

**Town Council Special Meeting  
July 5, 2019  
10:00 am  
Council Chambers  
Minutes & General Account**

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Pro Tem Nixon, Council Members Wolfe, Capes, and Rayborn

**Council Members Absent:** Mayor Montgomery

**Staff Present:** Kenny Cole, Matthew Johnson, Judy Gallman, Paul Blanchard, Katie McBride, & Beth Koonce, Town Attorney.

**Visitors Present:** Larry Lain, Robert Frederick, & Carol Brooks

**Call to Order-** Mayor Pro Tem Nixon called the meeting to order.

- Pledge of Allegiance- Mayor Pro Tem Nixon led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Discussion of staggering the terms of Town Council, including the Mayor-** Cole stated that the Town Council approved an ordinance amending the Town Charter of the Town of Jamestown to implement four-year staggered terms at their May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting. He noted that the amendment was subject to any referendum petitioned for and conducted pursuant to G.S. 1610A-103. Cole said that a petition had been submitted to the Town Clerk on June 24<sup>th</sup>. It requested that Council call for a special election to submit the charter amendment to a vote. Cole stated that the petition was forwarded to the Guilford County Board of Elections and was validated on July 1<sup>st</sup>. He said that staggered terms would be implemented if the amendment passed. Cole noted that the two-year terms for Mayor and Council would remain the same if the amendment did not pass.

Koonce requested that Council formally accept the petition and adopt the resolution which would refer the issue back to Guilford County Board of Elections. The resolution would formally request that they place the amendment on the ballot for the election in November.

Council Member Wolfe stated that there was evidence that the Guilford County Board of Elections certified and validated all the signatures that were necessary.

Council Member Nixon added that most municipalities have four-year terms for their elected officials and that the staggered terms would prevent numerous inexperienced Council Members from being elected at once. She also noted the financial burden placed on those that would like to run for office. She stated that it was difficult to campaign every two years for an unpaid position, and that it takes about four years to get acclimated and understand everything that is going on around Town. Council Member Nixon said that she was in favor of staggered terms.

Council Member Capes made a motion to accept the petition. Council Member Rayborn made a second to the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

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

(Resolution calling for a Special Election)

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

The meeting ended at 10:05 am.

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Mayor

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Town Clerk