Town of Fletcher
Town Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
April 8, 2024

Call the meeting to order at: 6:00 PM

Those who were in attendance are as follows:
Mayor Preston Blakely
Mayor Pro-Tem Sheila Franklin
Councilmember Trevor Lance
Councilmember Keith Reed
Councilmember Jim Player
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Moment of Silence:

Mayor Blakely led the group in a moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Blakely led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

Brandon Olsen of 33 Stoney Brook Court Fletcher commented on the opening day of baseball and how well it went. They collected 400 lbs of food for the food pantry at Calvary Episcopal Church.

Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions

Agenda Review Meeting 3-4-24

Regular Meeting 3-11-24

Pre-Budget Meeting 3-19-24

Mayor Blakely asked for any corrections, additions or deletions to the minutes as presented and, if not, can I have a motion to approve the minutes.

Councilmember Trevor Lance motioned to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Council Updates

Mayor-Pro Tem Sheila Franklin asked if anyone was attending the Partnership for Economic Development update tomorrow at noon.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that he planned on attending.

Consent Agenda

Approval of budget amendment # 4 to the FY 23/24 budget ordinance

Approval of budget amendment #5 to the FY 23/24 budget ordinance.

Mayor Blakely asked for any comments or suggestions on the consent agenda and, if not, can have a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to approve the consent agenda, and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sheila Franklin.

Motion all in favor.

Discussion Items

Presentation on recently completed pay and classification study - David Hill, Piedmont Triad Regional Council.

Mr. David Hill of Piedmont Triad Regional Council gave a PowerPoint presentation on the pay classification study that he recently completed and answered questions that the council had for him.

Discussion Followed:

Discussion on potential grant resources for cane creek greenway extension - Rebekah Robinson, Conserving Carolina.

Rebekah Robinson of Conserving Carolina gave an update on potential grant funding for greenway trails. She passed out information on the upcoming grants to council. (will be attached to final minutes)

Discussion Followed:

Council agrees to apply for the Connecting Communities to State Trails grant at this time and will revisit the discussion on the Great Trails State grant at a later date.

Presentation of transit feasibility study for Apple Country Transit - Janna Bianculli, Senior Planner for Henderson County

Janna Bianculli from Henderson county gave a PowerPoint presentation on the study they recently completed on the Apple Country Transit and answered questions that the council had for her on the presentation.

Discussion Followed:

Continued discussion and possible approval of a contract with Retail Strategies.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf gave a brief overview from last week about the presentation from retail strategies and asked the council if they had any questions on the proposed contract.

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to approve the contact with retail strategies.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to approve the contract, and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sheila Franklin. .

Motion all in favor.

Town Manager Report

I am still trying to set up meetings with our legislators and Councilmember Lance had run into Representative Balkcom, and she had mentioned putting a list together of items that we wanted help with. I put together a chart that you have in front of you (attached to final minutes) of these items.

Discussion Followed:

It was suggested to add the License plate readers that the chief was requesting in his upcoming budget.

The Town Manager will update the list to add this item.

The Shred event/pill drop will be in the south side parking lot from 9:00 to noon on Saturday, April 20, 2024.

The Spring Litter Sweep is from April 13 through 27 that DOT promotes and I wil put a call out for people to see if anyone wants to participate we provide the garbage bags and vests.

On the Budget process we are getting closer to finalizing our expenses, estimates, and requests, We are working on revenue estimates right now and the last thing that I am waiting on is the final tax values from the county. I am hoping to have a final draft at the end of this month. My goal is to do this without a rate increase.

The last thing is an update on crown castle and their placement of the small cell wireless faciilites. They have finalized 6 nodes (locations) that would be in town on DOT roads. The

one in Windsor Forrest that has created the most issues has not been specifically decided as of yet that it will be on Fanning Bridge Road somewhere but that have not decided the specific location. I don't have the new map as of yet when I do I will share it with you.

Department Reports

March Reports

Adjourn
Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to enter into Closed Session for "Contractual Matters"

Councilmember Trevor Lance motioned to go into Closed Session, and it was seconded by Councilmember Jim Player. .

Motion all in favor.

Went into the Closed Session at: 7:56 pm
Closed Session per NCGS 143.318.11 (5) "Contractual Matters"
Came out of the Closed Session at: 8:50 pm

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Keith Reed motioned to adjourn and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sheila Franklin.

Motion all in favor.

Adjourned at: 8:51 pm

Upcoming Events

LGCCA Meeting Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 3:00 pm "Mills River hosting"
Annual Shred/Pill Drop event on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 9:00 am til noon
Agenda Review Meeting May 6, 2024, at 6:00 pm
Budget Retreat Presentation May 9, 2024, at 9:00 am
Regular Meeting May 13, 2024, at 6:00 pm (Multipurpose Room)

Approved.

Date

Signed