

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
February 5, 2024
MINUTES

The Rural Hall Town Council held their regular council meeting on February 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM in Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Terry M. Bennett - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn; Councilman Mark Lane; Councilwoman Anita Ring; Councilman Michael Woodcock; Interim Town Manager Homer Dearmin; Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick; Finance Clerk Donna Watson; LPA Supervisor Dawn Tysor; PIO Alston Brown; Public Works Director Jason Hill; and Fire Chief Mike Simone.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick.

A moment of silence was held.

Adoption of Agenda:

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilman Mark Lane to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

Visioning Retreat set for February 7, 2024 has been canceled.

Staff Report

Each of the following departments gave a quick overview of what they have been doing over the past month: Dawn Tysor Supervisor of the LPA, Donna Watson Accounting Clerk, Jason Hill Public Works Director, Mike Simone Fire Department and Deputy Michael Collins with FCSO.

Unfinished Business

Alston Brown, PIO gave an update on the 50th Anniversary Celebration. He stated the Friday night Car Show event has been finalized and will be receiving applications until May 1. He continues to work to finalize Saturday and Sunday events.

Alston Brown, PIO stated the annual Med and Shred event on May 4 from 9 am to 12 pm will also include a Health Fair. We will be partnering with Forsyth County Health and Human Services.

Alston Brown, PIO stated the Park and Recreation Master Plan will be presented at the February 12 Council meeting.

Alston Brown, PIO stated the Garden Spot Newsletter will be mailed out quarterly instead of monthly, but we will still be sending information through email to advertise events and update the community with pertinent information.

Mayor Terry Bennett stated the Town will be opening the application process back up for the Town Managers Position. The reason for this is we have three new board members who were not involved in reviewing applications from the first advertisement. All Council members would like to be involved in this process from the beginning to the final decision of who is hired as Town Manager. Those who applied previously will not be required to do so again.

New Business/ Items of Discussion

Interim Town Manager Homer Dearmin was approached by a homeowner on Jackson St. to see if the Town was interested in purchasing the property. This property connects to Covington Park and the asking price is \$68,000. Interim Town Manager Homer Dearmin stated it would take about \$20,000 to get the property cleaned up.

Mayor Terry Bennett stated the Visioning Retreat will be on March 11, 2:00 PM along with the Budget Workshop.

Mayor Terry Bennett set the Public Hearing for the Unnamed Alley off Broad Street for April 8, 2024 7:00 PM

Interim Manager Homer Dearmin stated a Public Forum for the Fire Department Design would take place on March 11, 7:00 Council Meeting.

Mayor Terry Bennett stated he would like to get the Council's opinion of setting the Agenda Briefing Meeting to the same day as the Regular Council Meeting. Mayor Terry Bennett recognized Carol Newsome as she had concerns regarding both meetings being on the same day. There was a brief discussion by the Council. This item will be added back to the agenda for the February 12 meeting to be voted on by the Council.

Board Comments/Questions

There were no comments from the Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion to adjourn at 4:37 PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk

APPROVED