

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF TARBORO, HELD AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024 IN
THE COUNCIL ROOM, TOWN HALL, TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilman Anderson

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. ELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Councilman Woodard was nominated and elected to serve as Mayor Pro Tem.
John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed,
Motion. ; Absent: Anderson

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA BY COUNCIL

Agenda approved as presented.
John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Leo Taylor and Passed, Motion. ;
Absent: Anderson

6. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Bryce Knight, 1112 Edmondson Avenue - concerned about the drugging/mining project on
Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. Troy Lewis stated that it was a sand pit that was zoned and
permitted properly. Mr. Knight also requested an update on the canal near the M. A. Ray
Center.

William Battle, 1601 Bond Street, Rocky Mount - invited Council to attend a Prostate Cancer screening event on January 11, 2024, 11:00am - 2:00pm, at Vidant Health Center, hosted by Emmanuel Health Education. He also invite all to attend an annual bike ride in June for Prostate Cancer awareness.

Larry Crossett, 601 Saint Patrick Street - concerned with the vacant houses in his neighborhood.

Bea Burnette, 506 Saint Patrick Street - concerned with the vacant houses in her neighborhood.

Liam Gilroy, 204 E Park Avenue - gave an update on the aesthetics project in the 200 block of Main Street and thanked the Town for helping to get the project going.

Greg Higgs, 811 E Saint John Street - expressed his concerns for more educational youth programs and the need for transportation for youth athletic events. He also thanked Chief Rick Mann for his support.

Candis Owens, 104 W Park Avenue - supports the vacant house complaints and the animal shelter, hopes the Town will support both. She would like to see more signage and crosswalk lights to prevent speeding on Main Street and Wilson Street.

Eleanor Gilroy, 204 E Park Avenue - suggested a stop sign on Park Avenue to help with speeding in the area.

Charles Ainsley, 300 W Saint James Street - thanked the Town for supporting the 200 block of Main Street project and invited all to see the progress, including the grand opening of Taps on Main in February. He also requested an update on the number of vacant building letters and fines collected.

Xavyer Burroughs, 513 Lucille Drive - encouraged continued belief and support for the downtown revitalization and stated that he was willing to make contributions to support the vision.

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. ; Absent: Anderson

- (1) Approve minutes of the December 11, 2023 regular meeting.
- (2) Tax Collector's Report

Action Items

- (3) **Edgecombe County - Animal Shelter Discussion**

Council discussed and decided more information and discussion was needed before a commitment could be made. Edgecombe County Animal Shelter discussion was tabled until the Council Retreat in March.

Othar Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by John Jenkins and Passed, Motion. Ayes: Brown, Bynum, Jenkins, Jordan, Taylor, Woodard; Nays: Burnette; Absent: Anderson

8. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

Troy Lewis reminded Council of the Martin Luther King Day banquet and upcoming ethics training,

(1) Town Council Planning Retreat Discussion - Potential Date March 2nd & 3rd

Council will hold the annual Council Retreat on March 2nd & 3rd, 2024. Councilman Taylor suggested a different format than previous years, he would like more time for Council discussion. Troy asked that Councilmembers submit topics/requests by January 22, 2024 to allow staff adequate time to prepare reports for the retreat.

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

B. Town Attorney

Chad Hinton stated that he had heard a presentation on the proposed animal shelter that was very informative and feels that Edgecombe County will be glad to share more information.

C. Council Members

Councilman Woodard - would like to discuss the ongoing littering issue at a particular apartment complex at the Council Retreat.

Councilman Taylor - concerned with flooding in the Summerfield area due to piping on Anaconda Road, requested an update on Nfinity Link and stated that he would be willing to attend meetings for a possible YMCA in the area.

Councilmember Jordan - asked if anyone attended the recent Core of Engineers meeting and asked for an update on the United Health Care utility payments.

Councilman Jenkins - offered condolences to Councilmember Bynum for the loss of her mother.

Councilmember Bynum - thanked Greg Higgs for his work and support of the youth and would like to see more community involvement.

Councilman Brown - wished everyone a happy new year and stated that he enjoyed the early ball drop event. He also asked that the Town maintain natural trails.

Councilman Burnette - would like to see an increase in parking violations for fire lanes and handicap spaces.

Councilman Anderson - absent.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

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

Absent: Anderson