



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
December 16, 2024  
7:00 PM**

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Mayor Huneycutt called the meeting to order. He asked Mrs. Leslie Murray, Town Clerk, to call the roll. Commissioner Brett Barbee, Commissioner Joey Carpenter, Commissioner Lanny Hathcock, Commissioner Latoya Jackson, Commissioner Bud Smith and Ms. Georgia Harvey, Town Administrator were present. Mr. Daniel Smith, Mr. Reggie Bowers, Mr. Anthony Gasparini, Mr. Levi LuQuire and Mr. Gabe Robinson were also present.

Mayor Huneycutt asked everyone to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.

Commissioner Smith had the devotion for tonight's meeting. He opened the meeting with prayer.

#### **Approvals**

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Jackson made a motion to approve the agenda as printed. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the minutes of November 14, 2024 and November 18, 2024. Commissioner Hathcock made a motion to approve the minutes of November 14, 2024 and November 18, 2024. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Huneycutt entertained a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$207,050.09. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve the accounts payable in the amount of \$207,050.09. Commissioner Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

#### **Presentations**

Mayor Huneycutt introduced Ms. Jordan Jackson from the North Carolina Rural Water Association. She presented an award to Mr. Reggie Bowers and the Town of Oakboro. The Wellhead Protection Plan for the town has been completed and implemented by the town. She shared this is not required by the state so that makes it extra special that it has been completed.

Mayor Huneycutt asked Mr. Neil Preslar, Chief of Police to come forward to be sworn in. Mrs. Lisa Preslar held the Bible while Mayor Huneycutt read the Oath of Office.

Mayor Huneycutt also had a special presentation for the Little Family. Mayor Huneycutt with the help of the Board of Commissioners named the current board room the "Joyce Little Board Room." Mayor Huneycutt presented a letter of honor to Mrs. Joyce Little's family. Mayor Huneycutt shared about how Mrs. Joyce Little served the town for over 18 years as mayor and also served as a commissioner. He shared that over her years, over 20 people served with Mrs. Little.

#### **Open Forum**

Mr. Wallace Crawford spoke to the board. His concern was about the town cutting back on services, particularly the yard waste pickup and the bulk pickup. He asked the board to consider bringing this back as an option to the citizens. In addition, he also voiced his concerns about the water pressure.

Next, Ms. Pam Moss spoke. She asked for the police department to continue blocking off the streets for the parades.

### **Administration**

Mayor Huneycutt shared a year end summary of the board accomplishments. He took time to recognize these accomplishments including budgeting, zoning requirements, bringing back the police department, town improvements and future plans for the town, inventory, grants and several other accomplishments.

Mayor Huneycutt spoke to each commissioner and shared what he loved about each of them and thanked them for their service. He also spoke to Mrs. Murray and Ms. Harvey thanking them for all they have done for him and the town.

### **Department Updates**

### **Budget & Finance**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Barbee. Mr. Barbee shared the following information:

	Revenues	Expenditures
General Fund	14%	36%
Water Fund	50%	26%
Sewer Fund	34%	36%

Commissioner Barbee also reviewed the audit response and made a motion to approve this for the fiscal year 2024. Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Next, Commissioner Barbee reviewed the disposition of surplus property to date. The total from July 1, 2024 until December 16, 2024 is approximately \$66,000 and 14 items sold.

Finally, Commissioner Barbee reported of the town's reinvestment of a \$50K CD moving to Uwharrie Bank at a rate of 4.26% for four months.

### **Cemetery & Streets**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Carpenter. Commissioner Carpenter referred to Mr. Reggie Bowers.

Mr. Bowers gave the following report:

- Worked on drain clean out
- Swept streets

- Christmas Tree and Christmas lights installed

### **Police Department**

Mayor Huneycutt called on Commissioner Hathcock who advised there was no report at this time.

### **Parks and Recreation**

Mayor Huneycutt called upon Commissioner Jackson. Commissioner Jackson referred to Mr. Daniel Smith. Mr. Smith shared that youth basketball is underway and games will start on January 11, 2025. Currently, there are 70 students signed up to play basketball this season. He also updated the board on the pickle ball net replacement as it was damaged in the storm. The new net has been ordered and will be put up as soon as it comes in.

### **Public Works**

Mayor Huneycutt called upon Commissioner Smith. Commissioner Smith congratulated Mr. Reggie Bowers and his department for going above and beyond in order to get the Wellhead Protection Program completed. He then referred to Mr. Bowers. Mr. Bowers thanked his department for their hard work. Commissioner Smith also shared the following report:

#### **Water**

- Installed new water meters
- Repaired water meters
- Repaired leaks

#### **Sewer**

- Maintained sewer pump stations
- Cleaned out sewer pump lines

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

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Hathcock who advised the board about the resolution for annexation of a piece of property. He stated the clerk needed to investigate the sufficiency for the petition for annexation and also asked her to report on the certificate of sufficiency. The town clerk, Mrs. Murray read this report.

Mayor Huneycutt asked for a motion to approve the resolution Commissioner Hathcock read. Commissioner Barbee made a motion and Commissioner Carpenter seconded.

Last, Commissioner Hathcock shared the board would need to set a date for a public hearing. The date planned is January 21, 2025 at 7pm. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to set the public hearing date for annexation on January 21, 2025 at 7pm. Commissioner Carpenter seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

### **Historic Committee**

Mayor Huneycutt referred to Commissioner Carpenter who advised there was no report.

### **Recognition**

Mayor Huneycutt presented a plaque to Commissioner Hathcock for his service and dedication to the town for the past four years.

Commissioner Barbee asked Mayor Huneycutt to stand and presented him with a plaque for his service and dedication to the town for over 12 years as as commissioner for 2012-2022 and mayor from 2022-2024.

### **Mayor & Commissioner Comments**

**Commissioner Barbee** thanked Commissioner Hathcock and everyone on the board. He emphasized Oakboro is a family-oriented town and during this Christmas season to take care of one another. He thanked everyone for being present tonight.

**Commissioner Smith** addressed Mr. Wallace Crawford and stated he understood the issue with the leaves. Commissioner Smith shared that he contacted Waste Management, and he was told the truck had broken down. He shared with Mr. Crawford he doesn't have a pickup truck either and stated that he would look into this. He also addressed Mrs. Pam Moss. He shared that he felt Mr. Neil Preslar would fix this issue. Commissioner Smith shared a story on Mrs. Joyce Little and he shared that he loved her and misses her like they do. He shared she was such a fine person and embodied the spirit and soul of Oakboro. He felt this naming of the board room was well deserved. Commissioner Smith congratulated Mr. Neil Preslar for being sworn in as Chief of Police and thanked his wife Lisa for sharing him with the town. Commissioner Smith thanked the board for their friendship. He shared that he has gained friendship from Commissioner Hathcock and Mayor Huneycutt. He shared that both were very hands on and that Mayor Huneycutt made it his passion and business to take care of this town. He shared that Commissioner Hathcock had a genuine concern for the town. He thanked them both for their service.

**Commissioner Carpenter** congratulated Mr. Neil Preslar and his wife, Lisa. He also congratulated Mr. Reggie Bowers and his department and thanked them for doing a great job. Commissioner Carpenter congratulated Mr. Wiley Little and thanked him for allowing the town to have Joyce. He also thanked Mr. Daniel Smith. He shared that Mr. Smith was doing a great job at the park. Commissioner Carpenter ended by saying he had learned a lot over this last year and a half. He thanked everyone for coming and invited them to come back.

**Commissioner Jackson** thanked everyone for coming out. She also congratulated Mr. Neil Preslar. She thanked the maintenance department as well as the parks & recreation department. She appreciates Commissioner Hathcock and Mayor Huneycutt for all of their hard work and mentorship. She thanked Mayor Huneycutt for naming the board room after Joyce Little.

**Commissioner Hathcock** thanked the board and stated it was an honor to serve with them. He shared it was an honor to serve with Mrs. Leslie Murray as well. He shared that Ms. Georgia Harvey has made an amazing difference. He thanked each of the planning and zoning board members by name for their hard work with him on that board. He also thanked the Historic Board for their work and service as well as the departments. He commented to Mr. Daniel Smith about having a pristine park and included Mr. Josh Almond as he was here before Mr. Smith. He advised the mayor elect and the board members elect that he was available to help if needed. In addition, he shared that everyone on the board was 100% in favor of hiring Chief Neil Preslar.

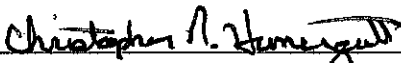
Commissioner Hathcock asked Chief Neil Preslar to come forward. Commissioner Hathcock gave Chief Neil Preslar and the Town of Oakboro a \$1,000 gift card to Eagle Guns for Chief Preslar to pick out a gun of his choice.

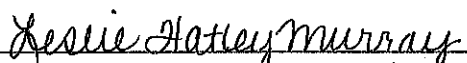
He finished by thanking everyone for coming tonight and thanked everyone for allowing him to be a part of this board.

**Mayor Huneycutt** finished with the comments by thanking a lot of people over the last 12 years. He shared that in this time he has learned a lot and he shared what an honor it has been to serve the town. He also asked everyone to please continue to support this board. Mayor Huneycutt complemented all of the wonderful employees of the town. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and shared this was a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. He also told everyone that if he was needed, he was only a phone call away and wished everyone the best.

#### Adjourn

Commissioner Jackson 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 Hatley-Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer