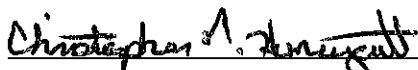
Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to adopt the "Resolution Authorizing Legal Action to Recover Expenditures to Provide Utility Services to the Forrest Creek Subdivision." A second was made by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to allow Ms. Georgia Osborne-Harvey 15 days of vacation from the beginning of her employment. Her start date is October 1, 2023. Also included in the motion was to give her a four-year contract with stipulations if departure happens. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barbee made a motion to hire Canyon Lowder at \$17.50 in the maintenance department. Commissioner Hathcock seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to give a \$0.63 raise to Steven Thompson and Travis Little to make sure they were not making less than what we are hiring Canyon Lowder at. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

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

  
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Christopher N Huneycutt, Mayor

  
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Leslie H. Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer