Joe Slaton, Mayor
Harry Baughn, Benita England, Lauren Tiger, Council
Suzanne Hedden, Clerk

OCTOBER 2025 (Amended)

Attendees: Mayor Joe Slaton; Council Members: Harry Baughn, Benita England, Lauren Tiger; Planning & Zoning Administrator: April England; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden Others: Lorraine Bennett (Clay County Progress), Sandy Zimmerman (HHI), Angie Barnett (HHI), Michael Castellano

Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Mrs. Benita England made a motion to approve the agenda (pending addition of 'Feral Cat Donation' as Old Business); Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

MINUTES

Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the September 2025 Town Council minutes as written; Mrs. Benita England seconded the motion; motion approved.

FINANCE REPORTS

September 2025 Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement – reports are attached.

- Mrs. Hedden presented financial information and provided information about several large deposits that were posted during the month, along with questions asked by Ms. Tiger concerning grant (ARP and Legislative) balances; Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the reports as written; Mrs. Benita England seconded the motion, motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Sandy Zimmerman, along with the new Treasurer, Angie Barnett, for Historic Hayesville, Inc., presented a check in the amount of $500.00 to the Feral Cat Fund.

NEW BUSINESS

- Newly appointed Planning & Zoning Administrator, April England, was sworn in earlier by Mayor Joe Slaton. Pictures were made by Ms. Bennett, representing Clay County Progress, to include in the next issue of the Progress.
- Due to election results for the upcoming Mayoral election not being finalized until November 11th, it is necessary to schedule the next Council meeting on November 17th instead of November 10th. Mr. Baughn made a motion to accept this date change; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

- Town of Hayesville attorney Paul Lipof has recently resigned this position. Mayor Slaton has contacted several lawyers, but they are not interested because they are only doing real estate legal matters. North Carolina League of Municipalities is a good resource, but, they cannot represent us.
- Anthony McDonald, owner of Fat Dog, has requested that we table the Memorandum of Understanding at this time.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Slaton's report is attached.

Councilman Baughn suggested Rachel Rhodes to fill the Board of Adjustment alternate position. Mrs. Benita England made a motion to approve her for the position; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. April England's report is attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Zimmerman reported: (1) Ms. Zimmerman announced the replace of five (5) new HHI Board members; (2) the Shop Small/Shop Local event will Friday and Saturday, November 28th and 29th; (3) HHI hopes to help with electrical installation for the new hotel project; (4) due to the date changed for the Steines & Wine event, attendance was lower than in years past; (5) Hedden Alley – HHI donated a hose for watering the plants, dirt, and is planning to help provide mulch; (6) Ms. Zimmerman has a meeting in Asheville on Thursday, and hopes to receive another grant without having to apply through Dogwood.

Mr. Baughn advised the group that former Planning & Zoning Administrator George Schaff will be moving to Tacoma, Washington soon.

Ms. Tiger made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 p.m.; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.

Joe Slaton

Joe Slaton, Mayor

ATTEST Suzanne G. Hedden

Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk

Benita C. England

Benita England, Mayor