

Regular Meeting

Town of Cooleemee

January 22, 2024

Minutes

(open session)

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Commissioner Reavis gave the Invocation.

Mayor Smith led the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Smith welcomed a room full of attendees.

Motion made by Commissioner Reavis to add item A-2 under Old business for a budget transfer to pay for Zoning Updates.

Seconded by Commissioner Tippett; motion carried (4-0)

Motion made by Commissioner Ferrell to adopt the revised agenda including the consent agenda with the financial report and minutes from 12-18 and 12-21-23 open and closed meetings.

Seconded by Commissioner Almond; motion carried (4-0)

Public Comment saw Lela Ijames, stating some citizens had formed a monthly community meeting to stay informed of going Ons of the Town, including walking and other positive events to come, plan on meeting behind the Fire Dept they have a social media page as well you can follow and stay aware of their events.

The clerk, upon the request of Mr. Ron Bivens gave an update to the River Park, Flooding had taken place with all the recent rains they had to close for a weekend to have sand moved, removed, or shifted to allow safe access to the Beach area. This took the better part of the day, and they were able to open back up the following weekend.

Law Enforcement Update: Mr. Mike Butero came in Place of Sgt. Crotts to give a report of the Contracted Law Enforcement for the month of December. 446 hours of contract 400 were logged that month, with 89 records being recorded mostly School Checks, Traffic Stops, and Security Checks no major Crime reported. There is a new Davie Couty Sheriff Mobile app he left forms with QR codes to download to stay up to date on matters within Davie County.

The clerk gave a brief update that Banking Recons are up to date finally everything had been zeroed out and balanced, there was a \$30 difference on the fund holding account upon investigation immediately after the meeting it was shown a Bank Fee had been applied to the account for too many withdrawals/transfers.

The Audit was prepared to be under way upon approval of the agreement later tonight. End of the year reporting had been complete W-2s, 1099, 1096s, NC-3 forms, had all been prepared and completed. All semi-annual reports and quarterly reports had been completed at this time as well.

Commissioner Tippett gave a report on the Community Input Sessions held the previous week thanked all of those who attended, Reported she had been in touch with the Clerk about a few things like trespassing Signs needed around the pool, that he has taken care of those already.

Mayor Smith Reported on meeting with County Manager and other officials to discuss the potential Community Center, looked at plans from where county built new EMS Center recently. Would like to incorporate the Library as the County is offering funds to aid with that addition. He had gone to a great training earlier in the month for Municipal Government, his ethics training was included in that. Met with Davie Foundation recently, met with Chamber of Commerce, was meeting with Terry Bralley soon, noted that now upon signing checks we are going to start signing the invoice to ensure both the check and invoice match.

The clerk showed an agreement to the Board regarding required updates to the Zoning Ordinances, the PTRC will perform these updates and they will be complete in June 2024. Motion made by Commissioner Tippett to allow these updates to the Zoning Ordinances and to allow funds up to \$3500 to compete.

Seconded by Commissioner Ferrell; motion carried (4-0)

Motion made by Commissioner Almond to approve a budget transfer in the amount \$3200 to allow for the Zoning Updates.

Seconded by Commissioner Tippett; motion carried (4-0)

Commissioner Tippett discussed further needs of having a planning board in place a suggest that perhaps the Town allow up to a 5-mile radius to conduct a proper search for this need, Attorney Terry suggested not voting on this matter tonight and table until next month to allow her to investigate what radius would/could be allowed for such a board.

Mayor Smith and Commissioner Tippett want to form a few committees within Town and ask the Clerk to send out a post on the Website and Facebook as well as post at the Post Office Bulletin for this.

The Clerk handed out the new audit contract, as the previous contract had been voided due to the Audit not being performed on the dates required by LGC. Mr. Brewer needed to submit a new contract to be listed as the approved auditor by the LGC. He had submitted paperwork to show why the Town would not owe Eddie Carrick for his services on the Audit only for services on the pending fraud as that was not within their scope of work, but they were obliged to aid as it was holding up our audit. An invoice will be coming for those hours worked. This was still an audit for 22/23 year not for current 23/24 year.

Motion made by Commissioner Tippett to approve the auditor's contract to finalize the 22/23 audit at \$6800.

Seconded by Commissioner Reavis; motion carried (4-0)

The Clerk has started on the Davie County Rec Grant wanted to know if further ideas were needed, he was getting prices for painting/preparing both Shuffleboard Courts tennis courts and

tennis courts to pickle ball courts both basketball courts to have lines painted such as half court free throw ETC. The board was ok with getting those numbers.

Commissioner Almond and the Clerk had numbers for the board to replace all the Street lights in Town it looked as if it would be around \$7,000 with there being 135 lights, it would be a uniform look not the 4-5 different colors we see out there now. Brighter and more efficient with the hope of not having many if any bulb changes required for a few years.

One question was what the best method for is paying for these, ARP funds is possible, Maintenance Funds are available with have enough in either operating line to perform the change.

Motion made by Commissioner Almond to make the Street Light Changes if the price stay at or under \$7000.00.

Seconded by Commissioner Tippett; motion carried (4-0)

Motion made by Commissioner Almond to try and use ARP funds first if that is not an avenue then proceed with Maintenance Funds. Maintenance Funds would still be shown as the use, but the funds would transfer from ARP.

Seconded by Commissioner Reavis; motion carried (4-0)

Mayor Smith read aloud the proposed resolution for a slogan for the Town as Preserving the Past, Building the Future

Motion made by Commissioner Reavis to adopt the resolution for the New Town slogan.

Seconded by Commissioner Ferrell; motion carried (4-0)

Mayor asked the ABC board opening to be posted for 3 weeks so someone could fill his vacant seat.

Commissioner Reavis asked about updates on the digital sign, Commissioner Almond still awaiting that phone call, Reavis stated he was meeting with Lynch Group to see about cost of possibly demo of the old pool if the Town was to proceed with the Community Center in that area.

Motion made by Commissioner Tippett to enter closed session.

Seconded by Commissioner Reavis; motion carried (4-0)

Seeing no reason for closed session motion made by Commissioner Almond to enter open session.

Seconded by Commissioner Reavis; motion carried (4-0)

Mayor asked Commissioners to send the Clerk types of committees hoping for.

Asked that Commissioners Ferrell and Tippett along with the Clerk look over the Code Ordinance Book for revisions and may need to be looked at.

Motion made by Commissioner Tippett to adjourn meeting.

Seconded by Commissioner Ferrell; motion carried (4-0) 1 Hour 20 minutes.

Mayor, Jeff Smith

Clerk, Steven Corriher

