

**AGENDA BRIEFING AND WORK SESSION MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2023
MINUTES**

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing and workshop meeting on January 4, 2023, 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.

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

A moment of silence was held.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon added the following items to the agenda under New Business:

- Ryans Steakhouse
- Respect
- Community Safety
- Accident Protocol

Adoption of Amended Agenda:

Councilwoman Carithers made the motion, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gordon to adopt the amended agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

January 9, 2023 Council Picture Retake at 6:00 p.m.

January 9, 2023 Regular Council Meeting

January 16, 2023 Town Offices Closed

Department Head Report:

- Manager Meadows gave an overview of the department heads' reports.
 - Manager Meadows will follow up with Forsyth County regarding 9001 Broad Street.
 - Manager Meadows stated that Angie Fisher is working on the finance reports, they will be emailed as soon as they are complete.
 - The next step for the New Fire Station is reviewing the RFQ's and setting up interviews.
 - ISO-Building Code Grading due in March 2023

Unfinished Business

The Council reviewed Articles IV and V of the Personnel Policy. At the next Agenda Briefing Council will review sections VI of Personnel Policy.

New Fire Station RFQ – Process Update

- Kyle Hall will be coming to the Fire Station tomorrow for a tour.

New Business/ Items of Discussion:

Councilmember Bennett requested extra lighting for the parking lot at Town Hall. Public Works Director Jason Hill, said he had already entered a workorder with Duke Energy to change out the wooden poles to decorative poles, like we did at Covington Park with LED lights, which is a lot brighter. If this is not sufficient, there are other things we can do to brighten up the parking lot.

Councilmember Bennett wanted staff to research what it would cost to pave the LPA parking lot. Public Works Director Jason Hill stated this was on his list for the upcoming budget. Councilmember Bennett said we may need to get this done before 2023-24 Budget. Councilman Bennett requested Jason get a few quotes.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon added auto accident protocol. She wanted to make sure we had a policy in place for any accidents that happen on Town property. Mayor Flinchum stated this was in the section of the Personnel Policy that will be reviewed next month.

- Fire Chief Simone stated Manager Meadows took his advice to not call law enforcement because from his experience if both parties agree that the person at fault would pay damages and they exchange information there was no need for law enforcement to get involved.
- Carol Newsome requested to speak, Mayor Flinchum stated this was not protocol, but asked Council if they wanted to allow it. Mayor Pro Tem Gordon said she would like to hear what she had to say. Carol Newsome stated if all the questions about the accident had been answered over the past few months, then the public would not talk as much. "She was concerned about staff's safety" and that the value of the vehicle has decreased because of the accident. This should have been public information.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon wanted a copy of the receipt from the staff Christmas dinner at Ryans. She had a lot of questions.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon added "Respect". Mayor Pro Tem Gordon said a perfect example of this was while Carol was speaking, she was interrupted.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon added "Community Safety". She stated we need to focus on safety. Fire Chief Simone said we have been trying to get the neighborhood watch program back on track, but there has been no response from the community. Officer Collins said they were seeing an increase in crime in all communities.

Board Questions/Comments:

Councilmember Carithers thanked everyone for their hard work on all the events and for coming to the meeting tonight.

Councilmember Horn had a great experience at the LPA. Thanked Mike and Jason for all their hard work. He stated he backs the employees 100%.

Mayor Flinchum thanked everyone for attending the meeting. The conversations were spirited but good.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon wanted to let everyone know LPA in Raleigh messed up her paperwork. She stated the Fire Department does a wonderful job. She also stated she likes seeing Public Works employees out putting up the flags, and having her garbage and leaves picked up.

Councilmember Bennett stated the LPA is a very busy place and it has changed his feelings regarding the LPA. He wants to see this year get started on a good note. He will be listening to citizens, their concerns and needs.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bennett to recess the meeting until 6:00 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Flinchum called the meeting back into order at 7:02 PM.

Councilmember Horn made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Carithers to authorize changes to First Citizens Bank signature card by adding Manager Misty Meadows, Clerk Lynette Hendrick, and Councilmember Bennett, and remove Mayor Timothy Flinchum and Mayor Pro Tem Susan Gordon. Councilmembers Horn and Carithers voted in favor and Mayor Pro Tem Gordon and Councilmember Bennett voted in opposition. Mayor Flinchum voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed three to two.

Mayor Pro Tem Gordon made a motion to adjourn at 7:06 PM

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk