

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 7:00 p.m.  
Eastover Community Center**

**x☐ Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Presiding;  
Council Members: x☐ Cheryl C. Hudson, x☐ J. Lawrence Buffaloe,  
x☐ M. Stan Crumpler, x☐ Bruce R. Sykes, x☐ Kimberly F. McPhail,  
and x☐ C. Brian Pearce**

**MINUTES OF MEETING – February 8, 2022**

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, C. Brian Pearce, Cheryl Hudson, Bruce Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the February 8, 2022, Eastover Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance were Mr. Ronald Autry, Interim Town Administrator, and Ms. Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk.

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mayor Charles McLaurin called the February 8, 2022, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

**II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Council Member Bruce Sykes gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Mayor Charles McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the agenda. Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe made a motion to approve the agenda as stated. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was unanimous for approval.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mayor McLaurin recognized Cub Scouts, Webelos Leader, Mr. John Sidebotham and Troop 745, Scout Master, Mr. Russ Conaway. Each Webelo and Boy Scout introduced themselves to the Council. The Council explained to the Cub Scouts about being in government and how they decide things for the Town.

Eastover Fire Chief Scott McKenzie told the Council that in the month of January the Fire Department answered 1,010 calls, most of these calls were traffic and EMS calls.

The Eastover Fire Department now has two full time and two part-time employees that work 24 hour shifts except on weekends.

Chief McKenzie also stated that the Fire Department has a Junior Fire Fighter program. Any person that is fifteen or older interested in becoming a firefighter should stop by the fire department.

Every six months the Fire Department will have a training program for volunteers. It is an in-house training. Vander, Wade, Falcon, Godwin, and Eastover Fire Departments will be combining the training sessions.

## **V. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- 1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the January 11, 2022, Town Council Meeting.**
- 2. Consider approval of the December 2021 Financial Reports.**

Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the Consent Agenda. There were none. Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the Consent Agenda as stated.

Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Cheryl Hudson. The vote was unanimous for approval.

## **VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:**

### **Agenda Item #1:**

**Cumberland County Community Development: Cumberland County Community Development (CCCD) is currently planning for the 2022 Annual Action Plan. CCCD will be presenting at various Town Hall meetings to provide information on various housing programs and other activities offered to eligible Cumberland County residents through its Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnerships Program**

Ms. Dee Taylor thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing her to come out and inform them of the upcoming activities Cumberland County Community Development (CCCD) has to offer. Ms. Taylor said the CCCD is developing action plans with all municipalities, and she appreciates the Town of Eastover participating.

Ms. Taylor said the CCCD funds housing and urban development. Funding is to address low to moderate income families. They help with urgent needs, affordable housing, home repairs, and infrastructure. She said the CCCD offers a Home-Buyer Assistance Program, Housing Rehabilitation Program, Rental Rehabilitation Program, Affordable Housing Program, Public Service and Public Facility Program, and Business Loan Programs.

## **Agenda Item #2:**

### **Conflict of Interest Policy.**

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that the Town did not have a written conflict-of-interest policy. He stated that for the state to give the grant of \$450,000 to the Town this policy had to be adopted.

Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the conflict-of-interest policy. There were none. Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the conflict-of-interest policy.

Council Member Brian Pearce made a motion to approve the conflict-of-interest policy as stated. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was unanimous for approval.

## **Agenda Item #3:**

### **Budget Amendment 2022-03: increase Capital Outlay fund to cover New Christmas decoration costs and increase in election cost Fund**

Mr. Autry stated that the current budget does not have enough funds in capital outlay to cover the cost of the new Christmas decorations. This budget amendment will allow for the increase in charges.

Mr. Autry also said that the City of Fayetteville did not participate in this past election causing costs to rise. Increasing the budget for the election fund will allow for this charge.

Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning Budget Amendment 2022-03. There were none. Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove Budget Amendment 2022-03.

Council Member Cheryl Hudson made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2022-03 as stated. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was unanimous for approval.

**Agenda Item #4:**

**Cory Circle**

Mr. Autry stated that an engineering firm will survey the streets at Cory Circle. A letter will be sent to the residents informing them of the surveyor's presence.

Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve Municipal Engineering for the contract. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was unanimous for approval.

**VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE**

- The flags at the Eastover Community Building need to be moved to the new Town Hall building.
- The NC State Flag, US Flag, the Town of Eastover flag, and flag poles need to be ordered
- The Christmas wreaths need to be donated and we need to surplus them
- A resident has sent comments about areas in Eastover that need cleaning. The Council will get together and make decisions on these properties.
- The Town is spending approximately \$16,000.00 on mowing and upkeep on the gateway signs, the community building, and maintaining the walking trail. The town needs to consider hiring a maintenance individual.
- Fayetteville-Cumberland Parks and Recreation are now having signups for spring sports
- The committee for getting the shelter with picnic tables at the Eastover Ballpark will be Council Members: Lawrence Buffaloe, Bruce Sykes, and Stan Crumpler

**VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE.**

- The tractor is in process of being shipped
- Cumberland County Planning and inspections have changed the signage requirements. Signs must now be animated.

**IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE.**

- The Town has paid the last installment of \$50,000.00 to the Eastover Fire Department
- Security Cameras will cost approximately \$5,000.00, that includes four cameras and all equipment
- The new town hall passed inspection on electricity and plumbing. New emergency lights need to be installed. Move in should be around March first.

- A storage building needs to be purchased to put behind the new town hall for storage and to store the tractor and its attachments.

**X. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN.**

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe at 8:10p.m. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was unanimous for approval.

**Town of Eastover**

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**Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor**

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_, Town Clerk  
**Elizabeth S. Bass**