Town of Fletcher
Town Council Agenda Review Meeting
Minutes
February 5, 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 Keith Reed
Councilmember Jim Player
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Councilmember Trevor Lance was absent from this meeting.

Moment of Silence:

Pledge of Allegiance:

Public Comments:
No comments were made at this time.

Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions
No comments were made at this time.

Agenda Review Minutes 1-2-24

Regular Meeting Minutes 1-8-24
No comments were made at this time.

Council Updates
Councilmember Jim Player commented on the recent meeting with the Henderson County Transportation Advisory Committee that he recently attended.
The I-26 project for Henderson County, he stated that they expect to be substantially completed by May 2024 with a final completion by February 2025.

Consent Agenda

Tax refunds/releases
No comments were made at this time.

Discussion Items

Presentation on support for reconnection of passenger rail service with Amtrack passing through sections of Western North Carolina - Martin Wheeler and Clifford Meek.

Presentation will be at the regular meeting next week.

Presentation from Pisgah Legal Services - Daniel Carey

Presentation will be at the regular meeting next week.

Presentation of mid-year tax collector's report and permission to advertise delinquent taxes per NCGS 105-369 - Candy Broome, Tax Collector.

Tax collector Cynthia Broome gave her mid-year-end tax collector's report and answered questions that the council had about the report. She has stated that delinquent taxes will be advertised on March 20, 2024.

Discussion Followed:

Presentation on potential grants for extension of greenway trails - Rebekah Robinson, Conserving Carolina.

Rebekah Robinison of Conserving Carolina gave a presentation on some potential matching grants that are available for greenway extension.

Discussion Followed:

The council wants a little more time to review and go over the information before making any decisions.

Report on established performance measures - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf gave an update on the performance measures for each department.

Discussion Followed:

Revisions to chapter 115 of the code of ordinances covering massage establishments - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf went over the revisions to Chapter 115 of the Code of Ordinances stating that as discussed last month with Chapter 110 & 111 on the ordinances, these needed to be updated to include the wording of business registration instead of business license.

Council agrees to move this to the Consent Agenda next week.

Status of proposed revisions to contract with Fletcher Fire & Rescue - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf went over the revisions to the contract with Fletcher Fire & Rescue that Mayor Blakley and Councilmember Trevor Lance had been working on. There is a copy in the packet with the areas highlighted in yellow that are the suggested revisions from the town and the responses from the fire department are in blue.

Discussion Followed:

Discussion of Town Center developer prospects - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that Brad Goodson (Carland Company) had pulled away from the project because he was having a hard time finding investors.

We still have Windsor Autry, which was interested in a letter of Intent for some type of due diligence period. I don't know if you are still interested in a letter with them at this time. There is no commitment, it would be to just let them take a shot at this and see what they come back with. We could do a Request for Proposals, but I don't think that this is a good idea at this time. We could also look at a consultant as well.

I was at the NC City & County managers' conference last week and was talking to a vendor that may be able to help us, and they have reached out to us in the past. I did ask them," do you have contact with developers" and the lady said" Yes, we do". I may reach out to them to get a proposal.

Discussion Followed:

The council is interested in hearing from a consultant on the town center project.

Town Manager Report

I mentioned to you last month that we were going to try and set up a meeting with Housing Assistance Corporation or HAC, and we did that about a week ago. The Mayor, Eric Rufa and I met with Susan Frady last month. What we wanted to know was if the town entertained about some type of affordable housing feature in the town center project, could there be a commercial element in there as well? She is going to look into this and get back with us.

Discussion Followed:

Just a reminder, starting next month we are going to be a polling place, so we will not have access to this room for the agenda review meeting. So we will need to move the meeting upstairs. That is if you still want to have the agenda review meeting.

The council is fine with having the meeting upstairs next month.

On the possible partnership with Buster Brown on additional tennis courts, the Mayor, Sheila and I are trying to set up a meeting with him this week, possibly on Thursday.

Department Reports

January 2024

Adjourn
Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to adjourn.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to adjourn, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Adjourned at: 7:35 pm

Upcoming Events

Father-Daughter Dance February 10, 2024, at 3:00 pm
Regular Meeting February 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm
Agenda Review Meeting March 4, 2024, at 6:00 pm (elections?)
Regular Meeting March 11, 2024, at 6:00 pm
Budget Retreat Meeting March 19, 2024, at 8:30 am
Annual Shred/Pill Drop event on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 9:00 am til noon.