

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES January 21, 2025 7:00 PM

Mayor Eury called the meeting to order.

Mayor Eury opened the public hearing. He stated the purpose of the public hearing was to hear comments for or against voluntary annexation of 4.94 acres in between East Tenth Street and East Eighth Street. There were no comments for or against. Mayor Eury declared the public hearing closed.

Mayor Eury asked Mrs. Leslie Murray, Town Clerk, to call the roll. Commissioner Brett Barbee, Commissioner Joey Carpenter, Mayor Rodney Eury, Commissioner Latoya Jackson, Commissioner Bud Smith and Commissioner Fred Smith were present. Georgia Harvey, Town Administrator was present. Mr. Daniel Smith and Mr. Adam Harvell were also present.

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

Devotions

Commissioner Barbee had the devotion for tonight's meeting. He spoke on Jeremiah 17:7 and opened the meeting with prayer.

Approvals

Mayor Eury entertained a motion to amend the agenda to include a closed session for attorney client privilege according to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3). Commissioner Jackson made a motion to amend to include the closed session. Commissioner Fred Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Eury entertained a motion to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024 as printed. Commissioner Carpenter made a motion to approve the minutes of December 16, 2024 as printed. Commissioner Barbee seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Open Forum

No one signed up for open forum.

Administration

Mayor Eury asked for the board's pleasure regarding the voluntary annexation of 4.94 acres between East Eighth Street and East Tenth Street. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to accept the 4.94 acres into town limits and approve the voluntary annexation. Commissioner Jackson seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Department Updates

Budget & Finance

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Barbee. Commissioner Barbee shared the following information:

	Revenues	Expenditures
General Fund	64%	49%
Water Fund	59%	37%
Sewer Fund	41%	48%

Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve an allocation of \$296,518.94 for the general fund balance for the purchase of land to general fund capital assets. Commissioner Jackson seconded. There was no discussion. Voted and carried unanimously.

Cemetery & Streets

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Fred Smith. Commissioner F Smith shared that staff are in the process of giving all fire hydrants a facelift with new paint.

Commissioner F Smith also shared a reminder on disposal of limbs and brush as well as bulk trash. He stated citizens must call town hall to have the dump site or dumpster unlocked. The hours for this are Monday through Friday 8am-4pm. During the months of February, March and April, the town employees will pick up brush and limbs as well as bulk trash on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of those months. There are restrictions that apply. He advised the citizens they must call town hall and give the address of the pickup as well as follow the restrictions below:

Restrictions on limbs/brush includes no longer than 6 feet, diameter no larger than 6 inches and a single person with a pickup truck should be able to pick up the pile with their arms. No dump truck or equipment needed to pickup. Regarding the bulk trash, citizens must also call down hall to report the address for pickup. There are restrictions here as well. Electronics, tires and appliances are not accepted. All other pickup must fit within a regular pickup bed of a truck. Future monthly services will be based on town work schedules.

Police Department

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Carpenter for an update on the police department. Commissioner Carpenter shared that Chief Preslar attended the annual North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police conference this past week. He also shared that Chief Preslar is continuing to accept applications for police staff.

Parks and Recreation

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Jackson for a report on the parks and recreation department. Commissioner Jackson shared that youth basketball games started this past week and will run through the end of February. She also shared that youth soccer signups will be held during the month of February for ages 3-15. Commissioner Jackson also informed everyone the doors are being replaced at

the District Park Community Building on the porch side overlooking the pond to match the front doors. Last, Commissioner Jackson shared staff is in the process of putting together a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. There will be an application on the website and implementation in the near future.

Public Works

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Bud Smith for an update on the public works department. Commissioner Smith shared that the water and sewer staff continue replacing old manual read water meters with new radio read meters. The staff is also preparing for a state DEQ (Department of Environmental Quality) visit in February for the annual water inspection.

Commissioner Bud Smith also gave an update on the McCoys Creek sewer line upgrade. There was recently a meeting with BRS, Stanly County Utilities and Oakboro Utilities to discuss construction to begin the end of January. Homeowners in the area of the upgrade project are being contacted by BRS before any work begins. Any specific questions on the upgrade, he asked citizens to please refer to the contact information on the BRS communication letter. This upgrade is to replace the sewer lines and manholes leading into the McCoys Creek Pump Station.

Advisory Board/Code Enforcement

Mayor Eury referred to Commissioner Carpenter for the advisory board and code enforcement update. He shared there had been three new home permits, one new rebuild of a business which is the Big Lick Gas Station that will be a BP and four new fence or accessory buildings.

Commissioner Carpenter also informed the public that an alternate spot was available on the Planning and Zoning board. The link to the application will be on the Oakboro website at oakboro.com tomorrow morning.

Historic Committee

Mayor Eury asked Commissioner Fred Smith for the update on the historic commission. He shared that the formal appointment of four members to the Historic Preservation Commission will take place tonight. Those four members who will be appointed are Teresa Smith, Donna Harris, Meredith Sain and Alan Love. All of these individuals have served on the Historic Committee as members or alternates during the past two years. He also informed the citizens there is one more regular seat and two alternate seats available on the Historic Commission. There will be an application online tomorrow morning.

Leslie Murray, Town Clerk, administered the oath of office for the four Historic Preservation Commission members.

Mayor Eury shared some background information on the Historic Preservation Commission regarding who could be a member of the HPC as well as informing everyone the regular meetings would be held on the last Monday of each month at 6pm in Oakboro Town Hall. The next meeting will be Monday, January 27, 2025.

Closed Session

Mayor Eury entertained a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Barbee made a motion to go into closed session for Attorney-Client Privilege (G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3)). Commissioner Jackson seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Barbee made a motion to go out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Fred Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor Eury resumed open session. Mayor Eury read the following statement and advised it needs to be added to the litigation, "the Oakboro Town Board of Commissioners acknowledge the subsection of settlement, "plaintiff expressly reserves and does not waive any claims which may exist for any breach by the town of the 9/19/2022 Interlocal Agreement between Oakboro, Red Cross, and Defendant." Commissioner Barbee made a motion to approve the statement. Commissioner Fred Smith seconded. Voted and carried unanimously.

Mayor & Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Barbee shared it was good to see everyone and stated it was a big crowd for a snowy day. He mentioned he was thrilled to see the snow. He also wanted to know he appreciates everyone.

Commissioner Carpenter congratulated the Historic Preservation Commission and thanked them for being willing to step up. He also said it was nice to see everyone come out and for them to come back to the next meeting.

Commissioner Bud Smith thanked everyone for coming out tonight and also thanked the employees for working hard.

Commissioner Jackson thanked the town employees for their hard work. She thanked Georgia and Leslie for preparing this meet and greet. She congratulated the Historic Preservation Commission board members. Finally, she reminded everyone about the parks and recreation advisory board openings.

Commissioner Fred Smith thanked everyone for coming out and congratulated the Historic Preservation Commission. He thanked everyone for taking care of our town.

Mayor Eury agreed with all of the commissioners' comments. He asked the citizens to bear with him as he learns his new role as mayor. He thanked everyone for coming and advised them to be careful going home in the snow and stated he looked forward to seeing them all next month.

Adjourn

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

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Lodery Car Rodney Eury, Mayor Leslie Hatley-Murray, Town Clerk/Finance Officer