

DECEMBER 2022 MINUTES

Attendees: Mayor Joe Slaton; Council Members: Austin Hedden, Lauren Tiger and Harry Baughn; Town Clerk: Suzanne Hedden; Zoning Administrator, Ron Wallace
Others: Sandy Zimmerman, Lorraine Bennett

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

After the December packet for the meeting was given to Council members, it was necessary to amend the agenda. Mayor Slaton requested approval of the agenda, to which Mr. Baughn made a motion and Mr. Hedden 2nd the motion. Motion approved.

MINUTES

November 2022 Town Council Meeting Minutes

Mr. Hedden moved to approve the November 2022 Town Council meeting minutes. Ms. Tiger 2nd. Motion approved.

FINANCE REPORTS

November 2022 Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement – reports are attached.

Mrs. Hedden informed Council members that the budget amendment in the amount of \$15.97 for the Fire Service Contract has now been posted. She also stated that Kaseson Hooper, our auditor with Turner and Company, was unable to attend tonight's meeting due to impending arrival of their baby. Mr. Hedden made a motion to approve the Financial Reports, Profit and Loss Report, and Balance Sheet. Ms. Tiger 2nd. Motion approved.

Mrs. Hedden stated that the November interest amount for NCCMT investments was \$1198.17.

OLD BUSINESS

- Mayor Slaton advised Council members that he discussed the Anna Rutledge situation with outgoing Sheriff Bobby Deese. Sheriff Deese referred him to Alcohol Law Enforcement (ALE) who informed him they cannot help with the situation unless it involves alcohol. The mayor recently advised attorney Paul Lipof to proceed with tough action to try for a resolution in this matter. Mr. Lipof gave him a sample from another county (140 pages) that took seven (7) years to reconcile.
- In regard to the Mill Street situation, Mayor Slaton reported that the hole has been fixed, which was believed to have been caused by groundhogs. He also stated that the first house on the right on Mill Street has been partially burned by the owner.
- One bike rack (out of five) has been installed.
- The Staff Christmas party at Copper Door has been changed from January 12th to January 18th or 19th.

NEW BUSINESS

- Town of Hayesville 2023 Holiday Schedule (copy attached) was presented to Council members with a motion made by Mr. Baughn to accept and a 2nd by Mr. Hedden. Motion approved
- Mayor Slaton informed Council members that we are need three (3) new Christmas decorations that we have BRMEMC attach to the electric poles each year..... one decoration was hit and bent last year, and we now have two (2) new poles that have been installed since last year. A motion was made by Ms. Tiger to buy three (3) new decorations in January when prices should be lower than now. Mr. Baughn 2nd. Motion approved.
- In reference to the decoration that was damaged last year, Sandy Zimmerman commented that it was near the Post Office and the Centennial Building. She further explained that Tony Wiegold (Signs Fast) is preparing signs for the entrance to the Post Office to direct trucks in order to avoid hitting the Centennial Building. At this point, Mayor Slaton commended Sandy for the beauty of the Square and Council members voiced praise for the Hayesville Band's participation in the Christmas parade. They added that the parade was very nice.
- Becky Long, Editor of the Clay County Progress, was unable to attend the meeting to give an update for plans for the 2023 Halloween on the Square. She should be able to attend the February 2023 meeting.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Zoning Administrator Ron Wallace advised that he is continuing to work on zoning regulations and re-organizing the Planning and Zoning pamphlet. He also reported updates from the last Board of Adjustments meeting in November at which Mylon Hall requested a special use exemption for his future residence on Mill Street, allowing him to sell antiques one day per month at the residence. After hearing comments of protest from his neighbors on Mill Street, Mr. Hall rescinded his request. Mr. Wallace has sent information to Mr. Hall advising him that a "yard sale" is allowed four (4) times per year.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Slaton reported that today he met with Wanda Austin (DOT), Robert Peck (Clay County Commissioner), and Debbie Mauney (Clay County Manager) to discuss construction of a sidewalk along Business Hwy 64 to the Clay County Courthouse; DOT construction is anticipated to begin construction in 2023. Another topic of discussion during the meeting pertained to installation of a traffic light at the intersection of Hwy 64 and Business Hwy 64 (in front of Hot Spot).
- At this time, Mayor Slaton is working with Southwest Commission on a pre-application for a grant that has been awarded by the State Legislature. Money will not be received until all North Carolina counties complete the pre-application. Councilman Baughn thanked Mayor Slaton for his work on this project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Zimmerman reported on: Shop Small/Shop Local; Exhibit Building; Clay Lodge Building; Gathering of Volunteers (December 27th), Outdoor Communities; Town Hall Building.

Mr. Hedden inquired about the land acquisition (Anderson Property), to which Mayor Slaton stated that we are waiting for a deed correction to proceed with closing on property.

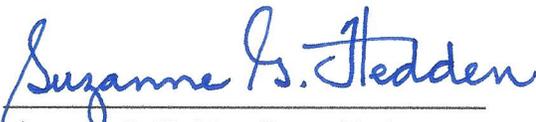
Ms. Zimmerman expressed her appreciation to the Town Council for all their work, to which Mr. Baughn expressed appreciation to her for her hard work for Town of Hayesville

Mr. Hedden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm. Ms. Tiger seconded.



Joe Slaton, Mayor

ATTEST:



Suzanne G. Hedden, Town Clerk