

MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 3, 2023 AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT MIDWAY TOWN HALL, 426 GUMTREE ROAD, MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Byrum called the meeting to order.

Mayor Byrum gave the invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance prior to the opening gavel.

Councilors present were: John Byrum, Keith Leonard, Mike McAlpine, Jackie Edwards Berkley Alcorn, and Robin Moon. Absent: None. Town Manager Tammy Michael, Town Clerk Linda Hunt, and Town Attorney Jim Lanik were present.

Each Councilor had been furnished an agenda prior to the meeting.

There were no members of the press in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by Councilor Robin Moon, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2022 regular meeting as presented.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Mr. Blake Zobrist of 1355 Country Lane in Midway addressed Council regarding his continued concerns about speeding problems along his area on Country Lane. Mr. Zobrist told Council he has spoken with a traffic engineer at NCDOT and basically, he was told there was nothing else that DOT could do. He has also talked to Davidson County Parks and Recreation about things in general but also about the park. He has talked to the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department where he works in Harrisburg and to Guilford County with regards to how speed enforcement is carried out by their deputies. However, the biggest conversation he had was with Corporal Chris Azelton with the Davidson County Sheriff's Office. He sat in Corporal Azelton's office for about two hours in December talking about a number of concerns and Corporal Azelton educated him a lot on protocols. To address the speeding complaints, the Sheriff's Department put up a temporary sign that collected traffic and speed data. Corporal Azelton advised him that the data collected showed that from 6 to 8 at night was the busiest time for speeders. It also recorded drivers going 70 miles per hour with most of those being between 2 and 3 a.m. Mr. Zobrist said he also learned that not all deputies are qualified to run radar as patrolling is just a small part of the Sheriff's Department. Corporal Azelton told Mr. Zobrist the Highway Patrol is qualified in radar detection and primarily does speed enforcement. In their discussion, Corporal Azelton advised him there are digital radar speed signs that can be purchased that alerts drivers of their speed and also collects data that the Sheriff's Department could access to analyze. In other words, use technology to not waste time. Corporal Azelton informed him the Town would need to purchase those signs. Mr. Zobrist said Corporal Azelton was going to work on the pricing of the signs, but it doesn't sound like it is something that is going to be too expensive. Corporal Azelton also informed him another possibility would be for the Town to contract with the Sheriff's office to hire a deputy who would be assigned to specifically patrol the area. Cost for the deputy would be \$30 an hour for a minimum of three hours. Mr. Zobrist suggested that would possibly be an option to do once a month, saying \$90.00 a month is fairly inexpensive. The deputy could issue warnings to speeders but if the speed is excessive, a ticket could be issued. The presence of a deputy would just be a warning to drivers that they are being watched. Mr. Zobrist commented that the Highway Patrol is extremely understaffed and it is the Sheriff's Department that has to step up. Mr. Zobrist said that this has been going on now for seven months and there is data to prove there is a speeding problem in that area. He has been talking to many different people asking how the

problem can be resolved and those are two possible solutions within the Town limits. He added that Cabarrus County has a set budget for hours of patrol in the Town of Harrisburg and they actually have a specific car marked with “Harrisburg Patrol” on it. They are just responsible for patrolling whereas, the Davidson County Sheriff’s Department responds to calls as well. He said that Council wouldn’t need to go to that extent but maybe in the future in budget meetings, Council could consider setting some funds aside for something like that. In conclusion, Mr. Zobrist said that in speaking to other people in Midway he knows speeding isn’t just limited to Country Lane. People complain about Gumtree Road also. Mr. Zobrist commented that the deputy wouldn’t have to just sit on Country Lane all the time but could patrol other areas in Midway as well.

ADOPT AGENDA

Town Manager Tammy Michael requested the agenda be amended to delete Item 2. Grant Request from Oak Grove Middle School for Zero-Turn Lawnmower under VI. REGULAR BUSINESS from the agenda.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to adopt the agenda as amended.

REGULAR BUSINESS

GRANT REQUEST – OAK GROVE MIDDLE SCHOOL – ZERO-TURN LAWNMOWER

This item was removed from the agenda.

DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATE – NORTH CAROLINA LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES – 2023-2024 BIENNIUM LEGISLATIVE GOALS

The League’s member-driven legislative goals development process coincides with the start of each new legislative biennium. During even-numbered years, members come together to submit their legislative goals and priorities. Over the last few months, the Legislative Policy Committee has been considering these ideas and presented its recommendation in December. The Board will refine the position further before sending them to the full League membership for a final vote. After the final voting period closes, cities and towns will have a focused advocacy agenda to pursue at the state and federal levels.

Each member municipality is eligible to cast a single vote in this goal setting process. Each member municipality shall designate one voting delegate who is responsible for casting the municipality’s vote. Voting delegates must be designated by Thursday, January 12, 2023.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Berkley Alcorn, Council voted unanimously to designate Councilor Robin Moon as the Town of Midway voting delegate.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORTS

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Town Manager Tammy Michael provided Council with monthly financial reports for December 2022 as follows:

DECEMBER 2022		
Total Income	\$1,255,538	73.3% of overall budget
Total Expenses	\$1,971,356	43.6% of overall budget

For information only.

TOWN PARK UPDATE

1. SHELTER & GAZEBO & WALKING TRAIL

- Gazebo – Landscaping (weather permitting)
- Shelter – 95% complete
 - Electrical and grading projects nearing completion
- Preliminary punch list on hold until above projects completed

- Duke Energy – Mayor Pro Tem McAlpine working with representatives
- KNC – Security will be installed once lighting project completed
- Architects beginning the process of cohesive signage for the park
- Walking trail will be repaired once shelter project completed
- Furnishing selection and ordering process to begin this month (January)
- Additional benches will be ordered this month (January)

For information only.

PLANNING BOARD ACTIONS REPORT

Town Manager Tammy Michael reported the following actions taken by the Planning Board at its meeting on December 13, 2022:

- a. Approval of Ice Vending Machine to be located at 183 Hickory Tree Road in the Midway Commons Shopping Center - IceChoice LLC (Located in the Core Commercial Overlay District - CCOD)
- b. Approval of Sign for NC Custom Sheds & Fences located at 11064 Old US Highway 52 (Located in the Core Commercial Overlay District – CCOD)

For information only.

SET DATE FOR VISION SESSION

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council set Thursday, February 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. for the Vision Session to be held at Town Hall, 426 Gumtree Road in Midway.

REMINDER – TOWN HALL CLOSED IN OBSERVANCE OF HOLIDAY

Town Hall will be closed on Monday, January 16, 2023 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
Reminder only.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

John E. Byrum, Mayor

Linda A. Hunt, Town Clerk