

MINUTES

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing and workshop meeting on October 3, 2022, at 3:00 PM in Town Hall Council Chambers. The following members were present: Mayor Timothy M. Flinchum - presiding; Mayor Pro Tem Susan H. Gordon; Councilman Terry M. Bennett; Councilman Eddie Horn; Councilwoman Janet M. Carithers; Town Manager Misty A. Meadows; and Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick.

Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was led by Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick.

A moment of silence was held.

Adoption of Amended Agenda:

Mayor Flinchum added "J & K" to the New Business/Items of Discussion portion of the agenda to discuss Historic District in detail with Michelle McCullough and Trash Cart Policy regarding citations if the cart is left at the curb for long periods of time. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon made the motion to adopt the agenda as revised, seconded by Councilwoman Carithers, and motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

October 7, Friday Food Truck

October 11, Food Truck Tuesday

October 31, Trunk or Treat at Covington Park in conjunction with Halloween on Broad St.

Best Decorated House for Halloween

Unfinished Business

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon requested the Garden Spot of the World newsletter be mailed out each month. Items she would like to see in the newsletter are as follows: employee of the month, town events, yard of the month, outstanding citizens etc., and any news that the citizens of Rural Hall need to know. The council also wanted to receive the employee newsletter and be aware of all staff events.

Councilwoman Carithers wanted to know what the council should do to promote the Liquor by the Drink vote in November. It was recommended that staff maintain a neutral position on this subject. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon recommended this subject go in the November newsletter.

New Business/ Items of Discussion:

Manager Meadows will present all department reports as needed. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon wants to receive a monthly report from each department head. If a discussion with the department head is necessary, this will take place at the October 10 meeting.

Councils Work Session II with consultant Ron Niland will be October 26, 5:30 at the Rural Hall Fire Department. Council will eat at 5:00 pm before the meeting, so they are not eating in front of citizens.

The written criteria for design build method for the construction of the new fire station was presented by Manager Meadows. The council will approve this item at the October 10 meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon wanted to discuss the personnel policy in detail. The Mayor recommended this item be added to the November Agenda Briefing and Work Session meeting. Ron Niland said this was not advised when a town operates as a Manager/Council form of government. The Personnel policies should be handled by the Town Manager.

The council requested shirts be ordered for each of them, similar to the ones staff has. Council will receive one shirt, which will be paid for by the Town, and can purchase additional shirts.

Councilman Bennett mentioned the town sponsored events had low attendance and discussed what could be done to ramp up attendance. Advertising on radio. The 50th anniversary for the Town of Rural Hall is coming up and we need to get busy with advertising. Councilwoman Carithers is heading up the Events Committee and will oversee this committee, that will help facilitate Town events.

Councilman Bennett wanted to let Carol Newsome know her letter to the council has been read and thanked her for reaching out to them.

Councilman Bennett stated that since our work session with consultant Ron Niland, our public comment procedures need to be revised. Council will approve the revised public comment procedures at the October 10 meeting.

Councilwoman Carithers wanted to further discuss Rural Hall becoming a Historic District with Michelle McCullough/Historic Resources Officer at Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Planning and Development Services. The mayor asked staff to set up a meeting between Michelle, Councilwoman Carithers, the Mayor and the manager to meet to discuss what steps need to be taken to move forward on this.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon mentioned she would like the "Trash Cart policy" to be removed from the Town's policies "because the elderly citizens don't like it". The manager mentioned the elderly could sign up for Waste Management back yard pickup with the town. The manager mentioned the policy does not have to be enforced that often but exists for areas that leave carts out too long, impeding traffic and driveways.

Manager Meadows mentioned all public requests will go through Lynette, the Town Clerk, and she will send them to the appropriate staff member to get the request filled.

Councilman Bennett and Mayor Pro Tem Gordon thanked all citizens for coming; Councilman Horn thanked staff for the hard work that was put into preparing for the meetings; Councilwoman Carithers thanked staff for all they do and did for the last town event. She thought it was a great event.

Manager Meadows reviewed, with Council and Mayor, items that would be carried over to the November Agenda Briefing and Work Session for discussion. She also confirmed the items that will go on the October 10 regular council meeting agenda for approval.

Councilman Bennett made a motion to adjourn.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk