

BADIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

January 10, 2023

BADIN TOWN HALL

VISITORS

Liz Lowder, Bonnie Hill, Valerie Tyson, Jenny Henderson, Charles Curcio, Avonda Thomas, Tito Thomas, Beverly Scott, Jody Hopper, Lenora Council, Nancy Vasser, Bridget Huckabee, Larry Milano, Barbara Milano, Christopher Carrothers, Donald Meisel

Council Members Present:

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

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

Bonnie Hill, of 131 Spruce St., requested police officers at the school crosswalk morning and afternoon, and said Badin Elementary is the only school in the county without a school resource officer. Mayor Lowder said the council shares the responsibility and will work on it.

Donald Meisel, of 140 Spruce St., recommended council work on a master plan for Badin and a plan for West Badin School.

Avonda Thomas, of 907 Sherman St., presented documents pertaining to a request for closure of an alley off Roosevelt St.

Bridget Huckabee, of 28 Kirk Place, publishes an online newsletter, “Badin Newsletter.” She is seeking subscribers to receive it in a monthly email. www.badinnewsletter.com

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gary Lowder called the meeting to order.

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE AGENDA

Motion to add 6(a) – Code Enforcement Report: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote Passed/Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve December 13, 2022 Regular Meeting: Council

Second: Huntley

Discussion: Corrections offered; Page 3 of minutes, “pro-tem” was missing from the Mayor Pro-Tem vote tally. Council briefly recessed following mayor and mayor pro-tem election. Ward commented on 4-1 vote record for approval of December 13, 2022 minutes, recalling himself as dissenting, rather than those minutes being approved by unanimous vote.

Council rescinded motion to approve minutes.

Motion to approve December 13, 2022 Regular Meeting pending noted corrections:

Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Stanly County Code Enforcement Officer, Tim Swaringen, presented council with a code enforcement report for January 2023. Public nuisance code cases:

- 14 Cherry St. – Civil penalties issued to tenant
- 16 Cherry St. – Civil penalties issued to tenant
- 18 Cherry St. – Civil penalties issued to tenant
- 321 Washington St. – Obtained contact information for all owners
- 107 Maple St. – Notified owners to board dwelling until violations are abated.
- 32 Hickory St. – Notice sent to owner.
- 323 S. Sumpter St. – Initial site visit complete.

BUSINESS

Council discussed implementation of a mini or “spot” social district at Loafers & Legends. Councilman Council considered whether full width of sidewalk needed inclusion in the district. Mayor Lowder preferred under awning outdoor dining area to side patio only.

Motion to direct Town Manager to create an ordinance to allow social district up to 6 ½ ft. from building face on sidewalk in front of Loafer’s & Legends to the side patio:

Lowder

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council discussed options for deer population control. Wildlife biologist previously said that moving 150 deer will impact population for only approximately 3 years.

Motion to table deer population control options until further information available:

Council

Second: Chambers

Discussion: Ward would like to know how much it would cost to have deer removed.

Almond will check on cost.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council considered a business development grant application of up to \$1,500 from Badin Coffee owner Jack Benoy. Annual application deadline, April 30th. Town has 2 applications.

Motion to hold both applications until after April 30, 2023: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council considered request to close alley off Roosevelt St. A related request brought to council in 2008 died on the table. New request required. Avonda Thomas requested closure of a portion of the Roosevelt St. alley. Council needs more information on how to proceed. A dead-end alley was reportedly closed 20 or more years ago off Chestnut St.

Motion to determine proper steps to move forward legally and consider proceeding:

Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) requested council select 10 of 16 Legislative Advocacy Goals. Each council member chose 10 and Huntley, Badin's NCLM Delegate, will submit the highest tallied votes. Councilman Council suggested town post the goals to ensure public inspection.

Motion to allow Huntley, to vote on the Legislative Advocacy Goals submitted: Ward

Second: Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council committed to develop street name change procedures, and adopted street name change guidelines that are currently under review, and pending amendments. Council will look over ordinance and will vote in February meeting.

Council reviewed qualification documents from 3 firms after advertising for Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) for grant projects. RFQ solicited for architect/engineering firms as well as construction firms. One for each was received. Almond will check with grant administrators to determine if town may accept as submitted or if town must re-advertise.

Motion to accept submittals from SGA/Narmour Wright - Benesch, and Miles-McLellen pending grant administration approval: Chambers

Second: Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

PUBLIC WORKS:

Eudy reported the following:

- Next limb/brush collection will be Feb. 7th.
- 5 Loads of brush collected in Dec.
- 2 Loads of brush collected in Jan.
- Christmas lights have been taken down.
- Gravel base is in Wood St. median. Ready for topsoil.

- Playground mulch delivered to playground in Pine St. Park.
- Leaf truck was down for a week and now rain has caused issues with emptying truck.
- Eudy requested alternate leaf disposal site on town property off of Hwy 740 for use when primary location unusable. Would need to install pipe to cross ditch.

Motion to move forward on alternate dump site off of Hwy 740: Council

Second: Chambers

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Ward mentioned trees growing in Spruce St. ditch.

Motion to start employment process for 2 part-time Public Works laborers: Huntley

Second: Chambers

Discussion: Everyone must be qualified upon hiring with spraying license and CDL/Class B license. Need at least 20 hours per week for each part-time employee.

~~Vote: Passed/Unanimous~~

Vote: Passed/4-1

Aye: Lowder

Aye: Huntley

Aye: Chambers

Aye: Council

Nay: Ward

[Vote record correction unanimously approved by Council in March 14 Regular Council Meeting by motion from Charles Council, seconded by Deloris Chambers].

POLICE REPORT:

Almond shared report from Chief Smith noting 2,206 calls for service in December. Stanly County Sheriff's Deputies covered 456 hours in December.

Huntley said the town needs to work on getting police department staffed.

Ward said Police Chief may need to adjust hours to best serve town and the school needs to be the priority.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Almond presented financial report ending Jan. 6, 2023. December revenue from property tax, sales & use tax, occupancy tax.

Motion to move funds from General Fund checking into an interest bearing account and move into checking as needed: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Ward would like to see the cost of deputy coverage in the police report.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

Almond reported the following:

1. Updates: Wood St. median built, playset relocated to Pine St. Park, storm water.
2. Huntley will attend the Stanly County CVB meeting 8:30 a.m., Jan. 11.
3. Badin Town Council planning session 6:30 p.m., Jan. 11 in Badin Town Hall.
4. Charles Council will attend RPO TAC meeting 6 p.m., Jan. 12 in Albemarle.
5. Badin Planning Board will meet 6 p.m., Jan. 12 in Badin Town Hall.
6. Badin Board of Adjustments will meet 6 p.m., Jan. 26 in Badin Town Hall.
7. Richfield will host the Stanly County Liaison meeting 6:30 p.m., Jan. 31.
8. Town Hall will be closed Jan. 16 in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
9. Huntley, Ward, Council to attend Essentials of Municipal Gov. class Jan. 23-24 in Kannapolis.
10. Next Regular Council Meeting 7 p.m. Tues., Feb. 14, in Badin Town Hall.
11. Badin Town Council will have a planning session 6:30 p.m., Feb. 15.
12. Council will enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(1) to discuss personnel matters pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6).

Motion to enter closed session: Huntley

Second: Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council re-entered regular session.

COUNCIL MINUTE

Ward will be out of town the first week of February.

ADJOURNMENT:

Lowder called for a motion to adjourn the January 10, 2023 regular meeting.

Motion: Ward

Second: Chambers

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes approved February 14, 2023.