

**MINUTES OF TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
OF THE  
TOWN OF STALLINGS, NORTH CAROLINA**

The Town Council of the Town of Stallings met for its regular meeting on January 8, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stallings Government Center, 321 Stallings Road, Stallings, North Carolina.

Those present were: Mayor Wyatt Dunn; Council Members Steven Ayers, Taylor-Rae Drake, Graham Hall, Brad Richardson and Laurie Wojtowicz.

Those absent were: Mayor Pro Tempore David Scholl; and Council Member Brad Richardson

Staff present were: Alex Sewell, Town Manager; Chief Dennis Franks; Max Hsiang, Planning Director; Kevin Parker, Town Engineer; Marsha Gross, Interim Finance Officer; Eunice McSwain, Parks and Recreation Director; Karen Reid, Human Resources Director; Mary McCall, Deputy Town Clerk; and Melanie Cox, Town Attorney.

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and meeting called to order

Mayor Wyatt Dunn welcomed everyone to the meeting and Council Member Ayers delivered the invocation. Mayor Dunn then led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the meeting to order.

Public Comments

Edward Elam, Miller Drive, Waxhaw, was present to inform the Council that he was running for Union County Commissioner. He was currently the Chair of the Crime Prevention Committee, on the board of Crime Stoppers, member of Rotary, Civitan, and Lions Club. He lived in Waxhaw with his wife and was not apart of any group and would be a partner of every one Union County.

1. Approval of Consent Agenda Items

- A. Minutes from the following meetings:
  - (1) 12-11-2023
- B. Amended Budget Ordinance 10 – Unemployment Insurance
- C. Amended Budget Ordinance 11 – Police Department Evidence Storage Shelving
- D. Amended Budget Ordinance 12 – Election Expense Overage

Council Member Ayers made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda Items as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Drake which passed unanimously by Council. The *Amended Budget Ordinance 10 – Unemployment Insurance; Amended Budget Ordinance 11 – Police Department Evidence Storage Shelving; and Amended Budget Ordinance 12 – Election Expense Overage* is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

## 2. Reports

### A. Report from the Mayor

Mayor Dunn reported he had met with Pastor Scott at Stallings Methodist who is starting Gratitude Initiative to spread gratitude in the community.

### B. Reports from Council Members/Town Committees

Council Members Hall, Drake, Wojtowicz had no reports.

Council Member Ayers reported that he reviewed a potential business coming to Town. He also reported that Stallings had a CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) meeting. The group would be doing one training per month.

### C. Report from Town Manager/Town Departments

Town Manager Sewell reported:

- Employee of the Year was Eunice Donnelly
- Officer of the Year was Tai Pham
- New Bootcamp was that day.
- Staff was planning for the pending inclement weather.

## 3. Agenda Approval

Mayor Dunn requested adding Agenda Item 5.A., *Mast Arm Powder Coating*. Council Member Hall made the motion to approve the Agenda with the above addition. Council Member Ayers seconded the motion to which Council unanimously approved.

## 4. Ripple Fiber

Engineering Director Parker explained that Ripper Fiber had begun installing fiber infrastructure throughout the residential subdivisions throughout Stallings. Representative from Ripple Fiber, Bill Grogan, explained Ripple Fiber was new to the area and started in South Africa. The presentation from Ripple Fiber is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

## 5. FY 23-24 Priorities Update

Town Manager Sewell presented the Council with a mid-year update for the FY2023-24 Priorities. These updates are attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

5.A. Mast Arm Powder Coating

Town Manager Sewell reminded the Council that a NCDOT project near the bypass exit required mast arms. Powder coating those mast arms was aesthetically more pleasing therefore the Council in 2018 agreed to pay \$2280. However, that price had now escalated to \$3738.73. Staff sought direction from Council for painting those mast arms.

Council Member Ayers made the motion to approve the additional funding to paint the mast arm and pedestals. Council Member Drake seconded the motion to which Council approved by a 3 to 1 vote with Council Member Hall opposed.

Council Member Drake made the motion to excuse Council Member Drake from the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ayers and passed unanimously.

*Council Member Drake left the meeting at 8:18 p.m.*

6. Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6)

Council Member Ayers made the motion to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) and invite Human Resources Director Karen Reid into the session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Hall and passed unanimously by the Council.

*Council went into closed session at 8:18 p.m. and reconvened back into open session at 8:37 p.m.*

7. Adjournment

Council Member Hall moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Ayers, and the motion received unanimous support. The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Approved on February 12, 2024.

*s/Wyatt Dunn*

Wyatt Dunn, Mayor

Approved as to form:

*s/Cox Law Firm, PLLC*

Cox Law Firm, PLLC

*s/Erinn Nichols*

Erinn E. Nichols, Town Clerk