

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

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

Troy Lewis, Town Manager
Kimberly 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.

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

5. PRESENTATION BY COUNCIL

(1) Autism Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring April 2024 as National Autism Awareness Month in the Town of Tarboro and encouraged all residents to participate in its observance and become more aware of Autism Spectrum Disorders. The proclamation was presented to Kyler Whitehead, a sixth grader at NECP, the son of Kelvin and Kimberly Whitehead.

(2) Arbor Day Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring April 26, 2024 as National Arbor Day in the Town of Tarboro. All citizens are urged to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands and to plant trees to gladden the heart promoting the well-being of this and future generations.

(3) National Day of Prayer Proclamation

Mayor Mayo presented a Proclamation declaring May 2, 2024 as a Day of Prayer throughout the Town of Tarboro.

6. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Cathy Williams, 2208 Robin Drive, Tarboro - expressed concerns with increasing animal euthanasia in the past year, 29% in 2022 to 60% in 2023. She also acknowledged April 14-20, 2024 as Animal Control Appreciation Week and National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Alexander Paschal, 4230 Stanfield Court, Ayden, NC - Assistant Public Defender, running for State Senator in District 5 for Pitt and Edgecombe County, present to learn the needs in Tarboro.

Judith Moss, 1208 W Wilson Street, Tarboro - invited all to attend the Downeast Senior Games on April 30th at E. L. Roberson Center and May 1st at Indian Lake, both days at 9:00 am.

Steve Redhage, 900 Saint Andrew Street, Tarboro - expressed concerns with the Vacant Property Ordinance, Section F, Exemptions on the Registration Fee. Troy Lewis clarified that the exemptions only applied to the registration fee and not the buying and selling of property.

Larry Battle, 305 Walker Street, Tarboro - expressed concerns about a code enforcement letter received about junk vehicles in his yard, the vehicles are operational and have current registration & insurance. Troy Lewis suggested Council table until the May council meeting so a proper appeal can be presented before making a decision.

Steve Redhage, 900 Saint Andrew Street, Tarboro - suggested that Council continue enforcing the current parking ordinance.

7. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Non-Residential Maintenance Code - The purpose of this public hearing will be to make appropriate changes to clarify the ambiguous language and enhance enforceability of the Non-Residential Maintenance Code adopted by Council at the July 10, 2023 Town Council meeting to regulate building appearance in the Central Business District.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open.

No one spoke in favor of or against amending the non-residential maintenance code ordinance.

The Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Councilmembers discussed.

Council approved the amendments made to the current ordinance to clarify ambiguous language and enhance enforceability of the Non-Residential Maintenance Code.

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

8. 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 to be held at the May Council meeting to consider UDO Text Amendment #24-01.

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

9. TOWN MANAGERS RECOMMENDATIONS

Consent Items

Consent Items approved as presented.

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

- (1) Approve minutes of the March 11, 2024 regular meeting.
- (2) Council Retreat Minutes March 2 & 3, 2024
- (3) Budget Transfers
- (4) Tax Collector's Report
- (5) 2023 Tax Levy Adjustment

Action Items

(6) Disposition of Town-owned Property - Tarboro Commerce Center

Council accepted Suncap Property Group, LLC's offer to purchase 26 acres in the Tarboro Commerce Center for \$16,000 per acre. Per North Carolina General Statute 160A-269 an accepted offer will be subject to the upset bid procedures.

John Jenkins made a motion, which was seconded by Sabrina Bynum and Passed, Motion.

(7) Budget Amendment - Cultural Arts Grant

Council approved the Cultural Arts Grant budget amendment.

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

(8) Resolution of Support - N.C. Commerce Rural Downtown Economic Dev. Grant

Council adopted a Resolution of Support and Local Match for the North Carolina Commerce Rural Downtown Economic Development Grant.

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

10. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

Troy Lewis reminded Council about the Town & State Dinner on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 in Goldsboro at The Firehouse, 5:15 pm - 8:30 pm.

B. Town Attorney

Chad Hinton stated that he was finalizing the SunCap documents and would have them ready soon.

C. Council Members

Councilman Woodard - none.

Councilman Taylor - none.

Councilman Burnette - none.

Councilman Brown - none.

Councilman Jenkins - none.

Councilmember Jordan - none.

Councilmember Bynum - none.

Councilman Braxton - none.

11. CLOSED SESSION

Enter Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) - Personnel

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

Resume Open Session

Sabrina Bynum made a motion, which was seconded by Cutchin Anderson and Passed, Motion.

- (1) Closed Session as per NCGS § 143-318.11(a)(6) - Personnel

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

Cutchin Anderson made a motion, which was seconded by Deborah Jordan and Passed, Motion.