Town of Fletcher
Town Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
December 9, 2024

Call the meeting to order at: 6:00 PM

Those who were in attendance are as follows:

Mayor Preston Blakely
Councilmember Keith Reed
Councilmember Trevor Lance
Councilmember Jim Player
Assistant Town Manager Heather Taylor
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Moment of Silence:

Mayor Blakely led the group in the moment of silence.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Blakely led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comments:

No comments were made at this time.

Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions

Agenda Review Meeting 11-4-24

Regular Meeting Minutes 11-12-24

Mayor Blakely asked if there were any questions or comments on the minutes and, if not, do I have a motion to approve the minutes as presented?

Councillmember Trevor Lance motioned to approve the minutes, and it was seconded by Councilmember Jim Player.

Motion all in favor.

Council Updates

Mayor Blakely commented on the Christmas in the Park event and how great it was. He thanked Parks & Recreation for their hard work,

Councilmember Jim Player commented on the lot on Hwy 25 at the entrance to South Chase Subdivision finally being cleared and how wonderful it looked. He said that he had heard from several residents who were also pleased as well.

Consent Agenda

Set public hearing for the January 13, 2025 meeting to consider several minor amendments to the Fletcher Land Development Code

Approval of Resolution R-24-05 to declare surplus property and to sell by electronic auction with Auctions International.

Budget Amendment #1 for the FY 24/25

Approval of grant project ordinance O-24-06 for Hurricane Helene Recovery Park Projects

Approval of Councilmember Trevor Lance for the Mayor Pro-Tem seat on the board.

Mayor Blakely asked for any comments or questions about the consent agenda and, if not, do I have a motion to approve the Consent Agenda?

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

Motion all in favor.

Discussion Items

Presentation of year-end audit report for FY 2023-2024 - Carol Avery, of Lowdermilk Church & Co.

Carol Avery of Lowdermilk Church & Co gave a presentation on the recently completed audit for the town.

Mayor Blakely asked the council if they had any questions.

There were no questions at this time from the council.

Public Hearing to Approve Resolution #2024-04, a 12-month moratorium on new development within designated floodplains.

Mayor Blakely stated that we approved this Resolution last month and did not follow directions as a public hearing was needed before approving this Resolution.

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to go into public hearing to approve a moratorium on development in the designated flood plain.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to go into public hearing, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Mayor Blakely stated that we have nobody that signed up to speak during the public hearing. Does anyone wish to speak?

No one had any comments for the public hearing at this time.

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Councilmember Trevor Lance motioned to close the public hearing, and it was seconded by Councilmember Keith Reed.

Motion all in favor.

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to approve Resolution # R-24-04, regarding a 12-month moratorium on new development within the designated flood plain.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that this is a 12-month motorium but more than likely we will come back sooner than that with new information, as we are working with McGill Associates to evaluate our flood plain.

Councilmember Jim Player motioned to approve the Resolution, and it was seconded by Councilmember Trevor Lance.

Motion all in favor.

Recommended street resurfacing projects and estimated budget - Ben Cathey, McGill Associates

Ben Cathey of McGill Associates went over his budget estimate for the street resurfacing project. The streets to be paved are North Sunberry trail, South Sunberry Trail and Wild Meadow Road, all of which are in Livingston Farms Subdivision. The projected cost is $276,615.00, and it will be competitively bid in January.

Discussion Followed:

Selection of applicant to fill the remaining term in District 1 on the town council.

Mayor Blakely stated that last week we had Mr Mitch Brevard, Brandon Olsen and Ms Amber McKinney come up and talk about why they wanted to serve. We have one other candidate here this week who was not able to be here last week, which is Ms Jessica Roselli.

Mayor Blakely asked Ms Roselli to come up to the podium to tell council about herself and why

she would like to serve.

Ms Roselli came up to the podium and spoke about why she would like to serve and answered questions that the council had for her.

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Blakely then passed out the ballots and asked council to select their preferred candidate and put their name on their ballot and give them back to me. He also stated that as mayor he does not get a vote and all any candidate needs is two votes to win.

Mayor Blakely stated that the vote was unanimous for Ms Amber McKinney. He congratulated Ms McKinney and thanked everyone that applied.

All candidates have been encouraged to apply for any of the other boards within the town as well.

Budget Process for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf went over the proposed budget schedule for the upcoming budget year.

Discussion Followed:

He has asked council to put these dates in your calendar.

Request for an easement from the gas company - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf said this is something that has come up since the Agenda Review Meeting. The gas company is asking for an easement to repair a gas line that was damaged during the storm. This is located where our greenway trail goes underneath the north side of Mills Gap Road. It would just go underneath our greenway there (paved portion) and I don't anticipate any issues with this. In your packet is a calculation of payment as to what they would pay for the easement f and there is an easement document which has also been reviewed by our town attorney. It will go underneath the creek (directional boring) the ground will not be disturbed.

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to approve the easement as presented.

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

Motion all in favor.

Town Manager Report

The Helene storm, recovery efforts continue to be underway. I have talked to you at length about the clean-up efforts at the park and the projects that we have to do there. We have set that up with FEMA and had two meetings so far to make sure that the repairs are properly categorized. I feel like we are ahead of the game to get this FEMA reimbursed, and you get about 75 % of the costs. To make sure we get competitive bids, we are doing an RFQ for engineering services and that is due on Monday.

The debris removal continues with SDR (contractor by the county) and the next thing they are moving into now is construction and demolition materials debris. The county is supposed to have a meeting this week or next week with municipal managers to see where we are at with this.

Councilmember Keith Reed asked about debris removal (still a lot out there) even though they are starting on construction/demolition removal.

Town Manager Mark Biberdrof stated that they are still working on debris removal as well, and we have encouraged residents to go omn the website and put their address in for pickup to ensure that they are on the list to get this done.

Discussion Followed:

The Essentials of Municipal Government will be available to any councilmember that wants to attend it and will be in Kanapolis this year.

Farmers Market: we have been researching and doing some work the survey results are in, and we have had good responses, and can hopefully do this in the spring once we decide on a location.

Leaf collection is ongoing, as we are behind on this, and it is for December only. You either have to call in to request a pickup or go online to request a pickup.

Department Reports

November Reports

Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (6) "Personnel Matters"
Mayor Blakely asked for a motion to go into Closed Session

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

Motion all in favor.

Went into Closed Session at: 6:50 pm

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: 8:15 pm

Upcoming Events

Agenda Review January 6, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Regular Meeting January 13, 2025, at 4:00 pm
LGCCA January 21, 2025 at 3:00 pm "Fletcher Hosting"
Agenda Review February 3, 2025 at 6:00 pm
Regular Meeting February 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm

Approved.

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Date Signed