

**Town of Eastover – Work Session Meeting
Tuesday, April 22, 2024, 6:00 p.m.
Eastover Town Hall**

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

MINUTES OF MEETING – April 22, 2024

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly F. McPhail, Bruce R. Sykes, Cheryl C. Hudson, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, and Frederick A. Williams attended the April 22, 2024, Work Session Meeting. Council Member M. Stan Crumpler was absent from the Work Session Meeting. Also, in attendance was Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney, Mr. Ronald Autry, Town Administrator, and Ms. Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk.

Mayor Charles McLaurin called the April 22, 2024, Work Session meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that the Musco lights for the pickleball court are up and running. The pickleball court will be completed in the middle of May 2024. The basketball court concrete has been poured and will be stripped at the same time as the pickleball courts. Some Council Members stated that shade was needed at the pickleball court as well as lights and benches for the basketball court. Mr. Autry stated he would get pricing for the shade, lights, and benches.

1. Hiring an Intern from Cumberland County Schools for the ICON Summer Internship, decide how long (4-6 weeks) for 32 hours a week, hire directly, or use the IDI Staffing Service

After some discussion the Council decided that the Town of Eastover would hire two interns. One intern would be at least 17 years old for maintenance work and the other to do office work. They would like the intern to be from Cape Fear High School.

Council Member Cheryl Hudson made a motion to hire two interns from the ICON Summer Internship program, from Cape Fear High School, one at least 17 years old for maintenance and the other for the office, and to hire IDI staffing, the position would be for 6 weeks. Council Member Bruce Sykes seconded the motion. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

2. Eastover Fire Tax-Discuss and possibly increase the fire tax from \$0.10 to \$0.15 per \$100 valuation.

Mayor Charles McLaurin stated that the Eastover Fire Department is requesting a \$.05 raise in taxes within the city limits of Eastover. The unincorporated areas are already paying the increase.

Council Member Cheryl Hudson made a motion to increase the tax rate to match the unincorporated areas of Cumberland County for the fire tax within the Eastover city limits by \$.05 for a total of \$.15 per \$100, this motion will be contingent upon the new contract agreement being completed between the Town of Eastover and Eastover Fire Department. Council Member Kim McPhail seconded the motion. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

3. Ordinance Pertaining to Animals-discuss ordinance pertaining to animals housed in the Town of Eastover.

After some discussion the Town has decided to table this matter for further review. Mr. Autry will notify Cumberland County Animal Services that the Town Council is in the process of updating the Ordinance.

4. Commercial Core Overlay-Discuss issues within the commercial core district.

Mayor McLaurin and Council Members referred this to Cumberland County Planning and Zoning to follow procedure.

Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe seconded the motion. The vote was 6-0 for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

Attest: _____, Town Clerk
Elizabeth S. Bass