

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF TARBORO, HELD AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 2020 IN
THE COUNCIL ROOM, TOWN HALL, TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Pitt
Councilman Woodard
Councilman Taylor
Councilman Burnette
Councilman Brown
Councilman Jenkins
Councilmember Jordan
Councilmember Bynum
Councilman Mayo

MEMBERS ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

Troy Lewis, Town Manager
Leslie Lunsford, Town Clerk
Chad Hinton, Town Attorney

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY THE MAYOR

2. INVOCATION

Councilman Taylor.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA BY COUNCIL

Agenda approved as presented.

John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Othar Woodard and Passed, Motion.

5. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Sara Valentine, 402 E Park Avenue, Tarboro - Ms. Valentine expressed concerns with gun shots fired on New Year's Eve, lasting around 60 minutes.

Tonia Grimsley, American Cancer Society - Ms. Grimsley requested the Town co-sponsor "Touch A Truck", an event to benefit Relay for Life.

Greg Higgs, 1105 Bradley Avenue, Tarboro - Mr. Higgs also expressed concerns regarding the gun shots fired on New Year's Eve. He expressed the need for activities for youth ages 15-18.

Doris Jones, 1007 E Saint John Street, Tarboro - Ms. Jones expressed concerns with excessive vegetation near Clark Park, she stated it was a safety hazard.

Dylan Brooks, 520 Martin Luther King Jr Drive, Tarboro - Mr. Brooks presented his ideas for a movie he is planning to film in Tarboro.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

- (1) The Planning Director will present the Planning Board Report.

Catherine Grimm, Planning Director, presented the Planning Board Report.

Council called for a public hearing at the February Council meeting to approve the Conditional Use Permit application and the Zoning Map Amendment as presented.

Clarence Brown made a motion, which was seconded by John Jenkins and Passed, Motion.

7. TOWN MANAGERS RECOMMENDATIONS

Consent Items

Consent Items approved as presented.

John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

- (1) Approve minutes of December 9, 2019 regular meeting.
- (2) 2018 Tax Levy Adjustment
- (3) 2019 Tax Levy Adjustment
- (4) Tax Collector's Report

Action Items

(5) CDBG Buyout Program Cooperative Agreement

Council authorized staff to execute the Cooperative Agreement with the North Carolina Office of Recovery and Resilience to administer a Community Development Block Grant Buyout Program in Tarboro.

Leo Taylor made a motion, which was seconded by Othar Woodard and Passed, Motion.

(6) Personnel - Residency Policy

Councilman Brown made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Woodard that Council adopt the proposed ordinance amending the residency policy for the Town of Tarboro. The motion failed due to a 3 to 5 vote. Councilmembers Woodard, Brown and Jordan voted for the motion. Councilmembers Taylor, Bynum, Jenkins, Mayo and Burnette voted against the motion.

Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Burnette that the proposed ordinance be amended to state that Department Heads must live within a 35 mile radius of Town Hall. After discussing, all members of Council voted against the motion.

Councilman Taylor made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Jenkins that Council continue to enforce the current ordinance. The motion failed due to a 2 to 6 vote. Councilmembers Taylor and Jenkins voted for the motion. Councilmembers Woodard, Jordan, Bynum, Brown, Mayo and Burnette voted against the motion.

Councilman Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Jordan and passed by a 6 to 2 vote that Council amend the current Town ordinance 19-05 by removing section (a) which would allow for the Town Mangers discretion while hiring Department Heads. Councilmembers Woodard, Jordan, Bynum, Brown, Jenkins and Mayo voted for the motion. Councilmembers Taylor and Burnette voted against the motion.

(7) Down East Home Consortium Agreement

Staff recommended that Tarboro decline to participate in the Down East Home Consortium at this time.

Leo Taylor made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

(8) Budget Amendment - E.L. Roberson Emergency Sewer Repairs

Council approved the budget amendment allocating funds for the emergency repair at the E. L. Roberson Center.

John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

(9) Budget Amendment - Special Olympics Coordinator

Council adopted the budget amendment to appropriate the \$2,500 from Edgecombe County for a Town Staff member to act as the Edgecombe County Special Olympics Coordinator.

Othar Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Leo Taylor and Passed, Motion.

(10) Appointment - Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees

Council appointed Lee Bell, Fire Chief to serve a two (2) year term and re-appointed Anne Mann, Treasurer to serve another two (2) year term on the Firemen's Relief Fund Board of Trustees.

John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Leo Taylor and , Motion.

8. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

Troy Lewis introduced Lee Bell as the new Fire Chief.

(1) Council Retreat Proposed Dates: March 7-8, 2020

The annual Council Retreat will be held on March 7-8, 2020, location to be

announced.

(2) Update on Shell Building Project

All documents have been signed, work should begin soon.

B. Town Attorney

No report.

C. Council Members

Councilman Woodard - mentioned the Sara Lee expansion project that is expected to bring 108 new jobs to Tarboro. He is looking forward to Tarboro moving forward in the new year.

Councilman Taylor - mentioned the Sara Lee expansion project, great for economic development.

Councilman Burnette - none.

Councilman Brown - agreed with citizens that recent shootings were a concern and needed to be addressed. Troy stated that he would work with Police Chief on the issue.

Councilman Jenkins - none.

Councilmember Jordan - none.

Councilmember Bynum - wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilman Mayo - none.

9. CLOSED SESSION

Councilman Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Councilmember Bynum and passed unanimously that Council enter into Closed Session per NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(4).

Councilman Brown made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Jenkins and passed unanimously that Council enter into Open Session.

- (1) To discuss economic development matters as allowed by NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(4)

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned.

Steve Burnette made a motion, which was seconded by John Jenkins and Passed, Motion.