

Minutes of the Meeting of  
The Town Board of Commissioners  
Town of Hamilton, NC  
April 3, 2025

The Board of Commissioners of the Town of Hamilton met in a regular meeting on Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025, at 07:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 109 North Front Street Hamilton NC 27840.

**PRESENT**                    **Mayor:** Ervin Williams.

**Commissioners:** William Freeman, Edgar Taylor, Brandon Raynor, Larry Jackson

**Town Clerk & Finance Officer:** Allison Roebuck; Glinda Fox

**ABSENT:** Tameka Council

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams, the prayer was given by Commissioner Raynor. The pledge was recited by all.

**Approval of the agenda or Adjustments to agenda**

Mayor Williams asked if there were any adjustments to the agenda or if the Board wished to remove or add them to the agenda. Mayor Williams noted the minutes to be approved were for March 6, 2025, not March 5, 2025. Commissioner Raynor asked to have the Leash Law added to Old Business.

**Motion to approve the agenda without adjustments was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Jackson. *Motion carried 4-0.***

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion to approve the minutes from March 6, 2025 meeting made by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Freeman. *Motion carried 4-0.***

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Amanda Boyce – EIC Step Up Program Graduation

Amanda Boyce stated that she and Kenya Pittman were working to have a graduation for the children in the Step-Up Program which is not funded by EIC. There are 38 children and 4 of them are autistic. They expect 100 people to attend graduation. The diplomas are expected to cost \$200; the bounce house will be \$150; and the food for those in attendance and graduating kid's gifts will probably cost around \$500. Thus far they have received \$120 in donations. The goal is to raise \$1,200 for the Step-Up graduation. The Mayor stated they would decide later. The event will be held May 24, 2025, at 10 a.m.

Patricia Moring – Rosenwald School; Baptist Home; and Car Left sitting on Town Property

Patricia Moring asked for the status the Rosenwald School and the Baptist Home. The Mayor stated the committee will have to receive a letter from the registry since they are on the National Registry of Historic Places for the Rosenwald School before work could go forward on renovation. There is a group from Bertie County working on a plan to move forward on the old Baptist Home. They will have to determine if rehabilitation or tearing down the old building is the best way to go. Ms. Moring asked about the car which was still parked alongside the road. Commissioner Raynor stated they would contact the owner of the car to move it as they have done in the past.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Dilapidated Properties Update**

Commissioner Taylor has been in touch with the County Building Inspector. A registered letter was sent to Brandon Goss about his property at 306 W. Main Street and he has received it. There has been a sign placed on the property and a public hearing is the next step. A notice of the hearing will appear in the local paper on April 10, 2025. Mayor Williams stated that the notice should also be published in the paper where Brandon Goss lives.

It was moved by Commissioner Raynor, seconded by Commissioner Taylor to set a public hearing for Thursday, May 1, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. for the dilapidated property at 306 W. Main Street. The motion was approved 4-0.

### **Town Hall Generator**

The Mayor reported that he has spoken to Brady with Piedmont about getting the generator hooked up to natural gas through Piedmont Gas. Brady anticipates they will begin work on Friday, April 10, 2025. The Mayor has also expressed an interest in having the Lynch Center set up with natural gas as well.

### **Cameras**

Commissioner Raynor presented quotes for 2 brands of cameras for Town Hall and the Public Works shop. Arlos and Blink are both having a ½ off sale on Amazon for the cameras for a undetermined period of time. Seven Arlo cameras would be \$343 and 6 Blink cameras would be \$479.

**Commissioner Raynor made a motion to purchase the Arlos cameras if they are still half off in price. Commissioner Freeman seconded the motion. *Motion carried 4-0.***

### **Maintenance Fencing Quotes**

It was the consensus of the board to table the decision on maintenance fences which is currently quoted at \$1,800.

## **SERCAP meeting with Randy Welch**

Mayor Williams stated that Randy Welch with SERCAP has requested a meeting in person or by Zoom with the board. The board agreed to meet with him on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 6:00 p.m., preferably by Zoom.

## **Leash Law Discussion**

Commissioner Raynor has reached out to the town's attorney, Lynn Coleman about the best way to move forward in enforcing the leash law in the town. A civil penalty of \$25 could be levied against the owner for each dog who was not on a leash. There is an option to take to small claims court but the cost of an attorney may not be in the town's best interest. He suggested that residents could call animal control if they see dogs unleashed. The sheriff's department could become involved. If this does not correct the problem, Commissioner Raynor said the board could decide at that time how to go forward.

## **Proposal Granville Farms, Inc**

It was the consensus of the board to delay a decision on Granville Farms for sludge removal until the budget could be reviewed.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Flowcon Proposal for Problem Valve at Water Tank**

William Freeman explained that if there was an emergency in which the town needed to shut down the water from the water tank, the town would have to dig down to shut off the flow. The old shut off stem has broken off. Flowcon can go in and put in a cut-in valve to allow immediate cut-off. It must be done to ensure the ability to do this. It has been broken for a month. The cost of the cut-in valve is \$8,350.

**It was moved by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Commissioner Jackson to approve the purchase of a cut-in valve from Flowcon in the amount of \$8,350. *Motion carried 4-0.***

### **Cemetery Trimming Quotes**

The Mayor presented the quotes from three lawn care services to trim the cemetery every two weeks. Wilson Lawn Care - \$350 bi-weekly or \$700 a month; Higgs Lawn Service - \$425 every two weeks or \$850 per month; J. A. Bryant Groundskeeping - \$2,100 per month.

**Commissioner Raynor made a motion to hire Wilson Lawn Care subject to them having insurance. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Taylor. *Motion carried 4-0.***

## **Board Sets Budget Workshop**

The Board scheduled a budget workshop meeting for Thursday, May 8, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

## **FINANCIALS/BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

### **Financials Reports**

Brandon Raynor asked for clarification on a section of the reports. Allison Roebuck is going to talk to FMS and try to determine what that section means.

***Motion to approve the financials as submitted by the Finance Officer by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Jackson. Motion carried 4-0.***

### **REPORTS**

Commissioner Jackson had no report.

Commissioner Raynor reported that noise complaints from homes are being addressed. He is looking into trash can ordinances in place in other towns.

Commissioner Taylor reported a customer had a leak for 2 consecutive months and his 1<sup>st</sup> month was adjusted. He has asked if the 2<sup>nd</sup> month could also be adjusted. Staff believed there was only 1 adjustment allowed per year. However, the policy does allow for 2 adjustments per year.

Commissioner Freeman noted that East Waldo is not a very wide street. There has been parking on both sides of the street, and he asked that the Town put No Parking signs on both sides of the street all the way down and on Railroad Street as well.

***It was moved by Commissioner Freeman and seconded by Commissioner Jackson to have No Parking signs put on East Waldo and Railroad Street. Motion carried 4-0.***

Mayor Williams stated that the rail for the little bridge down at the Wildlife Landing will be fixed in the next couple of months. Brady with Piedmont Gas has said the infrastructure will be put in place for gas by next Friday. There hasn't been any response from attorney Coleman on the bank account holding a cemetery endowment for upkeep of grave sites. Mayor Williams, Commissioners Freeman and Commissioner Jackson attended the Industry Appreciation dinner with Lee Lilley as the speaker from the NC Department of Commerce. Mid-East is having their 58<sup>th</sup> annual dinner on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$25 each. The mayors' quarterly meeting was held on March 24<sup>th</sup> with John Tayloe and Kim Mac from Dr. Davis's office speaking. He had the opportunity to ask about the status of Hamilton's needs. We are setting up an in-person or zoom meeting with Greg Finn with Electricities on May 19, 2025 at 6:30. Details will be announced later.

### **MOTION TO ADJOURN**

***Mayor Williams entertained a motion to adjourn if there is no other business to cover at this time.***

***Motion to adjourn made by Commissioner Freeman, seconded by Commissioner Raynor.  
Motion carried 4-0 at 10:10 p.m.***

Submitted By:

Approved by:

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Allison Roebuck, Town Clerk & Finance Officer

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Ervin Williams, Mayor

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