

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF TARBORO, HELD AT 7:00 PM ON MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023 IN THE
COUNCIL ROOM, TOWN HALL, TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Mayo
Councilman Woodard - Zoom
Councilman Taylor
Councilman Brown
Councilman Jenkins
Councilmember Jordan
Councilmember Bynum
Councilman Braxton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilman Burnette

ALSO PRESENT

Troy Lewis, Town Manager
Leslie Lunsford, Town Clerk
Laney Ezzell, 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 Alfred Braxton and Passed, Motion. ;
Absent: Burnette

5. REQUESTS AND PETITIONS OF CITIZENS

Johanna Owens, 503 Saint Patrick Street - requested the Town co-sponsor the Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation 5K and Fun Run fundraiser in October. Discussed during Action Items, Memo 23-39.

Judith Moss, 1708 W Wilson Street - represented to the Seniors who participated in the Senior Games. She recognized the seniors and gave a summary of winners.

Linda Knight, 704 Panola Street - expressed concern about weed lien invoices she received for the property at 1904 Barlow Road.

Bea Burnette, 506 Saint Patrick Street - expressed concern about a vacant house on Saint

Patrick Street.

Larry Crossett, 601 Saint Patrick Street - asked that Council approve the vacant property ordinance to help the downtown area.

Annie Smith, 307 Spencer Drive - expressed concern about tractor trailer trucks parking in the neighborhood. She also requested community watch signs to help keep the neighborhood safe.

Bobby Jones, 406 Greenwood Blvd, Princeville - asked that the Town work with the Town of Princeville and Edgecombe County to help reduce the crime rate. He discussed the Elevate Edgecombe program. Also discussed in Action Items, Memo 23-35.

6. MATTERS SCHEDULED FOR PUBLIC HEARING

2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget - A public hearing will be held on the proposed 2023-2024 fiscal year budget. Upon closure of the public hearing, it would be appropriate for Council to take action concerning the FY 2023-2024 budget ordinance.

The Mayor declared the public hearing open.

No one spoke in favor of or against the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year Budget.

Everyone having an opportunity to speak, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Council discussed the proposed budget.

Councilmember Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Councilman Woodard and passed by a 6 to 1 vote that Council call for question on the proposed budget.

Councilmembers Braxton, Bynum, Jordan, Jenkins, Brown and Woodard voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Taylor voted against the motion.

Council approved the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 23-04

TOWN OF TARBORO, NORTH CAROLINA
BUDGET ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023 – 2024

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

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: Burnette

- (1) Approve minutes of the May 8, 2023 regular meeting.
- (2) Budget Transfers
- (3) Tax Collector's Report

Action Items

(4) Rural Opportunity Institute Update

Graham Palmer, Policy Lead of the Rural Opportunity Institute (ROI) presented an update on Initiatives in Tarboro including the internship program with the Parks and Recreation Department and the trauma-informed training with local law enforcement School Resource Officers. The ROI is offering a free virtual trauma-informed workshop on June 19, 2023, 9:30am - 11:00am.

(5) Elevate Edgecombe Education Forum - Request for Funding

Council approved the request from Princeville Mayor, Bobby Jones, to split the cost of the Elevate Edgecombe Education Forum event with the Town of Princeville and Edgecombe County. The cost of the event is estimated to cost \$10,000.

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

(6) Pinetops Electric System Service Agreement

Council approved the Electric System Service Agreement between the Town of Tarboro and the Town of Pinetops.

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

(7) Ordinance - Vacant Property

Council called for a public hearing at the July Town Council meeting to receive public input on the proposed vacant property ordinance.

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

(8) Budget Amendment - I.C.M.A. Economic Mobility & Opportunity Cohort

Council approved the I.C.M.A Economic Mobility & Opportunity Cohort budget amendment.

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

(9) Special Event - Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation

Council agreed to co-sponsor the Edgecombe Cancer Support Foundation fundraising race on October 28, 2023 and provide in-kind support.

Deborah Jordan made a motion, which was seconded by Alfred Braxton and Passed, Motion. ; Abstain: Bynum; Absent: Burnette

8. OTHER REPORTS

A. Town Manager

(1) Reschedule August Town Council Meeting

Troy Lewis requested that Council reschedule the August Council meeting due to the Electricities conference, most Councilmembers will be attending the conference. Council rescheduled the August Council meeting from Monday, August 14, 2023 to Monday, August 21, 2023.

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

B. Town Attorney

None.

C. Council Members

Councilman Woodard - acknowledged the meeting flaw during the 2023-2024 FY Budget discussion. A motion was approved to call for question, however, Council continued the discussion. He also stated that he was in favor of addressing the Superior Court Judge to encourage higher bonds be set for repeat offenders.

Councilman Taylor - thanked Mayor Jones for attending and his work with Elevate Edgecombe.

Councilmember Jordan - reminded Council of the Juneteenth Celebration on Monday, June 19, 2023.

Councilman Jenkins - expressed concern with the low bonds the DA's are setting for repeat offenders.

Councilmember Bynum - none.

Councilman Brown - thanked Mayor Jones, Judith Moss and the individuals from the ROI.

Councilman Braxton - stated that he liked the new signage around town.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned.

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