

## CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

The Board of Councilmen of the Town of Rural Hall went into closed session on December 13, 2021, at 7:47 PM in the Town Hall Conference Room pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3). The following members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Flinchum; Councilwoman Susan H. Gordon; Councilman Norman E. Horn; Councilman Terry M. Bennett; Town Manager Misty Meadows; and Interim Town Attorney Randolph M. James.

The following items were discussed:

- Amendment to the Personnel Policy, adding a section about rehires/reinstating former employees. The current policy does not address rehires. Manager Meadows worked with Attorney James to write the new policy and Council approved the addition of Section 17, Reinstatement, to Article V, Recruitment and Selection.
- Vacant council seat: One of the candidates is no longer considering the council seat. The Council discussed finding a candidate who will be dedicated and committed. Legal issues regarding the council seat appointment were discussed. Council is not legally obligated to choose a council member from the current applicants.
- Sanford Holshouser Contract: The Town contracted the Sanford Holshouser firm for a five-year strategic plan for \$55,000. A payment of \$15,000 has already been paid, however the Town has not received any data/results from Sanford Holshouser. Sanford Holshouser is now a conflict of interest (Megan Garner's attorney Valerie Bateman is in the same law office). Attorney James has emailed Sanford Holshouser for more information and inquired about terminating the contract.

There being no further business, Councilwoman Susan H. Gordon made a motion to adjourn the closed session at 9:01 PM. Councilman Norman E. Horn seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Misty A. Meadows  
Town Manager