

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 13, 2023
MINUTES**

The Rural Hall Town Council held their agenda briefing and workshop meeting on February 13, 2023, at 7:00 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; Interim Town Manager Ron Niland; Town Clerk Lynette E. Hendrick; and Interim Attorney Randolph James.

The 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 Timothy Flinchum recommended we switch the order of the Draft Agenda by moving the Announcements/Meeting Updates before the Public Comment Period, and remove January 18, 2023, Regular and closed session minutes from the list to be adopted. Councilman Terry Bennett added to the closed session NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) Attorney-client privilege-litigation matters to discuss legal claim by Andy Marshall.

Mayor Pro Tem Susan Gordon made the motion, seconded by Councilman Terry Bennett to adopt the amended agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Pro Tem Susan Gordon made a motion, seconded by Councilman Terry Bennett to approve closed and open session minutes from December 12, 2022, December 19, 2022, January 4, 2023, January 9, 2023, and January 20, 2023. The Motion passed unanimously.

Bobbitt Construction Co. was introduced by Fire Chief Mike Simone as the recommended company for the construction of the new Fire Station. Bobbitt Construction Co. gave a presentation of their company.

Announcements and Meeting Updates:

Helicopter Easter Egg Drop Friday, April 7
Mulch Delivery Week Monday- Friday, April 10-21.
Shred and Med Event Saturday, April 29 from 9 AM to 1 PM
Concert at the Hall Friday, May 6, from 6 - 9 PM.
4th of July Fire Works - more details to come.

Public Comment Period:

Genny Horn, 7660 Broad St., signed up to speak with her topic being past Town Manager.

June Koehn, 430 College St., signed up to speak with her topic being museum.

New Business/ Items of Discussion:

Interim Ron Niland stated the council already passed the ordinance last November to appropriate the ARP funds as revenue replacement. Interim Finance Director Homer Dearmin will begin the transfers and have the funds completely moved over the next year.

Councilwoman Janet Carithers presented the list of names to be on the 50th Anniversary for the Town of Rural Hall Committee. Mayor Timothy Flinchum approved this list to be a Mayor appointed committee, and the meetings will be open to the public.

Board Comments/Questions:

Councilwoman Janet Carithers thanked everyone for coming out. She addressed the February Garden Spot Newsletter article regarding Misty Meadows, she had heard people have a problem with the article, she stated she wrote it and she missed Misty and hates she left and if anyone had a problem with the article let her know.

Councilman Eddie Horn wanted to take everyone who came out to speak.

Mayor Timothy Flinchum thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and expressed appreciation for Bobbit Construction Company's presentation.

Mayor Pro Tem Susan Gordon thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. She stated she was very impressed with Bobbitt Construction Co.

Councilman Terry Bennett thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, and for those who spoke and the presentation from Bobbitt Construction Co. He also wanted to make a few comments; he wants to be transparent, if someone has a question he will get them an answer unless it is something discussed in closed session. He also asked several questions relating to board votes and procedures.

Mayor Pro Tem Susan Gordon made the motion, seconded by Councilman Terry Bennett to move into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) Attorney-client privilege to receive an update on the lawsuit of the Town of Rural Hall vs. Garner 21 CVS 5345 Forsyth County and NCGS 1436-318.11(a)(6) to discuss legal claim by Andy Marshall. The motion passed with three votes in favor (Councilman Bennett, Mayor Pro Tem Gordon, and Councilwoman Carithers) of the closed session and one opposed Councilman Horn).

Mayor Timothy Flinchum called the meeting to order after the closed session.

There was no further business to discuss Councilman Eddie Horn made a motion to adjourn at 8:39 PM.

Lynette E. Hendrick
Town Clerk