Town of Fletcher
Town Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
February 12, 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 Jim Player
Councilmember Keith Reed
Councilmember Trevor Lance
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Moment of Silence:
Mayor Blakely asked for 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 proposed grants for the construction of greenway trails in the town and asked for town councils' continued support of this.

Terri Haas of 108 Hawks Nest Drive Fletcher commented on the condition of the property located at the corner of Woodhill Drive and Hwy 25 and requested that something to be done to clean up this property.

Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions

Agenda Review Minutes 1-2-24

Regular Meeting Minutes 1-8-24

Mayor Blakely asked if there were any questions or comments on the minutes and if none, do we have a motion to approve the minutes as presented.

Councilmember Keith Reed motioned to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Sheila Franklin.

Motion all in favor.

Council Updates
No comments were made at this time.

Consent Agenda

Tax refunds/releases

Approval of year-end tax collector's report and permission to advertise delinquent taxes per NCGS 105-369 in March.

Approval of revisions to chapter 115 of the code of ordinances covering massage establishments.

Mayor Blakely asked for any questions or comments on the consent agenda and seeing none, do I have a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented?

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to approve the consent agenda, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

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.

Martin Wheeler and Clifford Meek gave a presentation on the reconnection of passenger railway service in Western North Carolina. They are asking for support from governmental agencies on the FRA (Federal Railroad Administration) study for suggested Amtrak routes in the area.

Approval of lowest responsible bidder for street resurfacing projects - Ben Cathey, McGill Associates

Ben Cathey of McGill Associates gave a report on the lowest responsible bidder for the street resurfacing of Continuum Drive and Snowball Lane. Trace & Company was selected with a bid of $172,309.30.

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to approve Trace & Company as the lowest responsible bidder.

Councilmember Trevor Lance made a motion to approve the lowest responsible bidder and it was seconded by Councilmember Jim Player.

Motion all in favor.

Presentation from Pisgah Legal Services - Daniel Carey

Mr. Carey gave an overview of Pisgah Legal Services and the services they provide to the community and answered questions that the town council had for him.

Discussion Followed:

Report on established performance measures - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf gave a brief overview from last week on the performance measures of each department, and he stated that in six months he would give an updated report.

Discussion Followed:

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

Mayor Preston Blakely went over the items on the fire department contract that was discussed last week and stated that he and Councilmember Lance are willing to go back to the fire board and discuss the changes/items that council has some concerns on.

Discussion Followed:

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

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that he had reached out to a company that he met at the City & County Managers Association and had set up a Zoom meeting next week for him and Eric with the rep from this company. (Retail Strategies) We are going to look at their consulting services and see what they have to offer and work on a proposal.

Discussion Followed:

Town Manager Report

I mentioned to you last week that we met with representatives of Housing Assistance Corporation (HAC) to see if an affordable housing element could be on some part of the town center project with a commercial component to it. They are reaching out to their contacts but we have not heard back from them yet.

At the March meeting, just a reminder that we are a polling place for the primary, so we will have the March agenda review meeting upstairs in the multipurpose room. Also, we will be impacted by early voting in October for the regular meeting and also the agenda review meeting in November.

On the tennis courts, we have been in communication with Buster Brown (concerning a partnership) to develop some tennis courts next to our newly developed courts in the park. We have a meeting set up for February 21st of this month.

For the meetings with the legislative delegation, I will be working on setting up meetings with

our state legislative delegation and then, after that, with Senator Bud's office and Senator Edwards' office.

Council had some additional discussion on the grants for extending the greenway trails.

Department Reports

January 2024

Adjourn

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to adjourn

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

Motion all in favor.

Adjourned: 7:45 pm

Upcoming Events

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
Agenda Review Meeting April 1, 2024, at 6:00pm
Regular Meeting April 8, 2024, at 6:00pm
Annual Shred/Pill Drop event on Saturday, April 20, 2024, from 9:00 am til noon.