



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**MINUTES**  
**January 16, 2024**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**7:00 PM**

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Mayor Huneycutt welcomed everyone to the regular meeting and asked the Town Administrator, Georgia Harvey to call the roll. Town Clerk, Leslie Murray was at a class at the UNC School of Government. Commissioner Brett Barbee, Commissioner Joey Carpenter, Commissioner Lanny Hathcock, Mayor Chris Huneycutt, Commissioner Latoya Jackson and Commissioner Bud Smith were all present. Captain Craig Richards and Mr. Reggie Bowers were present along with the town's auditor, Mr. Eddie Carrick.

Mayor Huneycutt asked all to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag. This was followed by a devotion from Commissioner Smith. He spoke on our lives and being in the moment. The most important times of our lives was right now. There was nothing that could be done about this morning and you can't really predict what will happen tomorrow. He shared we have the power to act in this moment. He shared of a personal story where his home alarm went off and he said within minutes Officer James was at his house. He had someone pulled over, but as soon as he heard the home invasion call, he took off to Commissioner Smith's house. Commissioner Smith reminds us to seize each moment in real time because that opportunity can pass us by quickly. He then led everyone in prayer.

Mayor Huneycutt stated we had a need for two public hearings. The first public hearing is to hear comments for or against the closing of Fulton Street (an unopened alleyway) between E Second Street and E Third Street. This is the Mr. Jim Davis' property. Mayor Huneycutt asked for anyone to speak for or against could do so at this time. Mr. Brooks Barnhardt spoke against closing the alleyway as you can never get them back once they are closed. Mr. Jim Davis spoke for closing the alleyway stating that his family had purchased land over 47 years ago and the attorney at that time told him the street was abandoned then. He states it only serves a purpose for he and his family.

Mayor Huneycutt closed the first public hearing after the comments.

Mayor Huneycutt opened the second public hearing. This public hearing is to hear comments for or against changing the zoning from Industrial to Light Industrial at 126 S Main St, Oakboro. This property belongs to Mr. David Heath. No one spoke against the rezoning. Mr. Heath shared the reason behind the rezoning was for future plans in order to meet regulations. Mayor Huneycutt closed the public hearing after the comment.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a decision on public hearing number one. A motion was made by Commissioner Hathcock to close Fulton Street. Commissioner Barbee seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a decision on public hearing number two. A motion was made by Commissioner Jackson to change the zoning at 126 South Main Street from Industrial to Light Industrial. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to amend the agenda to add the audit presentation after the approval of accounts payable. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to amend the agenda and it was seconded by Commissioner Barbee. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the minutes from December 18, 2023. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve the minutes from December 18, 2023. Commissioner Hathcock seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt called for a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$258,865.68. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount listed above. Commissioner Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

#### **Mr. Eddie Carrick - Audit**

Mayor Huneycutt recognized Mr. Eddie Carrick for the presentation on the 2022-2023 fiscal year audit. Mr. Carrick presented audit findings with a clean opinion. The Town Board of Commissioners will need to respond to the Treasurer's Office for indicators #8 and #15 at the next meeting, along with the amendment for last year's budget to match audit.

#### **Open Forum**

No one spoke at open forum.

#### **Department Updates:**

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

Mayor Huneycutt called on Commissioner Barbee for an update on budget and finance. Commissioner Barbee shared the following:

	Revenues	Expenses
General Fund	59%	57%
Water Fund	81%	39%
Sewer Fund	55%	47%

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

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Carpenter for an update. Commissioner Carpenter referred to Mr. Bowers. He reported on Mr. Mark Cash fixing the drain at the cemetery which will prevent future flooding. He also shared that Mr. David Castleberry paved the road cut at the cemetery at no charge when the town fixed the lighting for the flagpole. Mr. Bowers shared that his staff worked to clean ditches, storm drains prior to rain storms coming and even during rainstorms. They also worked on street sign replacement and replaced stone on roads.

Ms. Harvey spoke on the proposed cemetery lots price increase. She requested feedback by the next meeting and would like to publish on the website and social media to give the community thirty days prior to this going into effect.

##### **Police Department**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Hathcock. Commissioner Hathcock referred to Captain Craig Richards. He shared the following statistics:

Citations:	167
Warning Citations:	25
Incidents:	7
Arrests:	10
Field Contacts:	11

### **Parks and Recreation**

Mayor Huneycutt reminded everyone that Josh Almond's last day is Friday, January 19, 2024. He is leaving to work in ministry and the town wishes him well. He then referred to Commissioner Jackson. She shared that youth basketball games are going on now.

### **Public Works**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Smith referred to Mr. Bowers.

- Sewer
  - One new E-1 pump was installed
  - Five new repairs on existing E-1 pumps
  - Two pump stations had to be replaced due to grease and rags (purchased two new pumps)
  - 2" sewer line leak at McCoy's Creek repaired
  - Mr. Bowers commended the staff for overtime work during the recent power outages, flooding and pump station issues.
- Water
  - Installed five new water meters
  - Repaired eight existing water meters
  - Repaired pump panel at Lighthouse Water Tower

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

There was no report

### **Historic Committee**

There are no updates this month.

### **Mayor and Commissioner Comments**

Commissioner Jackson thanked everyone for attending the meeting. She also thanked the maintenance staff for their hard work.

Commissioner Hathcock thanked each department for the work they are doing. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and advised everyone to stay warm with this cooler weather coming in.

Commissioner Carpenter thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked the maintenance staff for their hard work and advised everyone to stay warm and dry.

Commissioner Smith thanked everyone for their input and concern for the town. He thanked the town staff for all of their hard work.

Commissioner Barbee thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He thanked the staff. He also thanked Mr. Reggie Bowers for the forward thinking by putting in conduit in the cemetery road repair. He mentioned this past week has been hard on some Oakboro families as some have suffered the loss of their home from a fire and others have lost loved ones in wrecks. He finished by saying look after each other.

Mayor Huneycutt thanked everyone for being in attendance at the meeting. He appreciates the support for the town. He also appreciates the support from the staff, Mr. Reggie Bowers and the maintenance department as well as the police for when they assist the town. He thanks everyone for what they have done.

**Closed Session**

Mayor Huneycutt asked for a motion to go into closed session for personnel and attorney client privilege (G.S. 143-318.11 (6) & G.S. 143-318.11(3)). Commissioner Jackson made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Barbee seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

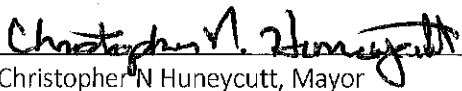
**Open Session**

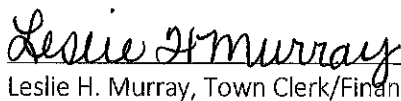
Commissioner Jackson made a motion to go back into open session. Commissioner Barbee seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

During closed session, no decisions were made.

**Continued Meeting**

Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to continue the meeting until Saturday, January 27 at 9am for a budget work session and a closed meeting. Commissioner Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

  
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Christopher N Huneycutt, Mayor

  
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Leslie H. Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer