

**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 August 14, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stallings Town Hall, 315 Stallings Road, Stallings, North Carolina.

Those present were: Mayor Wyatt Dunn; Mayor Pro Tempore Regis Griffin; Council Members Deborah Romanow, Rocky Crenshaw, Kathy Heyse, David Scholl and Shawna Steele.

Staff present were: Kevin Woods, Town Manager; Emily Hughes, Deputy Town Clerk/ Communications Specialist; Ashley Platts, Director of Parks and Recreation; Michelle Hitselberger, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation; Lynne Hair, Town Planner; Kevin Parker, Associate Engineer; Brian Price, Maintenance Supervisor; Minor Plyler, Chief of Police; and Marsha Gross, Finance Officer.

Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance and meeting called to order

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

Public Comments

Luanne Sherron, Vice President of Key Accounts and Government Relations for Union Power Cooperative, was present to introduce herself to the Council. She explained that Union Power served 3400 meters in Stallings. Ms. Sharon thanked the staff for working with Union Power to install the substation fence screen. She was also seeking to partner with the Town to advertise in the park. Union Power served 98% residential and was 99.9% reliable.

Michael Faulkenberry, a citizen of Indian Trail, expressed his concerns of the widening of Old Monroe Road and the superstreet concept. He explained the importance of waiting to complete the design until the Hwy. 74 expressway was complete. He explained it would impede businesses and economic development and hope the Council would reach out to the Town of Indian Trail. Mr. Faulkenberry also congratulated the Town for its award for best park in the Union County Weekly. He wished the best of luck for Mr. Woods in his future position.

James Gleason, 213 Meadowbrook Drive, explained that dump trucks speeding through the Forest Park neighborhood was an issue. He noted he spent 20 years cleaning up accidents between large vehicles and people and didn't want to see that again.

Special Recognitions

Mayor Wyatt Dunn and Parks and Recreation Program Coordinator Michelle Hitselberger recognized the Boy Scouts and Girl Scout who installed enhancement projects within the Stallings Parks during the summer.

- Connor Sabinske, Troop 120
Gnome Garden, Stallings Municipal Park
- Anderson Payne, Troop 144
Bat Boxes, Blair Mill Park
- Elise Payne, Troop 2445
Butterfly Garden, Stallings Municipal Park

1. Reports

A. Report from the Mayor

Mayor Dunn reported that the Idlewild Road and Stevens Mill paving was complete. He also proposed a special meeting on September 25 at 6 p.m. to discuss the superstreet concept with NCDOT. The Mayor then reported that he met with Dennis Moser and John Owens regarding the Small Area Plan in the Highway 74/ Stallings Road area. Mayor Dunn stated that Senator Tommy Tucker would be presenting the hotel tax for Stallings to the legislation.

B. Reports from Council Members/Town Committees

Council Member Scholl reported that he attended the CCOG meeting where the replacement for the Executive Director was discussed.

Council Member Steele reported that National Night Out was a success and an opportunity to meet neighbors. She also reported that school was starting soon and urged all to be cautious.

Council Member Griffin reported that the Public Safety Advisory Committee cancelled their meeting in July and August but hoped to resume in September. He also reported that the Finance and Administration Committee would be suspended until there were new applicants.

Council Member Romanow had no report.

Council Member Crenshaw thanked Michelle Hitselberger for her efforts in the park programs.

Council Member Heyse thanked Mr. Woods for his time with the Town and wished him well.

C. Report from Town Manager/Town Departments

Mr. Woods introduced the new Parks and Recreation Director Ashley Platts to Council. Ms. Platts stated she was excited to be serving the Town of Stallings.

Police Chief Minor Plyler reported that the Police Department renovations were expected to begin the second week of September. Contractors had a 60 day window to complete the work.

Finance Officer Marsha Gross reported the audit had started that day with a draft report expected by the end of September. She then presented the financial update from the FY2016-2017 reviewing the dashboard for each department. The FY2016-2017 came in under budget.

Assistant Engineer Kevin Parker updated the Council on a stormwater water issue in Fairfield Plantation with stormwater runoff in the common HOA area. He also stated that the catch basin at Flagstick would be corrected and streetlights in Emerald Lake which were out had been reported to Union Power.

2. Agenda Approval

Council Member Steele requested to add Agenda Item 4.C., *Forest Park Speeding Calming*. Council Member Scholl requested to add Agenda Item 10.A., *Website Committee Report*.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to approve the Agenda with the amendments stated above. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

3. Union County Tax Department

Finance Officer Marsha Gross presented the Union County Tax Report and requested that Council accept the annual report on behalf of the Union County Tax Department.

A. 2016-17 Tax Settlement Report

Council Member Griffin made the motion to accept the Union County Tax Report for 2016-2017. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council. The 2016-17 Union County Tax Settlement Report is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

B. Tax Charge for 2017-18 Fiscal Year

Council Member Griffin made the motion to charge Tim Duncan, County Tax Administrator, for the collection of Union County taxes for the 2017-2018 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Council

Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council. The Union County Tax Charge for 2017-18 Fiscal Year is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

4. Mecklenburg County Tax Department

A. 2016-17 Tax Settlement Report

Finance Officer Marsha Gross presented the 2016-2017 Mecklenburg County Tax Report.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to accept 2016-2017 Mecklenburg County Annual Tax Report. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council. The 2016-17 Mecklenburg County Tax Settlement Report is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

B. Tax Charge for 2017-18 Fiscal Year

Council Member Griffin made the motion to charge Neil Dixon, Mecklenburg County Tax Administrator for the collection of taxes for the 2017-18 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Council Member Scholl which passed unanimously by Council. The Mecklenburg County Tax Charge for 2017-18 Fiscal Year is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

4.C. Forest Park Speeding Calming

Council Member Steele expressed her concerns with speeding in Forest Park as well as cut through construction trucks due to the construction of the bypass and large business trucks. She proposed implementing water barriers allowing space for commuter vehicles and for emergency vehicles but would prohibit large through trucks. The water barriers were \$300 each.

Council Member Steele made the motion to approve the purchase and installation of two temporary water barriers for the amount of \$600 at the intersection of White Oak and Cupped Oak. The motion was seconded by Council Member Heyse which passed unanimously by Council.

5. Capital Projects

Finance Officer Marsha Gross presented the fund balance to Council. She reported that there was \$5.4 million in unmarked funds in the fund balance. Council discussed the capital projects individually. Council discussed the timeline for making a decision on capital projects. Council gave consensus to table the decision until Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

6. Small Area Plans Contract

Town Planner Lynne Hair presented two new Small Area Plans Contracts to Council. First, she presented a plan for Old Monroe Road to enhance the intersection. This plan would bring streetscape and a design for Old Monroe Road and Stallings Road. The proposal from Destination by Design was for \$77,000 which would include the engineering work for the project.

Ms. Hair presented a Greenway Plan to Council. This plan would connect the neighborhoods to each other and to the parks. This would create a walking system for the Town. The proposal from Destination by Design was for \$90,000 which would include a trail head design, pocket parks, and furnishings.

Council discussed the plans and the need for each.

Council Member Steele made the motion to approve the Small Area Plan for Old Monroe Road for the amount of \$77,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow. The motion was passed by a 5-1 vote with Council Member Crenshaw opposing.

Council Member Steele made the motion to approve the Small Area Plan for the Greenway Plan for the amount of \$90,000. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow. The motion was passed by a 4-2 vote with Council Members Griffin and Scholl opposing.

7. 2017 Road Resurfacing Contract

Kevin Parker, Assistant Engineer, presented the 2017 Road Resurfacing bids to Council. Five contractors bid the 14 road resurfacing project and Trull Contracting was the lowest responsible bidder for \$394,634.41. Street resurfacing would begin in October and be complete by mid-November.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to execute the 2017 Road Resurfacing Contract with Trull Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$394,634.41. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

8. Resolution for NCDOT Regarding Design Standards for U-4714 (Old Monroe Road)

Mayor Dunn read the Resolution for NCDOT Regarding Design Standards for U-4714 into the record which opposed the superstreet design concept at Old Monroe Road/Stallings Road.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to adopt the Resolution for NCDOT Regarding Design Standards for U-4714 on Old Monroe Road. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow

which passed unanimously by Council. The Resolution for NCDOT Regarding Design Standards for U-4714 is attached to these minutes and therefore incorporated herein.

9. Committee Appointments

Council discussed extending the terms of committee members until the committee ordinances could be reorganized and updated based on the Committee on Committees recommendations.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to reappoint Jim Korth, George Heyse, and Tatianna Romanow to the Stallings Parks and Recreation Committee with terms to expire March 31, 2019. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to extend the existing committee appointment of Lynda Paxton on the Stallings Transportation Committee until November 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

10. Town Manager Resignation and Interim Town Manager Appointment

Council thanked Mr. Woods for his time and dedication to the Town. Mr. Woods thanks the Council and the Town for the opportunity. Council Member Griffin made the motion to accept the Mr. Woods Town Manager Resignation and appoint Deputy Town Manager Erinn Nichols as the Interim Town Manager effective August 16. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

Mayor Dunn discussed the salary increase of the Interim Town Manager. He proposed a salary increase of 20%. Council Member Scholl made the motion to raise Erinn Nichols' Interim Town Manager salary by 20% effective August 16. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

Council briefly discussed using the same Town Manager ad as last time for the Town Manager search and expediting the process using a sub-committee consisting of a few Council Members and a Town citizen.

10.A. Website Committee Report

Council Member Scholl reported that Council Member Griffin, a citizen, and himself had met to review the current website and evaluate the need for a new website developed by a professional. The committee also wanted to stay in place until the new website was in place.

Mr. Woods reported that the Town had signed a contract with Granite Sky, a website development company out of Davidson, NC. The website development would cost \$13,549 and then \$475 a month which would include support and hosting.

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

Council Member Romanow made the motion to go into Closed Session Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(6). The motion was seconded by Council Member Griffin which passed unanimously by Council.

Council went into closed session at 9:53 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 10:30 p.m.

Council Member Griffin made the motion to approve the creation of the Accounting Clerk position and authorize the Deputy Town Manager to advertise for the position. The motion was seconded by Council Member Romanow which passed unanimously by Council.

12. Adjournment

Council Member Romanow moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Steele, and the motion received unanimous support. The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Approved on October 9, 2017.

s/Wyatt Dunn
Wyatt Dunn, Mayor

s/Erinn Nichols
Erinn E. Nichols, Town Clerk

Approved as to form:
s/Cox Law Firm, PLLC
Cox Law Firm, PLLC