

BADIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

February 11, 2025
BADIN TOWN HALL

VISITORS

Jane Rife, Jenny Henderson, Sarah Allen, Joallen Lowder

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Demar Huntley, Mayor
Charles Council, Mayor Pro Tem
Deloris Chambers
Dale Ward
Gary Rife

STAFF PRESENT:

Jay Almond, Town Manager
Amanda Bowers, Town Clerk
Stephen Smith, Police Chief
Terry Eudy, Public Works Director

Opening prayer by Deloris Chambers.
Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Huntley called the meeting to order.

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE AGENDA

Motion to add 7(a) Discuss project tracking spreadsheet: C. Council
Second: Rife
Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to add 7(b) Discuss information technology donor review of Owl and train Rife and Bowers to use the equipment: C. Council
Second: Ward
Vote: Passed/Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve January 14, 2025 Regular meeting minutes: C. Council
Second: Chambers
Vote: Passed/Unanimous

BUSINESS

Board considered request for amendments to the approved 2025 Badin Celtic Festival event application. Jane Rife requested on behalf of Better Badin the council amend the

application to include a temporary plumbed restroom and mobile stage setup with in-ground feet near the Badin Conference Center on the Village Green, as well as use of conference center restrooms as changing rooms for Highland Dance stage talent. Better Badin will contact utilities to check for underground utilities prior to stage setup, and will ensure conference center use is limited to performers only in the restroom area only.

Motion to approve amendments to 2025 Badin Celtic Festival event application as requested: Chambers
Second: Ward
Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council discussed implementing a spreadsheet tracking system for public works projects. Rife designed a spreadsheet and requests to be added to the March agenda to present it to council. Rife shared a copy of the spreadsheet and asked Eudy and Almond to email him updates. Ward reminded council some items would be recurring. C. Council mentioned volunteerism.

Council discussed Owl preparation for livestreaming council meetings. C. Council said the meetings need to be available online. Ward prefers not.

Motion to broadcast meetings live, preferably before next meeting: C. Council
Second: Rife

Discussion: Ward said people need to see what council sees, the documents, not our faces. C. Council said a lot of people aren't able to be here. Almond said he's able to screen share agenda documents on the live feed. Chambers understands both viewpoints, but would like meetings available to those who can't attend meetings. Ward wants to show only what council is discussing, not council members.

Vote: Passed 4-1
Rife; Aye
Chambers; Aye
C. Council; Aye
Huntley; Aye
Ward; Nay

Council considered approval of amended Stanly County Special Olympics Polar Plunge event application. Approval was tabled to allow further review and possible alternate venue request. Almond met with event coordinators who revised the request. Due to EPA silt and erosion fencing boundary limiting use in Badin Waterfront Park, event coordinators request use of the Badin Waterfront Park parking lot for the fundraising features of the event rather than the fenced lawn area. They will provide transportation for patrons planning to "plunge" into Badin Lake at the designated swim area.

Motion to approve amended Stanly County Special Olympics Polar Plunge event application: Chambers
Second: C. Council
Vote: Passed/Unanimous

PUBLIC WORKS:

Eudy reported the following:

- Next limb/brush collection March 4, 2025.
- 3 Loads of brush for February.
- Leaf pickup is ongoing with this being the last scheduled round.
- Christmas pole lights will be ready for pickup next week.

C. Council thanked Eudy for Christmas pole light preparation. Ward thanked public works for cleanup on Lincoln St., and said town motor pool looks good.

POLICE REPORT:

- Chief Smith reported 2,469 calls for service in January.
- Civil issues at one address has cause majority of domestic disturbance and disturbance of the peace calls in January.
- No officer applicants.

Ward said North Carolina restricts parking near painted crosswalks. People are parking at the crosswalk on Boyden St. and children are having trouble seeing before crossing. Ward asked Chief Smith to look at it and see what can be done.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Almond presented financial report ending Feb. 7, 2025. January revenue from property tax, sales & use tax, occupancy tax.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Almond reported the following:

1. Christmas pole lights (11 snowflakes, 11 wreaths) ordered for less than \$12,000 with initial payment to be expensed to FY26 budget, July 2025.
2. Chambers Engineering is in a surveying phase of storm water project scope development. Of seven projects council designated storm water priorities, three require scope development, four involve work beyond in-house expertise. Sustained dry weather will key Thompson Grading to begin approved projects. Scope expected late February, early March.
3. Staff identified picnic table and grill options for Badin Waterfront Park. Almond presented options to council and recommends reviewing additional vendors. Huntley suggested Global, then reported requests for park amenity sponsorship. Rife suggested a website notice of available sponsorship opportunities. Council would like the notice on Facebook and in The Badin Villager. Council consensus is rectangle picnic tables with ADA access.
4. SC Chamber to host annual meeting 6 p.m., Feb. 20 in Magnolia Room.
5. Badin council called a special meeting 6 p.m., Feb. 17, 2025 in Badin Town Hall to meet with contractors.
6. Next Regular Council Meeting 7 p.m. Tues., Mar. 11, 2025 in Badin Town Hall.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Ward said council closed public alleys for people, and town needs to go through the same process for Dockery St. Almond said Dockery St., which the town is already responsible for, was never open and is not funded through Powell Bill. Ward wants draft minutes Friday after the council meeting.

Rife asked Almond if he's heard from NCDOT about Falls Rd. Almond said still waiting.

Chambers thanked Eudy and Public Works Dept. for cleaning up trash on Lincoln St.

C. Council mentioned work needed at the conference center, and that he contacted Laredo for cost estimates to present if anyone wants to fund the work.

Ward said Boyden St. was a disaster for three weeks, and he called a lot of people about it. He said they picked the wrong time, work should have been done in summer. Holes in sidewalks should have been closed within a week. They should have given the town notice before starting. He asked C. Council to bring it up at the TAC meeting.

Huntley reminded council to be mindful we're coming into budget season.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn February 11, 2025 Regular Meeting: C. Council

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes approved March 11, 2025.

Minutes prepared by Amanda Bowers.