



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN
OF WALKERTOWN TOWN COUNCIL
JUNE 27, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.: BOOE HOUSE

Mayor Doc Davis **called the meeting to order** at 7:00 p.m. Present were the Mayor, Council Members Vernon Brown, Wesley Hutchins, Caroline Jones and Town Manager Scott Snow and Town Clerk Rusty Sawyer.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Davis.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vernon Brown.

Doc: Any additions to the agenda from council? *NO*.

**THE AGENDA WAS APPROVED AS WRITTEN BY MOTION MADE BY WESLEY HUTCHINS AND SECONDED BY VERNON BROWN.
THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES)**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **MAY 23, 2024**
- **JUNE 13, 2024**

**THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY MOTION MADE BY VERNON BROWN AND SECONDED BY CAROLINE JONES.
(BROWN, JONES, LEIGHT)**

PUBLIC SESSION

THIS SESSION IS FOR NON-PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS ONLY AND IS LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER. WHEN SPEAKING TO ANY ITEM, PLEASE RESTRICT YOUR REMARKS TO THE SUBJECT AT HAND.

Mayor Davis opens the **Public Session @ 7:02**.

My name is Kristina Chapman. My husband Tyler and I live at 3227 Reno Court in Walkertown. We are interested in buying the property owned by the town on the corner of Main Street and Sullivantown Road. We would like to open a coffee shop and event center there.

Doc: What kind of events?

Kristina: We thought we could offer space for worship nights, community nights. Anytime my family has a birthday or our church has an event we have it at our house. When weather permits we use Town Center Park. I am sure other families are doing the same thing, looking for a meeting space. We would like to provide that space.

Scott: As we have discussed, the sidewalk project on that corner and down Sullivantown Road would impact any tenant on that corner. Once construction starts, there won't be much usable space to open for business until 2025. The town would declare the building as surplus and offered to the public. The town

would be required to sell to the highest qualified bidder. The council could set conditions for the uses of the building.

Kristina: Thank you.

With no other speaker coming forward, the Mayor closes the **Public Session @ 7:08.**

BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:

1. PUBLIC HEARING: FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025 TOWN OF WALKERTOWN BUDGET

Scott: The Town of Walkertown Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget is balanced.

The Walkertown Town council continues a conservative approach to finances. The council and staff remain committed to ensuring that the Town of Walkertown remains debt-free, while providing a variety of services that improve our community.

Property tax is the major revenue source for the operating income of the Town of Walkertown. The tax rate remains at the current rate of \$.20 cents per \$100 valuation.

The town's property tax base grew by approximately 1.3% from May 2023 to May 2024 with a resulting ad valorem revenue neutral tax rate of 19.73 cents. One cent of ad valorem property tax per \$100 assessed value provides \$65,528 in ad valorem tax revenue to support Town operations. Sales tax income also helps in providing funding for town services. The 2024-2025 sales tax revenues are projected to see a slight increase over 2023-2024 revenues.

Funds allocated to the Town from the American Rescue Plan and federal transportation grants are also included in the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget revenues, which will allow for the completion of several capital projects.

There will be no reduction in services or operations for the town, and additional appropriations are made to build the capacity of several services.

- Funding for capital projects including the Walkertown Town Meeting Facility, expansion of Walkertown Town Center Park, the Sullivantown Road and Depot Street sidewalk and pedestrian projects, as well as funds to begin the planning process for several pedestrian and traffic improvement projects along Main Street.
- Funding allocated to provide support and resources for local non-profit service organizations including Walkertown Meals on Wheels, Friends of the Walkertown Library, Walkertown Area Historical Society, Walkertown Girls Softball Association and the Walkertown Little League.

The Town of Walkertown remains in good financial condition. The Town is committed to presenting a balanced budget which requires expenditures to match available revenues. We will continue to strive to operate the town

within the means we have available without increasing the tax rate to the citizens of Walkertown.

Any questions from the council? *NO*.

With no questions from the Council, the **Public Hearing** is opened by Mayor Davis @ 7:09 to those wishing to speak for or against the budget.

Doc: Our town has the second lowest overall tax rate in Forsyth County. Clemmons, Tobaccoville and Walkertown are the only towns not to raise taxes this year. We are very careful with town expenditures. What services do you get for your tax dollars? One half of your tax dollars go to the fire department. One fourth goes to trash & recycle service. The balance pays for town expenditures: a town deputy, streetlights, maintenance of town facilities like Town Hall, The Booe House, ROW mowing, Town Center Park and Walnut Pavilion.

Mike Morris: Hotel Occupancy money. Where are the hotels?

Doc: Everywhere in the county. Shared by municipalities and the County.

Mike: Liquor and Beer?

Doc: Money comes from all over the county, through the state tax.

With no other speakers coming forward Mayor Davis closes the **Public Hearing** at 7:12.

Doc: Do I have a motion?

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2024 – 2025 TOWN OF WALKERTOWN BUDGET

BY: WESLEY HUTCHINS

SECOND: VERNON BROWN

VOTE: UNANIMOUS
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES)

2. ONGOING PROJECT UPDATES

Scott leads the discussion.

COMMUNITY MEETING SPACE

Running electrical now. 2 power poles have been installed

Sheetrock has been primed.

Tile is installed on bathroom walls and floors.

Grading work near completion.

Will order monitor screens soon. Wiring is being run now.

Mike: Open when?

Doc: Maybe the end of August.

Contract for sidewalks will be bid this fall.

HVAC work on the Booe House and Old Fire Station will start soon.

3. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

June, 2024

Doc: We are 12 months into our year or 100% of the way through the year. All in line and on budget with no department over budget. Interest is unbelievable at 436%. Revenue is coming in slowly at 80%. Current year property tax at 103%. The town has no debt.

We have Unrestricted Funds for May @\$6,526,350.48. Restricted Funds @\$1,018,644.59 for a Grand Total Fund Balance of \$7,544,995.07.

Doc: Doing any paving yet?

Scott: No. Streets off of Darrow Road will be next.

MOTION: TO APPROVE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR JUNE, 2024 AS PRESENTED BY STAFF

BY: CAROLINE JONES

SECOND: WESLEY HUTCHINS

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING AT 7:31 P.M.

BY: WESLEY HUTCHINS

SECOND: VERNON BROWN

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES)

ANOUNCEMENTS:

Town Hall Office will be closed July 4th

No Planning Board Meeting scheduled for July

Fall Festival Meeting – June 8th – 4:00 pm

Submitted by:

Rusty Sawyer

Town Clerk

Visit the Town's website at:
www.townofwalkertown.us