



MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN
OF WALKERTOWN TOWN COUNCIL
DECEMBER 19, 2024 @ 7:00 P.M.: WALKERTOWN COMMUNITY BUILDING

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, Peggy Leight and Town Manager Scott Snow and Town Clerk Rusty Sawyer.

The Invocation was given by Mayor Davis.
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peggy Leight.

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
• **NOVEMBER 21, 2024**

THE MINUTES WERE APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY MOTION MADE BY VERNON BROWN AND SECONDED BY CAROLINE JONES.
(BROWN, HUTCHINS, 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 @ 7:03.**

My name is Dena Lyerly and I live on Avalee Street. I would first like to thank Scott and Rusty. They have both been very helpful. I am helping to organize the residents on Avalee Street, Martin Street and Annie Lane in opposition to the residential development north of Martin & Avalee streets. We have been going door to door with the petition against this development. Some residents did not receive the change in zoning notification letter from the developers. We have concerns with the additional increase in traffic on these narrow town streets. We want the developers to know that we are not okay with this. We met with the developers in December. We were led to believe that this was a done deal which was not the truth. We want to partner with the town to fight this development. It would give our petition credibility. We have included the county commissioners' names & phone numbers and encourage our neighbors to call all of them.

I would like to invite the mayor and council to a meeting with concerned residents at the Walkertown Library January 4th at 1:00.

Doc: The proposed development is not in the city limits of Walkertown. It is located in

the county. It is adjacent to the town. Developers are wanting to extend town streets. We have no zoning authority outside the town limits. I will make plans to be at the meeting.

Wesley: Were any county personnel present at the meeting?

Dena: No I don't think so, just the developer.

Scott: County Commissioner Tonya McDaniel was there. I will be at the meeting too.

Dena: She came as a concerned neighbor, not as a commissioner.

I have spoken to Chairman Don Martin. He assured me that all neighbors would be notified of the Forsyth County Planning Board meeting for the change in zoning request.

Doc: Any question from council? *No*.

Thank you Dena.

With no other speaker coming forward, the Mayor closes the **Public Session @ 7:11.**

BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION:

1. 2025 WALKERTOWN PLANNING BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #24-121901 A RESOLUTION APPOINTING PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS MR. JERRY PEGRAM AND MR. GARY MUNDY TO THREE-YEAR TERMS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND CONCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2027 ALSO, APPOINTING ALTERNATE PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS MR. STEVE FOWLER AND MR. MICKEY METCALF TO ONE-YEAR TERMS COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2025 AND CONCLUDING DECEMBER 31, 2025

BY: WESLEY HUTCHINS

SECOND: PEGGY LEIGHT

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES, LEIGHT)

2. 2025 REGULAR COUNCIL, COUNCIL WORKSHOP & PLANNING BOARD MEETING SCHEDULES

MOTION: TO APPROVE 2025 MEETING SCHEDULES FOR REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL, COUNCIL WORKSHOP AND PLANNING BOARD MEETINGS

BY: PEGGY LEIGHT

SECOND: VERNON BROWN

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES, LEIGHT)

3. WALKERTOWN FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Doc: Scott included the monthly alarm activity report from the fire department. They had 56 calls inside the town limits and 49 outside the town. For the calls inside the town limits, 14% were fire calls and 78% were medical calls. The value of property involved in incidents: \$3,540,160.00.

Property losses: \$117,055.00.

Scott: The high property loss was a train engine caught fire at the train depot. This was not a town expense.

Wesley: Scott and I met with the fire department.

4. ONGOING PROJECT UPDATES

Scott leads the discussion.

SULLIVANTOWN ROAD AND DEPOT STREET SIDEWALK PROJECT

Environmental Documents got formal approval

Next: Get ROW certified

Start sidewalk construction in the spring

PAVING AT TOWN HALL & OLD FIRE STATION

Paving is complete. Painting stripes is next

OLD FIRE STATION

New heat pump has been installed

Propane heaters have been installed. Tank installation is next.

Doc: We need a better name than the "Old Fire Station". How about the "Maintenance Building".

Rusty, what is the address? 5135 Main Street

Scott: The decals on the maintenance building are peeling off. Painting them will be a more permanent solution.

MISC.

Scott: The parade went well. No incidents.

150 -200 came to visit Santa after the parade.

Wesley: I'd like to thank Scott & Rusty for the excellent Santa event.

Scott: The Walkertown High School Band directed by Quincy Lundy played.

Doc: The parade lasted 44 minutes.

Scott: The Kernersville parade lasted close to 3 hours.

Doc and I delivered Holiday Cards to the 4 Walkertown principals.

DOT's Pat Ivey retired and will be replaced by John Ryan.

LOCAL LEADERS FORUM

Peggy: The quarterly Local Leaders Forum on zoom with the new county manager Shontell Robinson showed 135 overdose calls with one death for November 2024 compared to 59 overdoses in November 2023. Fewer deaths were reported because of the availability of Naloxone.

The county now has 4 free Naloxone dispensers. Free dispensers were offered to municipalities but none accepted.

Alcohol is now the top suspected primary drug in overdoses.

The new school calendar allows students to enjoy their winter break without studying for exams.

Scott: NASCAR is coming to Winston-Salem February 1st – 2nd.

Avoid the area because traffic will be heavy. Most parking will be offsite with shuttle service.

The county commissioners' meeting schedule will change to Mondays and Thursdays for a 3 month trial starting January 13th & 16th. They will have an evening meeting at the end of the quarter.

SENATE BILL 382 ZONING AUTHORITY AMENDMANT

S.B. 382 as enacted, has amended state statutes to read, "No amendment to zoning regulations or a zoning map that down-zones property shall be initiated, enacted or enforced without the written consent of all property owners whose property is the subject of the down-zoning amendment."

Scott: This bill was vetoed by the governor which the senate then overrides.

Doc: Keystone asked to down-zone from commercial to residential.

5. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December, 2024

Doc: We are 6 months into our new year or 49% of the way through the year. All in line and on budget with no department over budget. Revenue is coming in at 28%. Expenses at 25%. Current year property tax at 25%.

We have Unrestricted Funds for May @\$6,018,070.16. Restricted Funds @\$905,338.42 for a Grand Total Fund Balance of \$6,923,408.58.

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

BY: PEGGY LEIGHT

SECOND: WESLEY HUTCHINS

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES, LEIGHT)

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: TO ADJOURN REGULAR MEETING AT 7:50 P.M.

BY: CAROLINE JONES

SECOND: PEGGY LEIGHT

VOTE: UNANIMOUS

(BROWN, HUTCHINS, JONES, LEIGHT)

ANOUNCEMENTS:

No Planning Board Meeting scheduled for January

Town Hall Offices Closed – December 24th, 25th & 26th and January 1st, 2025

Doc: Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Submitted by:
Rusty Sawyer
Town Clerk

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