
AUGUST 2025 MINUTES

Attendees: Mayor Joe Slaton; Council Members: Harry Baughn, Benita England, Lauren Tiger; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden

Others: Marcia Barnes (Clay County Progress), Sandy Zimmerman (HHI), Jacky Jones, Chris Henson, Michael Castelano

Mayor Slaton called the meeting to order at 6:42 pm (immediately following the Public Hearing)

Mrs. England made a motion to approve this amendment to the zoning map:

- 1) the proposed zoning map amendment is consistent with the Hayesville *Comprehensive Land Use Plan* as it is consistent with the Mixed-Use Development existing in the area.
- 2) the amendment is reasonable and in the public interest as it supports the Hayesville *Comprehensive Land Use Plan*.
- 3) *rezoning of the parcel is consistent with future land use and as within a few hundred feet there are existing M1, C2, and C3 as well as R2 zoning.*
- 4) *rezoning of the parcel furthers the policies and goals of the Town*

Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the agenda; Mrs. England seconded the motion; motion approved.

MINUTES

Mrs. England made a motion to approve the July 2025 Town Council minutes as written; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.

FINANCE REPORTS

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

- Mrs. Hedden presented financial information; Mr. Baughn questioned General Ledger Account 1310; Mrs. Hedden explained to him this is an account that our auditor maintains.
- Ms. Tiger made a motion to approve the Profit and Loss information and Balance Sheet; Mr. Baughn seconded the motion; motion approved.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor Slaton informed Council members that he visited Dr. Kayla Lawlor (Big Bear Veterinary Clinic) concerning the feral cat situation. He was advised that the average spay/neuter surgery is about one hundred dollars (\$100.00) per cat. His proposal is that we set aside two thousand (\$2,000.00) and pay the full amount for each surgery. Qualifying customers will come to Town Hall to receive a voucher to take to Dr. Lawlor. If it is a tame cat, the veterinarian will know and surgery will not be performed. Mrs. England made a motion to set aside two thousand (\$2,000.00) to address feral cat problem; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved

NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Chris Downes recently approached Mayor Slaton with an estimate for trimming trees/bushes along sidewalks around the square. The information was presented to the Council, and, after consideration, a motion was by Mr. Baughn to table the idea until details are worked out with property owners; Mrs. England seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Austin Hedden and Mayor Slaton recently discussed reseeding and aerating the grass at Mayor's Park at an estimated cost of three hundred sixty-five dollars (\$365.00). Mr. Baughn made a motion to approve the expenses and continue with the project; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; motion approved.
- Mayor Slaton expressed his concern with drivers exceeding the speed limit around the square. Ms. Tiger followed with a comment concerning drivers revving their engines. Unfortunately, we can't control these situations, according to Mayor Slaton.
- Lauren will send a card to Master Gardeners thanking them for all the work they do for us.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Mrs. England's report is attached.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Slaton's report is attached.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Zimmerman reported: (1) gave an update on the statistical report which she compiles every year; one business would not reveal information; (2) Sandy was named 2025 Volunteer of the Year; (3) HHI will donate five hundred (\$500.00) toward feral cat expenses; (4) Steins & Wines will be earlier this year (September 20th); event will be moved to its regular time for the next five (5) years; (5) Heritage Day will be held on Saturday, August 16th.

Ms. Tiger mention the Back to School Bash on August 14th at 6:30 pm around the square.

Mr. Castelano reported that a School Bash (sponsored by Moonshine Mardi Gras) will be held on August 14th at Fat Dog.

Mrs. England made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m.; Ms. Tiger seconded the motion; meeting adjourned.

ATTEST:

Suzanne G. Hedden
Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk

Joe Slaton
Joe Slaton, Mayor