

Regular Meeting of the Town Council
June 20, 2023
6:00 pm in the Civic Center
Minutes & General Account

Council Members Present: Mayor Montgomery, Council Members Wolfe, Rayborn, Capes, & Straughn

Staff Members Present: Matthew Johnson, Katie M. Weiner (attending via conference call), Paul Blanchard, Anna Hawryluk, Judy Gallman, Faith Wilson, & Beth Koonce, Town Attorney

Visitors Present: Jim Pendry, Dolores Neuroth, Hiwatha Greene-Janvier, Kent Chicoskey & Carol Brooks

Call to Order- Mayor Montgomery called the meeting to order.

- Roll Call- Johnson took roll call as follows:
 - Council Member Wolfe- Present
 - Council Member Capes- Present
 - Mayor Montgomery- Present
 - Council Member Straughn- Present
 - Council Member Rayborn- Present

Johnson stated a quorum was present.

- Pledge of Allegiance- Hawryluk led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Moment of Silence- Mayor Montgomery called for a moment of silence.
- Approval of Agenda- Mayor Montgomery asked if anyone had changes to make to the agenda.

Council Member Rayborn requested to remove the “Approval & Sealing of the April 18th Closed Session Minutes” and the “Approval of minutes from the May 16th Regular Town Council Meeting” from the consent agenda.

Council Member Capes made a motion to approve the requested changes to the June 20th Town Council Agenda. Council Member Rayborn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Rayborn made a motion to approve the agenda for the June 20th Town Council meeting as amended. Council Member Straughn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Consent Agenda- The consent agenda included the following items:

- Approval of minutes from the April 18th Regular Town Council Meeting
- Proclamation declaring June 3rd-10th, 2023 as Guilford Creek Week in the Town of Jamestown
- Resolution Calling for a Regular Election for the Town of Jamestown
- Approval of Resolution Writing Off Uncollectible Utility Accounts
- Notification of Budget Revision Between Departments
- Analysis of the Financial Position of the Town of Jamestown
- Analysis of the Financial Position of the Jamestown Park & Golf Course

- Budget Amendment #18
- Budget Amendment #19
- Resolution closing the East Main Street Sidewalk Capital Project Fund

Council Member Capes made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council Member Rayborn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

(Proclamation declaring June 3rd-10th, 2023 as Guilford Creek Week in the Town of Jamestown, Resolution Calling for a Regular Election for the Town of Jamestown, Resolution Writing Off Uncollectible Utility Accounts, Budget Amendment #18, Budget Amendment #19, & Resolution closing the East Main Street Sidewalk Capital Project Fund)

Public Comment-

- Kent Chicosky, 306 Wiltshire Drive- Chicosky spoke about the fees that were being considered by Council. He was concerned about the implementation of the motor vehicle fee and the amount of revenue that would be generated as a result. He believed that residents would be negatively impacted by any additional fees or taxes.

Presentation of Resolution honoring the service of James “Jim” Pendry on the Parks and Recreation Committee- Council Member Capes presented the resolution to Jim Pendry and thanked him for his service on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

(Resolution honoring the service of James “Jim” Pendry on the Parks and Recreation Committee)

Old Business-

- Public Hearing for the consideration of the adoption of the Proposed Budget Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024 and Capital Improvement Program (CIP)- Johnson stated that the Town Council was required to adopt an annual budget by June 30th. He said that Council and staff had been working diligently on the budget since January 2023. He added that several budget workshops had been held since January and noted that staff had presented a draft of the preliminary budget at the May 16th Town Council meeting. He briefly presented an overview of some minor changes that had been made to the budget.

Council Member Capes highlighted that the City of High Point had changed their requirements regarding the acceptance of plastic bags at their yard waste collection facility. He added that this had forced the Town to include revenues and expenditures for the cost of receiving and distributing yard waste totes.

Mayor Montgomery opened the public hearing to anyone that would like to speak regarding the proposed budget and CIP.

- Robert Frederick, 500 Wyndwood Drive- Frederick said that there had been several changes made to the budget since April. He noted that staff had not released the budget message to the public. He stated that the public did not understand why the fees and taxes were being proposed.

- Delores Neuroth, 303 Parkview Terrace Lane- Neuroth said that she was a senior citizen on a fixed income and that the motor vehicle fee would be a burden for her. She added that she was not in favor of any increased fees.

Mayor Montgomery asked if there was anyone else that would like to speak about the budget. Nobody came forward. Mayor Montgomery closed the public hearing and opened the floor to Council for discussion.

Council Member Wolfe said that she had been against the motor vehicle fee since January. She added that she made a motion at the previous meeting to remove it from the budget, but the motion had not passed. She said that she had a responsibility to share the concerns that she had heard from the public related to the proposed fee, and she was still not in favor of it being included in the budget.

Council Member Straughn thanked everyone that had shared their concerns with Council. He spoke with Koonce about the procedural requirements regarding restating a motion that had been made at a previous meeting. He said that the proposed budget included the largest tax increase he had seen while living in Jamestown and also included additional fees.

Council Member Straughn made a motion to remove the motor vehicle fee from the budget. Council Member Wolfe made a second to the motion. The motion failed by a 2 to 3 vote with Council Member Capes and Council Member Rayborn voting in opposition and Mayor Montgomery breaking the tie.

Council Member Straughn made a motion to remove the monthly \$5 stormwater fee from the budget. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Straughn discussed the stormwater rate that would be charged to commercial property owners with Johnson.

Council Member Straughn made a motion to remove the \$0.10 tax increase from the budget. The motion died for lack of a second.

Council Member Straughn stated that the additional taxes and fees included in the budget would cost the Jamestown taxpayer an additional 18%.

Council Member Rayborn said that cost of everything had increased and Council had a responsibility to maintain the Town's infrastructure. She added that inflation had greatly impacted every project that the Town needed to do.

Council Member Capes stated that Council had to prepare for the future. He said that there had been shortcomings in the past decade that had affected the current situation. He added that the motor vehicle fee required those that rented in Town to contribute to the cost of the maintenance of the roadways instead of placing the burden solely on homeowners. Council Member Capes stated that Council had to be cognizant of the issues that needed to be addressed in the future.

Council Member Straughn disagreed that the Town needed the tax increases and fees.

Council Member Rayborn made a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for the 2023/2024 FY as presented. Council Member Capes made a second to the motion.

Johnson took a roll call vote as follows:

Council Member Wolfe- Nay
Council Member Capes- Aye
Council Member Straughn- Nay
Council Member Rayborn- Aye

Mayor Montgomery- Aye

The motion passed by 3 to 2 vote with Council Member Wolfe and Council Member Straughn voting in opposition and Mayor Montgomery breaking the tie.

Council Member Capes made a motion to approve the Resolution adopting a Capital Improvement Program for the Town of Jamestown. Council Member Rayborn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by a 3 to 1 vote with Council Member Straughn voting in opposition.

(Resolution adopting a Capital Improvement Program for the Town of Jamestown)

- Consideration of adoption of the Town of Jamestown’s updated Strategic Plan- Johnson said that the Town Council had identified specific goals and priorities to include in the Strategic Plan for staff to work on throughout the year. He noted that the Plan was designed to be a multi-year representation of the Town’s mission to create an exceptional quality of life for residents by providing superior services. He requested that Council adopt the updated Strategic Plan.

Council Member Capes made a motion to adopt the Strategic Plan for the Town of Jamestown for the 2023/2024 FY as presented. Council Member Rayborn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

New Business-

- Request to set a public hearing date for the consideration of amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance- Blanchard requested that Council set a public hearing date for the consideration of amendments to the Solid Waste Collection Ordinance due to changes in requirements at landfills and disposal sites utilized by the Town of Jamestown.

Council Member Wolfe made a motion to set a public hearing date for the consideration of amendments to the Solid Waste Ordinance for the July 18th Regular Town Council meeting at 6:00 pm in the Civic Center. Council Member Capes made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Manager/Committee Reports-

- Manager Report- Johnson presented his monthly report to Council. He stated that the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality had completed the Town’s stormwater audit. He added that official results should be available in about 60 days and staff felt confident that the Town did well. He updated Council about ongoing projects. He noted that the interior

components of the Recreation Maintenance Building were being finalized, the Town Hall renovations were about 60% complete, and the construction of the golf course bathrooms was underway. He said that the next Music in the Park event would be held on July 7th and reminded everyone that the High Point Arts Council would hold a concert at Wrenn Miller Park on June 23rd. Johnson stated that the Town had been notified that mattresses could no longer be disposed of in the regular solid waste stream. He added that they would have to be collected in the same manner as appliances and be disposed of at a receiving facility. He noted that a \$20 pickup fee would apply. He also said that the City of High Point would no longer accept plastic bags for yard waste pickup. Therefore, he added that citizens would have to compost waste, mulch debris, utilize heavy-duty paper bags made for yard waste, or purchase a yard waste toter from the Town. Johnson also unveiled the new logo for the Jamestown Park & Golf Course. He stated that the Town would hold a regular election in the fall and encouraged anyone that was interested in running for Council to sign up with the Guilford County Board of Elections. Wilson introduced Rebecca Ashby, Grants Administrator, and Heather Lunsford, Deputy Finance Officer, to Council.

- Council Member Committee Reports-
 - Council Member Wolfe said that there was a TAC meeting held on May 23rd. She stated that they reviewed the projects included on NCDOT's priority list.
 - Council Member Straughn stated that the Guilford County Parks and Recreation Board met and were planning to do a strategic plan for all the parks in the County.
 - Council Member Rayborn said that the Planning Board met on June 12th. She noted that they had primarily discussed electronic signs. She added that they had recommended that Council adopt some changes to the LDO regarding current digital sign requirements.

Public Comment- Nobody signed up.

Other Business- Council Member Capes said that he hoped that residents that had concerns would reach out to Council to discuss them.

Council Member Rayborn stated that the budget process began in January every year and she encouraged citizens to begin providing their feedback at that time.

Adjournment- Council Member Straughn made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Capes made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The meeting ended at 7:01 pm.

Mayor

Town Clerk