Town of Fletcher
Town Council Regular Meeting
Minutes
February 10, 2025

Call the meeting to order at: 6:00 PM

Those who were in attendance are as follows:

Mayor Preston Blakely
Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance
Councilmember Amber McKinney
Councilmember Jim Player
Councilmember Keith Reed
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:

No comments were made at this time.

Approval of minutes - corrections, additions or deletions

Agenda Review Meeting 1-06-25

Regular Meeting 1-13-25

Mayor Blakely asked council if they had any corrections additions or deletions to the minutes as presented and if not do I have a motion to approve the minutes.

Mayor Pro-Tem 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 Father Daughter dance and what a great job Parks & Recreation did with this event.

Consent Agenda

Approval of Resolution # R-25-02 in support of reopening Chimney Rock State Park as soon as possible.

Approval of mid-year tax collector's report and to advertise delinquent taxes per NCGS 105-369 on March 19, 2025

Approval of Lee Bowser (Dist 2) and George Clayton (Dist 3) to serve another 3 year term on the Planning Board.

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

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

Motion all in favor.

Discussion Items

Approval of Lowest Responsible Bidder for Street Resurfacing Projects - Ben Cathey, McGill Associates

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that we held our bid opening on Tuesday, and this is for North Sunbury, South Sunbury and Wild Meadow Road in Livingston Farms Development. We received 4 bids, and I have sent out to you a memo indicating each of the companies that bid and the bid amount. As you can see the lowest responsible bidder was Trace & Company at $235,242.55. After the bids were submitted, McGill & Associates certified the bid tabulation and the bid from Trace & Company was certified by Ben Cathey. Once you approve this, we will go to execute a contract with them and the project will start in March.

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

Councilmember Jim Player stated that he would make that motion, and it was seconded by Councilmember Trevor Lance.

Motion all in favor.

Selection of an individual to fill the vacant seat in district 1 on the Planning Board.

Mayor Blakely stated that we have four candidates for the vacant seat in District 1.

Mitch Brevard
Mike Franklin
Brandon Olsen
Patrick Nard

Whenever council is ready put your name on your ballot and select your preferred candidate.

Mayor Blakely read the votes, and they were 3 to 1 in favor of Mike Franklin.

Mike Franklin will be appointed to the Planning Board.

Update on efforts to start a farmers market in Fletcher - Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that there was not a lot more to report from last week. The consensus was to do this on a Tuesday from 3:00 - 6:00 pm. As far as locations go it was down to the southside parking lot at town hall or the back parking lot of Bill Moore Community Park. Due to the time of the day and the office being open I am recommending the back parking lot at Bill Moore Community Park. It would run May through October. The next steps would be for us to work on our guidelines, application packets and contact the people that were interested in being on the steering committee.

Mayor Pro-Tem Trevor Lance stated that he received a lot of phone calls from people who asked about having the market near town hall instead of the park.

Discussion Followed:

After some discussion the council would like to seriously consider the area near the green building for the Farmer's Market.

Town Manager Report

I was hoping to have on the agenda for this meeting the lowest responsible bidder on our park repairs. It was at the formal bidding threshold, and we only received one bid, so per the statute, we must have 3 bids, so we have to reject the one bid we received and rebid it and then if we only receive one bid, then we can open it. It has been re-advertised (shorter period of time) with February 18th at 10:00 am will be the bid reopening. We do not meet again till March, so I may recommend to you that we do a special call meeting (for approval) so that we can get these repairs started.

Last week I mentioned to you that the county is looking at charging a fee for fire inspections. Right now, they are not charging the town or the business owner to do fire inspections. I have since talked to the county manager about this and at this time they do not know what they are going to do. I just asked them to let us know if it is going to be a flat fee per business or based on square footage.

I mentioned to you last week about our recent surplus auction that we did really well and brought in over $26,000, and we had budgeted $20,000 for it. We have one vehicle left (2017 Dodge Durango) that did not make it in time to this auction and the police chief recommended that we donate it to the Town of Marshall as they had significant loss from the storm. This has to be done by Resolution, and we will bring that back to you in March.

Our developer broker contact list has been sent to Retail Strategies, and they are in the process of contacting them.

Last week we discussed the town starting up brush collections again (storm debris only). Public works has started, and they have collected at 79 sites. (30%) They will continue on, and they are staging it at the green building and SDR is picking it up.

Department Reports

January Reports

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 at: 6:30 pm

Upcoming Events

Agenda Review Meeting March 3, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Regular Meeting March 10, 2025, at 6:00 pm
Budget Retreat Meeting March 18, 2025 at 8:30 am
Spring Shred event Saturday April 12, 2025, 9:00 to 12:00 pm

Approved.

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Date Signed