

**YANCEYVILLE TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
Tuesday August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 PM**

The meeting of the Town Council was held remotely in the Council Chambers at the Yanceyville Municipal Services Building and due to COVID-19 the meeting was also conducted electronically through Zoom on Tuesday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 PM.

**Council Members present in person:** Mayor- Alvin Foster, Keith Tatum, and Brian Massey

**Council Members present electronically:** Mayor Pro Tem- Odessa Gwynn and Margie Badgett-Lampkin

**Staff present in person:** Town Manager- Brian Collie and Town Attorney- Lee Farmer

**Staff present electronically:** Town Clerk- Kamara Graves, Code Enforcer Bradley Davis

**Item 1: Call to Order**

Mayor Alvin Foster called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:00 PM. The meeting opened with a prayer. He asked all to stand for the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Foster also stated that the Yanceyville Town Council rules and procedures reflect the revisions of the North Carolina open meeting law of the North Carolina General Statutes, a copy of the Yanceyville Town Council rules and procedures are available upon request. Yanceyville Town Council also has rules and procedures for electronic meetings that reflect the revisions of the North Carolina open meeting law of the North Carolina General Statutes, a copy of the Yanceyville Town Council rules and procedures are available upon request.

**Item 2: Review and Adoption of Agenda – Mayor & Council**

Mayor Foster added COVID- 19 Relief Fund Plan to the Agenda between items four and five. After a short review, Councilwoman Badgett-Lampkin made a motion to adopt the Agenda with said amendments. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn and passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item 3: Consent Agenda**

a.) Minutes from July 7<sup>th</sup> 2020 Town Council Meeting-

Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn noted that the meeting minutes from June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020 regarding the Resolution surrounding the events of George Floyd should be more detailed stating that “g.) That all forms of racism, prejudice, and bigotry are condemned” should also include that a Town Council Retreat will be scheduled to discuss statement.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council to review the Consent Agenda. After a short review and discussion, Councilman Tatum made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda with said amendment. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed a unanimous vote.

#### **Item 4: Public Comments**

Mayor Foster read aloud a Public Comment sent via from Charles Harrison Blackwell P.O. Box 766, Yanceyville, NC 27379 to Town Council.

This e-mail is to inform you of efforts being made by Concerned Citizens of Caswell County to convince the County's Board of Commissioners to remove the Confederate Soldier from the public square in front of the Historic Courthouse. I am aware that the statue is owned by the County and that the Town of Yanceyville has no legal authority concerning its status. However, I feel that the Town's governance over matters impacting the greater community places it in a unique position to exercise its influence in addressing issues such as this. In your official capacity, I respectfully request that the Town Council endorse our efforts to have the statue removed and to do so in the form of a letter to the Board of County Commissioners.

In wake of the civil strife in our country in the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd, I feel that there is no better time than now to have serious discussions to address the desire of many citizen to dismantle and remove the statute from the Square. Any monument that depicts white supremacy and promotes the systemic racism that continues to plague our society belongs in history books and museums and not as glorified monument in public places.

Having returned to the County after being gone 50 years, I see that some progress has been made in race relations. However, I know that we can do more in accomplishing even greater social and economic progress in the future. That progress will only be impeded as long as a symbol such as the Confederate Soldier is allowed to reside in such a prominent place. The monument's current location is no longer appropriate and it should be peacefully dismantled and removed from the Square. This action will not represent in an "erasing of history", but rather, will place it in a more appropriate place and place it in a more appropriate context.

I am thanking you in advance for your immediate attention to this matter.

#### **Item 4a: COVID -19 Relief Fund Plan**

Town Manager Collie explained that Caswell County received funding from the CARES Act. He added that the County has to distribute 25% of the funding to each Municipality. Town Manager Collie explained that the Town of Yanceyville has been allocated \$200,989 from the County. He explained that uses for the funding are very specific and the Town will need to submit a spending plan to the County for approval by September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020. He explained that the spending plan is simply a rough draft and can be

changed. He indicated that the Town would need to spend the funding by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. Town Manager Collie explained that the Town would need to acknowledge participation in the plan. He added that the Wi-Fi project, and technology to help the Town with electronic meetings are a part of the plan at this time.

After a lengthy discussion, Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a motion approve the COVID- 19 Relief Fund Plan. The motion was seconded by Mayor Foster and passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item 5: WI-FI Project Update- Brooks Networking**

Town Manager Collie introduced Mr. Steve Brooks, Brooks Networking to Town Council. He explained that the Town of Yanceyville has been working with Mr. Brooks for a while on the WIFI project. Mr. Brooks stated that COVID- 19 has slowed the progression of this project. He noted that he has been in contact with Ms. Perry Supervisor for Field and Team of Duke Progress Energy working to complete a plan to move forward with the project. He stated they are discussing whether the WI-FI will be poll based or underground due to certain requirements. He explained that he will continue to work on the project and update Town Manager Collie accordingly. Mayor Foster thanked Mr. Brooks for his time and efforts on the project.

**Item 6: Public Hearing- Discuss and Consider Conditional Zoning District Petition**

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to convene to Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made the motion to convene to Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum and passed with a unanimous vote.

Town Manager Collie explained that the Town received a Conditional Zoning District Request. He noted that the Town added the ability to have Conditional Zoning District into the Zoning Ordinance May 2019 with the re-adoption of the Town of Yanceyville Zoning Ordinance. Town Manager Collie noted that the State statute requires that the application be reviewed by the Yanceyville Planning Board, the Town must hold a Community Information meeting after contacting adjacent property owners, and then a Public Hearing will need to take place before Town Council can make a decision. He explained that the Community Meeting will take place tonight after the Town Council Meeting for the adjacent property owners to address concerns.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to recess the Public Hearing until Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7pm. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made the motion to recess the Public Hearing until the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7pm. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with a unanimous.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to go out of Public Hearing. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to go out of Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to reconvene to Regular Session. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to reconvene to Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item 7: Sheriff Department Interlocal Agreement Amendment**

Town Manager Collie updated Town Council on the Sheriff's Department Interlocal Agreement. He explained that the Caswell County Board of Commissioners voted to amend the INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CASWELL COUNTY, SHERIFF TONY DURDEN, AND THE TOWN OF YANCEYVILLE, NC stating that as long as the Town of Yanceyville furnishes the funds the position of an additional law enforcement officer to provide services inside the incorporated area of Yanceyville will be kept.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to approve the amendment to the INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CASWELL COUNTY, SHERIFF TONY DURDEN, AND THE TOWN OF YANCEYVILLE, NC stating that as long as the Town of Yanceyville furnishes the funds the position of an additional law enforcement officer to provide services inside the incorporated area of Yanceyville will be kept. The motion was seconded by Mayor Foster and passed with a unanimous vote

**Item 8: Caswell Economic Development Commission- Town of Yanceyville Appointment**

Mayor Foster explained that the Economic Development Commission of Caswell consists of three members from each Municipality Yanceyville and Milton and Caswell County. The terms of the EDC members are staggered (one- year, two- year, and three- year terms). For the Town of Yanceyville Mayor Alvin Foster holds the one-year term, Ms. Ruby Graves holds the two-year term, and Mr. Anthony Smith holds the three-year term. Mayor Foster added that he holds the position of Chairman and Ms. Graves holds the position of Vice Chairwoman and would like to be re-appointed to serve on the Caswell EDC on the behalf of the Town of Yanceyville

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion that Mayor Alvin Foster and Ms. Ruby Graves be re-appointed to serve on the Caswell EDC on behalf of the Town of Yanceyville. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with a unanimous vote.

**Item 9: Personnel Policy Amendment**

Town Manager Collie recommended that the Town of Yanceyville Personnel Policy on page 66 under Vacation Leave specifically state: The maximum amount of accumulated leave an employee may have on January 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year will be 30 days (240 hours). Hours remaining over 30 days (240 hours) after January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year shall roll-over into the employees Sick Leave.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a made a motion to amend the Town of Yanceyville Personnel Policy on page 66 under Vacation time to specifically state: The maximum amount of accumulated leave an employee may have on January 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year will be 30 days (240 hours). Hours remaining over 30 days (240 hours) after January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year shall roll-over into the employees Sick Leave. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **Item 10: Parking Signs Discussion**

Town Manager Collie ask Town Council to review the example of the of the signage in the Agenda Packet with specific time limits Monday -Friday 8:30am-5:30pm, Two-Hour Parking. He explained that after receiving several letters from concerned property owners Town Council decided to move forward with placing signage around the Square specifically the Northeast side. Mayor Foster asked if the signage should cover the entire Court Square? Attorney Farmer replied that signage does not have to be uniformed. Town Council agreed do a trial run in the problem area at this point and in the future if other areas have issues signage would follow. Councilman Massey explained that the signage could cause parking issues for the Yanceyville Fire Department Volunteers.

After a short discussion, Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Massey made a motion that Two-Hour Parking with specific time limits Monday -Friday 8:30am-5:30pm signage be placed on the Northeast side of the square and no parking in the Yanceyville Fire Department Parking Lot that could hinder Emergency Vehicles or Volunteers from exiting in case of an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn and passed with a unanimous vote.

#### **Item 11: Board of Elections Request**

Town Manager Collie explained that he received an email from the Director of the Caswell County Board of Elections, Robert Webb requesting the use of Municipal Services Building (Town Hall) as an Early Voting Secondary Emergency Space (due to Covid-19). He added that Early Voting begins October 15<sup>th</sup> - October 31<sup>st</sup>. Town Manager Collie indicated that Mr. Webb and the Caswell Board of Elections Staff would adhere to the State's social distance requirements and they will also furnish face mask, gloves, hand sanitizer, etc.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a made a motion to allow the Caswell County Board of Elections to use the of Municipal Services Building (Town Hall) as an Early Voting Secondary Emergency Space (due to Covid-19). The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn and passed with a unanimous vote.

### **Item 12: Town Memorial Monument Discussion**

Mayor Foster stated that Town Staff along with himself have been gathering information on the Town Memorial Monument statues. He indicated that the quote received from the same company that the Veterans Memorial Committee used was astronomical approximately \$70,000. He explained that Staff Town and himself will continue to seek quotes from other companies and will update Town Council as information is received.

### **Item 13: Mayor Updates- Alvin Foster**

Mayor Foster announced that the Virtual Meeting with TROSA will take place on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 10am through the Zoom Application. He added that if anyone needed the login information to please let him know.

Mayor Foster also updated Town Council on the 2020 Census. He urged everyone to complete the Census and spread the word. He indicated that Caswell County and Yanceyville are below the State average of 60%.

### **Item 14: Town Attorney Report- Lee Farmer**

Town Attorney Farmer expressed concerned about the recent discussion of the Caswell County Board of Commissioners to allow bank fishing and the launching of kayaks and canoes by lake property owners from their properties which join Farmer Lake. He explained that Farmer Lake is Class C watershed lake with limited recreation. He explained that Farmer lake is the main source of water for the Town of Yanceyville and water, quality has to be a priority. Significant increases in recreational activities could adversely impact water quality and the Yanceyville water supply. Town Attorney Farmer recommends that the North Carolina Division of Water Resources be contacted in reference to the recent discussion. Mayor Foster stated that he will be attending the next Caswell County Board of Commissioners meeting during public comment to speak on his behalf about the importance of water quality of Farmer Lake.

Town Attorney Farmer explained that he received notification from the District Attorney requesting the use of Municipal Services Building (Town Hall) Town Council Chamber to conduct a Superior Court Case proceeding in February 2021. Town Attorney Farmer added that he explained to the Caswell County Court System that they would be responsible for any janitorial needs and security during the time of the trial at Town Hall. Town Attorney Farmer indicated that the Caswell County Court Staff would adhere to the State's social distance requirements regarding COVID-19. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn addressed that she had concerns with the safety of Town Staff in regards to COVID-19.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Tatum made a made a motion to allow the Caswell County Court System to utilize Town Hall to conduct the Superior Court Case Proceedings in February 2021. He added that they will be responsible for all janitorial needs and security during the trial as well as following social

distance requirement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Massey and passed with four to one vote. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn opposed.

**Item 15: Town Manager Report- Brian Collie**

Town Manager Collie updated Town Council on the Maud Gatewood Park. He explained that the walking trail and the parking lot of the park needed to be resealed. He indicated that he had received an estimate for \$15,425. He explained that \$6,500 was set aside in the budget to complete such projects. He recommended that the walking and parking lot be resealed. He explained to Town Council that a Budget Amendment would have to take place in order to move forward with then project. Town Council directed Town Manager Collie to seek a second quote and report back to Town Council on findings.

Town Manager Collie updated Town Council on Verizon Wireless collocating an antenna on the Town's Water Tank. He stated that they would reconsider locating at a later date.

Town Manager Collie announced that the Town of Yanceyville Public Works Department has a job opening for Maintenance Technician. The job description is located on the Town of Yanceyville website and will also be posted in the newspaper. He also announced that the Public Work Director will be retiring in October and that position will also be posted.

**Item 16: Closed Session- G.S. 149-318.11 Attorney / Client and Real Estate**

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion. Councilman Massey made a motion to go into Closed Session General Statutes 143-318.11 Attorney/Client and Real Estate. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn and passed with a unanimous vote.

After Town Council returned from Closed Session, Mayor Foster asked for a Town Council motion to come out of Closed Session. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to come out of Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mayor Foster and passed with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to go back into Regular Session. Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn motion to go back to into Regular Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tatum and passed with a unanimous vote.

Mayor Foster noted that while in Closed Session Town Council doesn't have any information to present at this time.

**Item 17: Informal Discussion/ Public Comment** – Discussion & Comments must directly relate to agenda items

Mayor Foster stated that the Public Comment from Mr. Blackwell would be addressed at the Recessed meeting on August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Item 18: Recess Meeting Until August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7:00pm**

Mayor Foster asked Town Council for a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting until Tuesday August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 7 pm. After no further discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Gwynn made a motion to recess the Town Council Meeting until August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020at 7pm. Councilman Tatum seconded the motion that passed with a unanimous vote.

*Kamara Graves, Town Clerk prepared the above minutes. They represent a brief description of those matters that were addressed at this meeting*

Respectively Submitted:

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Alvin Foster, Mayor

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Kamara Graves, Town Clerk