

## MINUTES

The Board of Councilmen of the Town of Rural Hall held their regular meeting on January 13, 2020 at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Flinchum - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon; Councilwoman Susan H. Gordon; Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett; Town Manager Megan M. Garner; Town Clerk Dora K. Moore; and Town Attorney D. Barrett Burge.

Pledge of allegiance to the flag was led by Clerk Moore.

**Adoption of Agenda:** Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Councilwoman Susan H. Gordon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Oath of Office:** Town Clerk Dora Moore swore in Councilman Jesse A. Stigall assisted by his wife, Cynthia.

**Approval of Minutes:** Councilwoman Susan H. Gordon made a motion to approve the December 9, 2019 regular meeting, December 12, 2019 called meeting, and January 6, 2020 agenda briefing minutes. Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment Period:**

Frank James, 7290 Broad Street, commended the Council on their decision to appoint Jesse Stigall as Councilman stating he was certain Councilman Stigall will do a good job. Mr. James told the Council he stands ready to offer support as needed.

Victoria Blatt, 7970 Broad Street, thanked the Council for their attention to safety matters in the Town and for the support of the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office. She reported that exterior cameras at her home recorded an individual walking around her house and property as well as her neighbor's property around 2:30 AM on December 27. Mrs. Blatt did file a report with the Forsyth County Sheriff's Office but was taken aback when the officer suggested she place "No Trespassing" signs in her yard. Mrs. Blatt asked if this was the message the Town wanted to portray in the community.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & MEETING UPDATES:**

**December Flag Purchases:** The following flag purchases were made in December 2019:

<u>In Honor</u> Billy Venable	<u>Purchased By</u> Randy & Teresa Horton
<u>In Memory</u> Olene Booth Ray Harvey Clarence Rufus Kiger	<u>Purchased By</u> Rural Hall Senior Citizens Bob & Bonnie Whicker Billy Venable and Randy & Teresa Horton

**Order of the Longleaf Pine Presentation – Larry Williams:** Mayor Flinchum presented former Mayor Larry Williams with the Order of the Longleaf Pine awarded by Governor Roy Cooper. (Certificate copy is included in the Minute Book.)

**Proclamation Honoring Larry T. Williams:** Mayor Flinchum and the Council presented a proclamation to former Mayor Larry Williams for his years of service to the Town as a Councilman and Mayor. *(Proclamation copy is included in the Minute Book.)*

**Proclamation Honoring C. Thomas Griggs:** Mayor Flinchum and the Council shared a proclamation to be presented to former Councilman Tommy Griggs for his years of service to the Town as a Councilman. *(Proclamation copy is included in the Minute Book.)*

**Budget Planning Session:** A budget planning session will be held Friday, January 24 at 10AM.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**2018-2019 Audit Presentation:** Town Auditor Eddie Carrick presented the 2018-2019 Audit to the Council. He reported the Town received an unqualified (clean) opinion and added approximately \$315,000 to fund balance. The Town's collection rate was 99.4%, 3% above the state average. Mr. Carrick thanked the staff for their assistance during the audit, noting it was a challenge with the new software.

**Piedmont Triad Regional Council Representatives:** Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Gordon as the Piedmont Triad Regional Council representative and Mayor Flinchum the alternate. Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**Transportation Advisory Council Representatives:** Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett made a motion to appoint Mayor Flinchum as the Transportation Advisory Council representative and Mayor Pro Tem McDermon as the alternate. Councilman Jesse A. Stigall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

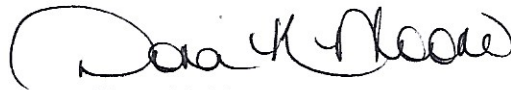
**Council Pay:** Manager Garner reported that in order to be consistent with Council pay, specifically during an election year, staff developed wording to be added to the Personnel Policy, Section VII, Classification and Pay. Mayor Flinchum noted this was discussed at length during the agenda briefing.

Council Pay - The Mayor and Town Council members, herein after referred to as elected officials, will receive a monthly stipend contingent upon annual approval of the budget process. In order to be eligible for the stipend, the following conditions apply:

- In an election year, the pay for outgoing elected officials will terminate in the month of November.
- In an election year, the pay for incoming elected officials will begin in the month of December.
- In the event of resignation, elected officials will only be eligible for the stipend if they served in office at least 50% of the days in the month in which they resign.
- In the event of death while in office, elected officials will be eligible for the stipend for the entire month of their death with pay terminating at the end of the month.
- In the event of appointment to fill an unexpired term, the pay for the newly appointed official will begin in the month in which they were appointed.

Mayor Pro Tem John N. McDermon made a motion to approve the policy for Council pay as presented. Councilman Jesse A. Stigall seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. *(The proposed wording is included with the minutes and incorporated in the Personnel Policy.)*

There being no further business, motion was made by Councilman Ricky S. Plunkett to adjourn at 7:26 PM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dora K. Moore". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and "M".

Dora K. Moore  
Town Clerk