

Regular meeting
Town of Cooleemee
December 15, 2025

Minutes

(Open session)

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order.

Dave Magistrate David Miller swore in new commissioners, Andy Reavis and Steve Corriher.

Mayor Smith gave an invocation.

Mayor Smith welcomes attendees.

Additions to the agenda Chief Hacket Cooleemee Fire Department to give 2025 updates.

There are no deletions.

Mayor Smith read Conflict-of-interest statement.

Commissioner Corriher made motion to adopt the agenda, consent agenda, including the minutes of 11/30/2025 and the November financial report and bank reconciliations. Commissioner Reavis seconded and motion carried.

Public comments:

Linda Bourne gave updates on post office conflicts. She had a petition signed by town residents who desire to have curbside mailboxes due to the lack of services provided by the Cooleemee Postal staff. She sent the petition to the Advance Post office to see what the next step would be to get this issue resolved here in the Town of Cooleemee N.C.

Dave Fowler stated his concerns about the curbside mailboxes. He wanted to know if there were any updates at this time.

Ron Bivens investigated postal ordinances. He stated that it starts with the mayor and passes through the district. He had talked with another postmaster in a surrounding county and was informed of some very liable information. These issues are managed through district 6 by representative Addison McDowell.

Teresa Bivens asks the board to please be mindful with Sheighla Tippet when it comes to scheduling monthly town meetings. She recently got a promotion from her full-time position in Charlotte. She is highly educated beyond measures and is a great asset to the town board. Her critical thinking skills are needed in this community. She is essential to the town and really needs to be able to attend the monthly meeting without interfering with her other commitments.

Ron Bivens reports that there is no fee for entry to the park through the winter Season. There have been 25,000 visitors to the park in the past 6 months.

Sgt. Crofts congratulated the new board members. He reported 423 hours in a 30-day period which totals 14hrs per day. 108 calls, 4 per day. 59 traffic stops, 49 dispatched totals 2 calls per day est. Speed measuring device was installed on Center Street. A new sign has been installed on Main Street.

Fire Chief Hackett gave a 2025 EYO report on Cooleemee Fire Department. They were funded 3 grants totaling the amount of \$26,025. With those grants, they were able to purchase new fire gear, radio replacements, and new fire truck tires. They have 9 new active members, and 4 new medical resources. They had 493 calls for service in 2025. The training department accumulated 2,297 training hours in 2025.

Mayor Smith reported that ADP will start managing the Town of Cooleemee payroll starting January 15th, 2026. The website for the town needs to update the address to Town of Cooleemee, 131 Church Street. Pictures/names of the board members need to be placed on the town's web page. The Community Center budget is higher than previously expected. They reevaluated the cost and cut out the basement, turned two doors into windows, and took out a room divider. The building cost is 1.5 million and approximately 54,000 sq ft with a 14,000 sq ft library.

Commissioner Steve Corriher motioned to appoint Andy Reavis pro-tem. Commissioner Sandra Ferrell seconded the motion and motion carried.

Commissioner Ferrell made a motion to change meeting dates to the second Monday of the month. Commissioner Sheighla Tippettt seconded the motion and motion carried.

The board wants to implement the appointment of liaison. Commissioner Corriher requests to get rid of it completely and work as a board. Mayor Smith suggested that the post office be added to public safety and code enforcement be added to Zoning and planning. Commissioner Tippettt wants to reassign duties of the liaisons. Commissioner Corriher made motion to table it to January 12th meeting, Commissioner Tippettt seconded and motion carried.

Lease on Lexmark printer has been invalid since March 2025. Mike Horne met with Commissioner Corriher about a new contract with Toshiba Business Solutions. The town will be saving \$31.00 monthly by signing with Toshiba. A new Brother tabletop printer will cost \$145.00 monthly, while the old contract was \$161.00. It will include 520 copies and 10 colored copies. This is a 64-month lease. Commissioner Reavis made motion to sign with Toshiba Business Solutions, and Commissioner Tippettt seconded the motion and motion carried.

Steven Corriher thanked everyone for their support and wished all a Merry Christmas. Sandra Ferrell is excited about the new year ahead and wishes everyone a Merry Christmas. Sheighla Tippettt talked about code updates and plans that could enhance the Cooleemee experience. She is excited about the new board and cannot wait for the new year and a Merry Christmas. Mayor Smith thanked the Cooleemee Historical Association for putting on a Christmas production for Cooleemee Elementary Schools kindergarteners. They had a wonderful time.

Commissioner Tippett made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Reavis seconded and motion carried.

Clerk, Shirley Jacobs

Mayor, Jeff Smith