

February 10, 2025
Town Hall Meeting

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Mayor Larry W. Adams was present along with the following Commissioners: Neal Nichols, Martin Hauser, Earl Norman, and Kurt Held. Commissioner Dawn Hobson was absent.
2. Commissioner Martin made a motion to approve the January 13, 2025, minutes as written. Commissioner Held seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
3. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the January 13, 2025, Closed Session minutes as written. Commissioner Held seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
4. PUBLIC COMMENT: Kendra McCurdy suggested a project be considered to display Public Art in East Bend. A Mural speaking to the natural history of the town possibly on the back wall of the Speedway visible from the park or Bridge Art on the pillars underneath the bridge at Donnaha Park were some suggestions.

Mayor Adams thanked her for her suggestions and mentioned that the prior town hall had such a mural painted on the side of the building and it was beautiful. Commissioner Nichols said the project at Donnaha would require community involvement since it is outside the city limits. Kendra McCurdy stated that through research this would have to go through the state as an art project on a public right of way. She is willing to continue working with the town on any future projects concerning Public Art.

Commissioner Hauser discussed options for paying water bills via debit or credit cards. Paying online through personal bank accounts can be done now. Fees will be associated with processing cards through other means along with equipment costs. Clerk Miller is working with our software company to determine costs associated with paying via a Web link to the town. Commissioner Hauser suggested a survey be taken of the interest in having this feature as a payment option. Clerk Miller suggested this survey possibly be added to our Town Web site. Mayor Adams suggested this be tabled until the March Meeting to allow time to gather further data. Ronnie Fletcher thanked the board for the research into this option and all town employees for what they do.

5. Carroll Hoyle from Gibson & Company, PA presented and discussed the 2023- 2024 Audit Report with the board. The Report has an unmodified opinion with no budgetary violations or instances of non-compliance. Meaning the audit team states that proper internal controls are in place and being followed and the Town's finances are firmly presented and free from material errors. The Report was submitted to LGC and has been approved. He thanked Clerk Miller for her quick response time and cooperation in assisting with the Audit. He also thanked our former Town Clerk,

Vickie Matthews for her involvement. Mr. Hoyle will submit a response letter signed by the board to LGC tomorrow which will finalize the Audit process for June 30, 2024.

6. Chair Johnson from the Planning & Zoning Board requested the verbiage of “Inflatable Devices” be removed from the Zoning Ordinance. This means it would then be a permitted sign with a Zoning Permit. Public Hearing prior to this meeting presented no objections. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve. Commissioner Hauser seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Chair Johnson asked the board to approve the recommendation of Andy Snow in the place of Jan Hicks as an Alternate. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to accept Andy Snow as an Alternate. Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
7. Commissioner Norman has contacted Gregory Coulson with FEMA to discuss a Flood Insurance Program. He asked to table this issue until things with FEMA calm down and Mr. Coulson has time to meet with the board.
8. Mayor Adams asked for volunteers to be appointed as a delegate to the Piedmont Triad Regional Council. Commissioner Held volunteered to attend the February 19, 2025 meeting. Commissioner Hauser volunteered to be an alternate if allowed. Commissioner Norman made a motion to appoint Commissioner Held as our delegate with Commissioner Hauser as the Alternate. Commissioner Nichols seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
9. Jeff Jones and Gavin Brannon gave an update on the notification system at the sewer plant. It was discovered that we have a phone line in place which was deactivated in July of 2020. Gavin has contacted an electrician who is in the process of locating and repairing the dialer. He also presented a quote from Statesville Analytical for Labs at \$9844.00 per year, this was after consulting with Clerk Miller for sewer totals and costs. Commissioner Nichols made a motion that we switch to Statesville Analytical for Sewer only beginning March 1st. Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
10. God & Country Donation Request letter received for 2025. Money has already been approved in last year’s budget for current donations. No further action is needed at this time.
11. Clerk Miller presented a new procedure for a Town Board Meeting Follow up Assignment sheet. This stemmed from a concern from Commissioner Norman that individuals might forget their follow-up commitments from one meeting to the next. After review, all board members agreed to begin using this document.
12. Clerk Miller requested a Budget Amendment Resolution for the final entries to be processed for ARP Fund Activity. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to increase the budget for ARP Funds and Garage Upgrades, Resolution #1. Commissioner Hauser seconded. Motion carried 4-0. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to increase budget for ARP Funds and Purchase of Backhoe, Resolution #2. Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 3-0. Commissioner Held abstained from this Resolution.

Commissioner Hauser made a motion to increase transfer of funds and decrease contracted services budget, Resolution #3. Commissioner Norman seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Commissioner Nichols questioned the balance on the ARP Funds. Clerk Miller reported that the ARP Account was closed after all checks cleared.

13. Commissioner Held submitted a quote from Yadkin Valley Paving, INC for upgrades to Blanch Street. The proposal is for an inverted crown and redirection of water flow. Commissioner Held is in the process of getting other quotes. This item is tabled until further quotes are available.
14. Chief Shore reported that the contract with Southern Software for Citipak for the year 25-26 will be \$5755.00. Clerk Miller reported that we are currently looking into switching software so this amount could change. Clerk Miller will be meeting with Southern Software in the next few weeks. This item will be tabled until the next meeting following a cost analysis. Chief shore reported that he is happy with PolicePak that he is currently using. Signing of Agreements will be discussed at the next budget meeting.
15. Chief shore explained that Urban Archery extends the hunting season for citizens inside the town limits. Wildlife requires a document to be signed and sent in to allow this to continue for next year. Dates are January 10th – February 15th. The board agreed to continue this as a Town Ordinance.
16. Chief Shore reported that everything is going well within the Town of East Bend. Two upcoming events are: East Bend School will be having a Glow Run on March 1st at 6pm which he will be working. He has also been asked to attend the 50th Anniversary of the Siloam Bridge Collapse at Friendship Baptist Church February 23rd at 3pm. He also reviewed upcoming events at the Town Square. Clerk Miller reported she has added these events to the Calendar on the Town Website.
17. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Hauser seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
18. After returning from closed session, Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the bills and any that come in prior to the next meeting. Commissioner Held seconded. Motion carried 4-0.
19. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to Adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hauser seconded. Motion carried 4-0.

Date

Larry W. Adams, Mayor

Bettina Miller, Town Clerk/Administrator