

BADIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – REGULAR MEETING

June 11, 2024

BADIN TOWN HALL

VISITORS

Jody Hopper, Gary Rife, Dave Andrews, Jenny Henderson, Lee Snuggs, Sarah Allen, Valerie Tyson, Brenda Goode

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

Jody Hopper reported two broken swings in Pine Street Park.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lowder called the meeting to order.

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE AGENDA

Motion to add 8(a) Discussion to buy a sprayer for Jane Rife: C. Council

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve May 7, 2024 Special Called meeting minutes: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to approve May 14, 2024 Public Hearing minutes: Huntley

Second: C. Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to approve May 14, 2024 Regular meeting minutes: Huntley

Second: C. Council

Discussion: Chambers asked about the Spruce St. parking restriction discussion. Lowder said it was tabled. Ward said some employee comments from the meeting weren't in the minutes.

Almond said the minutes may be revised if the board wishes, and asked if any changes were recommended by council. Hearing none, Mayor Lowder called for a vote.

Vote: 4-1

Aye – Chambers, Lowder, Huntley, C. Council

Nay – Ward

BUSINESS

Motion to adopt Town of Badin Fiscal Year 2025 Ordinance: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

C. Council would like the town to buy a sprayer for Jane Rife to water plants on Falls Rd. Ward said he is for it but need to talk to Jane first to see if she wants one. Almond said it would be like a donation to a 501c3 which is Better Badin, unless the town owned it.

Motion to table sprayer purchase until discussion with Jane Rife: Huntley

Second: C. Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Rocky River Rural Planning Organization (RRRPO) Director Lee Snuggs presented the Stanly County Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) to council. The plan is a forecast updated every 10-15 years. Almond said an Albemarle-Badin-New London CTP was done years ago.

Lowder presented estimates for library repairs. Ward likes option 2: reduce parking lot door size and re-caulk/reseal Pine St. door. Lowder prefers replacing Pine St. door to open outward because a bookshelf partially blocks it. Ward said changing the door could cause issues.

Motion to move forward with quote 2, replacing parking lot door with a smaller one and re-caulk/reseal Pine St. door: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council has three estimates for Spruce St. street paving/repair but have just two for Sherman St.

Motion to table paving Spruce and Sherman streets until receiving three estimates per street:

Huntley

Second: C. Council

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Council discussed the town audit. The former auditor completed the audit but the Local Government Commission (LGC) received it late. That auditor stopped municipal audits, and recommended Strickland-Hardee who contracted with the town for the FY23 audit. They completed on-site audit work, but are delayed in LGC submittal. Town Council and staff received a delay notice from LGC. Almond shared a letter from Nick Wicker of Strickland-Hardee regarding the delay. The letter explains and apologizes for the delay.

Motion to stay where we are for now, and have staff explore other options: Huntley

Second: Chambers

Discussion: Ward asked what if it's not done by June 30. Almond said administration's reporting will increase, but otherwise it's already overdue. C. Council wants to explore other options.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to adopt FY24 budget amendment: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

PUBLIC WORKS:

Almond reported the following:

- Next limb/brush collection July 2nd, 2024.
- Will maintain West Badin Park Friday to prepare for Juneteenth Celebration and will deliver trash cans to the park.
- Land clearing of portion of Spruce St. ditch is complete. Stuart St. clearing is underway.

POLICE REPORT:

- Chief Smith reported 2,584 calls for service in May.
- Chief Smith reported the following:
 - Fleet wash option from Tidal Wave allows five Badin Police vehicles one wash each per day for 365 days for \$948. Officers are currently maintaining town equipment by purchasing cleaning supplies at personal expense and handwashing or using Tidal Wave at personal expense.

Motion to purchase Tidal Wave fleet wash option for 5 vehicles for \$948 per year: C. Council

Second: Huntley

Discussion: Ward asked how it will work into the budget. Almond said Contracted Services.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Almond presented financial report ending June 7, 2024. May revenue from property tax, sales & use tax, occupancy tax.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Almond reported the following:

1. Huntley will attend SC CVB meeting 8 a.m. Wed. June 12. Almond asked Huntley to invite new CVB director to July meeting.
2. New park signage for West Badin Park and Pine Street Park will soon be posted.
3. Land clearing at Spruce St. ditch and Stuart St. (NC740 to Marion St.) June 10-12. Stuart St. to close 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. each day. Eudy said clearing may extend to Thursday.
4. Cedar, Cherry, and Jackson streets require code enforcement attention.
5. Spruce, Sherman, Grant, Boyden, and Nantahala streets tree and sidewalk work for FY25 need prioritization. FY24 work on Spruce and Willow Streets is complete.
6. As previously stated by council and staff, Badin Conference Center meeting hall requires an additional HVAC unit, which contingency funds will cover. Ward said it was brought up before. He asked for, and received quotes, but saw no unit tonnage. Lowder said another unit was the only option and suggested a special meeting June 25 to discuss conference center and code enforcement. Lowder wants to invite contractors and Code Enforcement Officer, Tim Swaringen.
7. Next Regular Council Meeting is 7 p.m. Tues., July 9, 2024 in Badin Town Hall.
8. Council will host a special meeting 7 p.m. June 25 with Badin Conference Center construction manager and Code Enforcement Officer Tim Swaringen.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

C. Council brought up unfinished Falls Rd. NCDOT project. RRRPO Director, Lee Snuggs intends to help with the issue.

Chambers said something has to be done about boarded houses on Washington, Grant and Lincoln streets. C. Council asked if the town attorney could address property owners. Almond will check. Ward asked for a list of property owners and case files for those properties.

Lowder said they need to have a meeting on decisions for code enforcement locations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn May 14, 2024 Regular Meeting: Huntley

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes approved July 9, 2024.

Minutes prepared by Amanda Bowers.