

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF TARBORO, HELD AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023 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
Councilman Braxton

MEMBERS ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

Troy Lewis, Town Manager
Kim Whitehead, Assistant 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.

Steve Burnette made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed,
Motion.

5. PRESENTATION BY COUNCIL

(1) Autism Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring April 2023 as National Autism Awareness Month in the Town of Tarboro and urged all residents to better understand the subject of autism spectrum disorders. The proclamation was presented to Samaari Council and parents Edwin and Kimberly Nimmons.

(2) Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring April 28, 2023 as National Arbor Day in the Town of Tarboro. All citizens are urged to support efforts to protect our trees and

woodlands.

(3) National Day of Prayer Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring May 4, 2023 as a Day of Prayer throughout the Town of Tarboro.

6. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Gwenda Moore, 300 N Main Street - requested a letter written by the Town officials endorsing the sell of her commercial property on Market Center Drive. She also asked if traffic concerns would be addressed, Troy stated that NC DOT was looking for ways to resolve the issues.

7. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed Golf Cart Operation Ordinance - A public hearing will be held to receive public input on the merits of establishing an ordinance for golf cart operation within the city limits of Tarboro and the inclusion of any additional restrictions that would make the ordinance safe as possible.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open.

Troy Lewis, Town Manager, provided background information. Felicia Roebuck, Richard Roebuck, Ray Jones, Liam Gilroy, Lance Cherry and Bryan Mayo spoke in favor of the proposed Golf Cart Operation Ordinance. Lewis Ridgeway expressed concerns about the proposed ordinance.

The Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Councilman Braxton suggested the ordinance be amended to increase the speed limit from 25 mph to 35 mph and reduce the fee from \$150.00 to less than \$100.00.

Council adopted ordinance 23-03 as originally presented.

ORDINANCE 23-03

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE II OF THE TARBORO CODE OF ORDINANCES

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

8. TOWN MANAGERS RECOMMENDATIONS

Consent Items

Consent Items approved as presented.

Steve Burnette made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed,

Motion.

- (1) Approve minutes of the March 13, 2023 regular meeting
- (2) Approve minutes of the Council Retreat
- (3) Budget Transfers
- (4) Tax Collector's Report
- (5) 2022 Tax Levy Adjustment

Action Items

(6) Report of Unpaid Taxes, Liens on Real Property and Tax Lien Advertising

Council approved the report of the Tax Collector on unpaid 2022 taxes that are liens on real property and ordered the Tax Collector to advertise 2022 taxes that are liens on real property one (1) time as soon as all statutory requirements can be met.

Clarence Brown made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

(7) Budget Amendment - HVAC Unit

Council approved the HVAC Unit budget amendment.

Steve Burnette made a motion, which was seconded by Sabrina Bynum and Passed, Motion.

(8) Budget Amendment - Rural Transformation Grant

Council adopted the Budget Resolution for the \$875,000 in Rural Transformation Grant Funds from the NC Department of Commerce.

Deborah Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Sabrina Bynum and Passed, Motion.

(9) Award Contract - Auditing Services

Councilman Braxton made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Woodard and passed unanimously, that Council adopt the new LGC guidelines for the 2022 audit.

Council also awarded the audit contract for the fiscal year 2022-2023 to Joyce and Company, CPAs at the proposed cost of \$36,500, with the understanding that contracts for future years may be subject to negotiation and require future Council approval.

Alfred Braxton made a motion, which was seconded by Othar Woodard and Passed, Motion.

(10) Resolution - Conveyance of Fixed Asset

Council approved a resolution declaring the 1986 fire engine surplus and conveying the same to Edgecombe Community College for no consideration.

Alfred Braxton made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

(11) Traffic Schedule Changes

Council executed the Municipal Ordinance Certificates to correct speed limit inaccuracies as requested by NCDOT and adopted the resolution amending the Traffic Schedule.

Alfred Braxton made a motion, which was seconded by Sabrina Bynum and Passed, Motion.

(12) ICMA -Economic Mobility and Opportunity Cohort

Council agreed for Tarboro to participate in the Economic Mobility and Opportunity Cohort program and authorized the Town Manager to execute documents related to the same.

Othar Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Sabrina Bynum and Passed, Motion.

(13) Special Event - Tarboro-Edgecombe Juneteenth Celebration

Council agreed to co-sponsor the Tarboro- Edgecombe Juneteenth Celebration and adopted Ordinance 23-02 declaring the closure of North Main Street (NC 33) between Pitt Street and St. John Street.

Ordinance 23-02

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE
INAUGURAL TARBORO-EDGECOMBE JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Othar Woodard made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.

(14) Special Event - Hispanic Heritage Festival

Council agreed to co-sponsor the Hispanic Heritage Festival scheduled for September 16, 2023 from 1:00pm to 6:00pm on the Tarboro Town Common by providing in-kind services and equipment.

Sabrina Bynum made a motion, which was seconded by Alfred Braxton and Passed, Motion.

(15) Minimum Housing Code Enforcement - 614 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive - File No. 22-02

Council called for and will hold a public hearing on the assessment for demolition cost of \$18,851.52 for the structure located at 614 Martin Luther King Jr Drive at the May 8, 2023 Council meeting.

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

(16) Minimum Housing Code Enforcement - 208 Shirley Street - File No. 21-01

Council called for and will hold a public hearing on the assessment for demolition cost of \$13,066.45 for the structure located at 208 Shirley Street at the May 8, 2023 Council meeting.

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

9. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

The Town Manager acknowledged Monday, April 10 as Line Worker Appreciation Day and April 9-15 as Public Safety Telecommunicator Week. He also invited Council to the Key Accounts luncheon on May 3, 2023 at Cotton Valley Golf Course, 11:30am-12:45pm with golf at 1:00pm. Councilmembers should RSVP to Troy Lewis or Tina Parker if interested.

B. Town Attorney

The Town Attorney recently attended the Spring Municipal Attorneys conference at UNC School of Government, focusing on case laws.

C. Council Members

Councilman Woodard - requested an update on the revitalization for downtown store fronts.

Councilman Taylor - also wanted an update on the revitalization for downtown store fronts.

Councilman Burnette - none.

Councilman Brown - thanked lineman for their services.

Councilman Jenkins - spoke about a past golf cart incident, leading him to vote against the ordinance presented earlier in the meeting.

Councilmember Jordan - stated that she supported the current state guidelines for golf carts and asked if any housing developers were looking into building affordable homes in this area.

Councilmember Jordan also stated that there would be a Special Olympics held in Tarboro this year. Travis Stigge stated that it will be held on May 5, 2023 at Tarboro High School with a rain date of May 17, 2023. To register or volunteer, reach out to Thomas Perkins.

Councilmember Bynum - asked for information on the ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction) bill that was recently passed by the Senate. She also stated that she was excited about the golf cart ordinance and asked that citizens be on the look out.

Councilman Braxton - thanked line workers and telecommunicators for their service.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

Alfred Braxton made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.