

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Eastover Community Center**

**x Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Presiding;
Council Members: 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 – April 12, 2022

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, C. Brian Pearce, Bruce Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the April 12, 2022, Eastover Town Council Meeting. Council Member Cheryl C. Hudson was absent from the meeting; however, she provided a written waiver of notice prior to the April 12, 2022, Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance were Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney, Mr. Ronald Autry, Interim Town Administrator, and Ms. Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Charles McLaurin called the April 12, 2022, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member Kimberly F. McPhail 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 2nd by Council Member Kim McPhail. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Van Coppledge, 2544 Tucker Road, Eastover, NC 28312, Mr. Phil Harris Jr., 324 Devane Street, and Mr. Donn Hendrickson, 3401 Bushy Hill Road, signed up to speak to the Council.

Mr. Van Coppledge spoke to the Council on behalf of the summer literacy program at Salem United Methodist Church. He stated that the Duke Endowment's Summer Literacy Program will be funding two sessions. The first will be June 6-July 1 and the second will be July 11-August 5. The program is for families whose children are in critical need of summer literacy programming.

The program consists of the following components:

- A minimum of 80 hours of high-quality literacy instruction.
- NC licensed elementary school teachers with demonstrated records of high performance in the classroom.
- 6:1 teacher/student ratio.
- Family engagement activities.
- Meals for students as permitted by COVID-19 guidelines.
- A safe, caring environment.

Students who qualify fit the following criteria:

- Rising 1st through 3rd graders (i.e., students currently in kindergarten through 2nd grades) who are in greatest need of summer reading intervention, as demonstrated by your district's formative assessment benchmarks from MOY and /or EOY
- Applications will be distributed on (April 12, 2022) and need to be returned by (April 25, 2022)

Mr. Coppledge asked the Council to help promote the program and partner with the church during the sessions. He said the community can help with transportation, meals, prayer, and volunteering. He thanked the Council for their time.

Mr. Phil Harris Jr. thanked the Council for the Pickle Ball Courts at the Eastover Ballpark. He stated that he is one of 262 members of the Fayetteville Area Pickleballers. The group ranges in ages from 13 years old to 85 years old. Mr. Harris said they travel to several places to play, and the Eastover Ballpark court is one of the best.

Mr. Harris said he would like to have 6-8 more courts available so they could have tournaments in the Town of Eastover. This would allow for women's matches, men's matches, mixed (double matches), and single matches. He said he would also like to have a wind screen around the court. Mr. Harris stated that having lights around the courts would help if the Town decided to allow tournaments.

Mr. Donn Hendrickson stated that if the Town put more courts for pickle ball the Town could make money from the tournaments. He said he also enjoyed playing on the courts at the Eastover Ballpark.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the March 8, 2022, Town Council Meeting. See Exhibit A.**
- 2. Consider approval of the February 2022 Financial Reports. See Exhibit B.**

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 Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

Agenda Item #1:

Tarheel Challenge Academy: Rita Ladner

Ms. Rita Ladner stated that she had been working with at risk youth for 28 years. She said the Tarheel Challenge Academy has two locations, Salemburg and New London, and is a 5 ½ month program. The program was taken over by the Department of Public Safety.

Tarheel Challenge Academy is a quasi-military style academy for at risk teens 16-18 years of age and is sponsored by the North Carolina National Guard. The purpose of the program is to provide qualified North Carolina dropouts, potential dropouts, and expellees an opportunity to learn in a safe, structured environment so the cadet can become a successful individual not only immediately but in the future.

Mr. Ladner gave the Council a card with her contact information and asked them to be an advocate for the Academy. She thanked the Council for their time and attention.

VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE:

- The food pantry in front of the community building has outdated food. Mr. Brittain needs to be contacted
- Cory Circle has been surveyed and is in the early stage of being paved
- In the month of May, the town needs to "Clean for Spring". Trash needs to be picked up
- The cement for the amphitheater at the Eastover Ballpark has been poured. The town is waiting on the handicap ramp

- Community Watch meeting was a success. The meetings will be on the 2nd Monday of every month at 7pm
- The cameras have been installed at the Eastover Ballpark
- The flags need to be removed from the Eastover Community Building

VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE.

- The Council suggested more cameras be installed at the Eastover Ballpark to expand the coverage. They would also like internet access installed
- The town needs to think about possibly offering a reward for the arrest and conviction of any criminal committing illegal acts at the Eastover Ballpark

IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE.

- On April 7, 2022, the Mayor and Town Administrator had a meeting with Cumberland County Parks and Rec and all other Mayors from surrounding towns. The County Attorney stated that the Town of Spring Lake will be joining the parks and rec department. A new document will need to be signed with all the Town's involved.
- The Town will have to apply for a permit to place the new storage building at the Town Hall.
- An engineer will have to revisit the drainage issue.
- A 6 ft -9ft windscreen for the pickleball courts will cost approximately \$2,500.00.

After some discussion Mayor Charles McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove purchasing wind screens for the pickleball courts at the Eastover Ballpark.

Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve the purchase of the wind screens for the pickleball courts. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The vote was 6-0 for approval

X. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bruce Sykes at 8:04 p.m.
The motion was 2nd by Council Member Brian Pearce. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

Attest: _____, **Town Clerk**
Elizabeth S. Bass