

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 12, 2024  
MINUTES**

The Rural Hall Town Council held their regular council meeting on November 12, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Terry M. Bennett - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn; Councilman Mark Lane; Councilman Michael Woodcock; Councilwoman Anita Ring; Town Attorney Hugh Campbell; Town Manager Homer Dearmin; Town Clerk Lynette Hendrick; PIO Alston Brown; Fire Chief Mike Simone; and Public Works Director Jason Hill.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by one of our Town Veterans AC Reynolds

A moment of silence was held.

**Mayor Terry Bennett read the announcements listed on the agenda:**

- Thanksgiving Holidays Observance November 28, 29 offices closed
- Christmas Tree Lighting December 5, 6:00 PM
- Christmas Parade December 8, 2:30 PM
- Christmas Holiday Observance December 25-27 offices closed
- Luminary Project December 14, 2024

Mayor Terry Bennett made a recommendation to amend the agenda by adding a Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11.(a).6 relation to personnel, and the Town's Spectrum Contract to the new business section. Councilman Michael Woodcock made the motion seconded by Councilman Mark Lane to approve the amended agenda; motion passed unanimously.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Terry Bennett read an email he received from IIMC regarding Lynette E. Hendrick's CMC Certification.

**Public Comment Period**

Susan Gordon – 7430 Broad Street signed up to speak with her topic being Stop Light at Highway 65 and Broad St..

**Consent Agenda**

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made a correction to the October 14 minutes (typo Mayor was put beside Eddie's name when it should have been Mayor Pro Tem) Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn then made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Anita Ring to adopt the consent agenda approving the October 14, 2024 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

**New Business**

Councilman Michael Woodcock made the motion, seconded by Councilman Mark Lane to enter closed session per NCGS143-318.11 (a).6 relating to personnel. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Terry Bennett called the regular council meeting back to order at 7:27 pm.

PIO Alston Brown gave an overview of the Town's Spectrum contract. With this new contract the Town will be saving \$123.00 per month. Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Anita Ring to approve the Town's Spectrum contract for 36 months. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire Captain Mike Simone and Manager Homer Dearmin spoke briefly about the construction of the Fire Station and then introduced Brian Griffith with Bobbitt Construction. Brian stated the steel will be going up over the next week. He would like to schedule a walk through with the Council and staff. Brian stated they are still on schedule for opening in July 2025.

Town Manager Homer Dearmin mentioned Fire Engineer Chris Nowlin has written a letter requesting a change in the Town's Personnel Policy, Article VII Leave Policies, Section 1 Holiday Leave. The Council discussed the proposed policy and Councilman Michael Woodcock stated he would like to see this item tabled for more discussion. Councilman Michael Woodcock made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn; motion passed unanimously.

PIO Alston Brown recommended the Council approve and authorize Mayor Terry Bennett to sign the PARTF Contract. Councilman Mark Lane made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn to approve the contract and authorize Mayor Terry Bennett to sign. Motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager Homer Dearmin made the recommendation to appoint Councilwoman Anita Ring as the alternate to represent the Town on the MPO'S Transportation Advisory Committee and himself as the alternate to represent the Town on the Technical Coordinating Committee. Councilman Mark Lane made the motion, seconded by Councilman Michael Woodcock; motion passed unanimously.

PIO Alston Brown announced December 14<sup>th</sup> at dusk is the date we will be lighting up Rural Hall, Broad Street with luminaries. The committee has set a goal of \$5000.00 to raise for the Ronald McDonald House.

Corporal Michael Collins announced the call volume continues to decrease in the Woodbriar Apartment Complex.

### **Department Reports**

Town Manager Homer Dearmin stated the department reports are included in the agenda for Council to review.

PIO Alston Brown mentioned there was a box in the lobby from the Marine Corps League to receive donations for Toys for Tots. These gifts go directly to providing toys, books and gifts to disadvantaged children.

### **Council Members Comments**

Mayor Terry Bennett and Council members thanked the public for attending the meeting and staff for their hard work.

Mayor Pro Tem Eddie Horn made the motion, seconded by Councilwoman Anita Ring to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick  
Town Clerk