

**MINUTES OF MIDWAY TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON JULY 8, 2024,
AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT MIDWAY TOWN HALL, 426 GUMTREE
ROAD, MIDWAY, NORTH CAROLINA**

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLGIANCE

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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor John Byrum called the meeting to order.

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

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 Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2024 Regular Town Council meeting as presented.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Blake Zobrist – 1355 Country Lane Winston Salem, NC – Mr. Zobrist said he is speaking on the same topic he has talked to Council many times before regarding public safety.

Mr. Zobrist said he understands that a Midway Police Department is out of reach but at Council's discretion, the Town could hire an off-duty Sheriff's deputy the same as hiring a deputy for a parade for a minimum of three hours of service. He said Sgt. Azelton had brought information to Council about purchasing a radar speed sign to move around Town but that only controls speeding, and Council pushed that to the side. Mr. Zobrist said there are little things that can be done to increase public safety in the Town. He gave several examples of criminal activity that is and has gone on in the Town. He said he does not agree with how the Sheriff's office is doing in Midway but understands their hands are tied by regulations. Mr. Zobrist said he cannot control the County, but he is worried about Midway; he is worried about Country Lane; and he is worried about his family. He said he has no problem helping. He wants this Town to grow but if the Town can raise the money to build the awesome park, the Town could spend a few hundred dollars in discretionary money for crime control. If a problem arises, the Town could call the Sheriff's Department and request additional help. He said he would fill out the paperwork if necessary. He would even fund the money, but he understands that using private funds gets a little tricky. He said he would even form an LLC and be insured, and he could do it. He said he is close to doing that. He said he would spend his own money to do it although he already pays taxes. Mr. Zobrist said that if Council tells him to do it, then he will do it. He said little things can be done but doing nothing is not good.

Deran Wyatt – 355 Fishel Road Winston Salem, NC – Mr. Wyatt said there seems to be an issue with the bathrooms at the Town Park. He said the bathrooms are locked in the mornings usually from 6:00am to 9:00am. He stated with this heat a person needs to stay hydrated when they are walking but that is hard to do when the bathrooms are locked. Mr. Wyatt said there seems to be an easy fix by closing one and keeping the other one open. He said this is a beautiful park and it needs to be kept that way. Mr. Wyatt stated this is his first time coming to a Town Council meeting and speaking and appreciates the Council listening to him.

Mayor John Byrum thanked Mr. Wyatt for letting the Council know about this situation. Mayor Byrum stated there will be a conversation tonight to get this rectified.

ADOPT AGENDA

Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine said the agenda needs to be amended to delete Item 1. Contract – Chris Sink Hauling and Grading Inc. – Parking Lot Addition under VII. Regular Business.

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

CONTRACT – CHRIS SINK HAULING AND GRADING INC. – PARKING LOT ADDITION

This item was deleted.

CANNON AND COMPANY – ACCOUNTING SERVICES

Town Attorney Jim Lanik has reviewed and approved the Contract with Cannon and Company.

The Accounting Department at Cannon and Company is changing all contracts to be on a calendar year basis; therefore, this contract period is from July 2024 to December 2025. The fee for accounting services has increased from \$1,000 per month to \$1,350 per month due to the additional services provided for the Town Park.

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Berkley Alcorn, Council voted unanimously to approve the Contract for Cannon and Company as presented.

DISCUSSION – INCREASE TOWN CREDIT CARD LIMIT – FIRST NATIONAL BANK

Mayor Pro Tem stated the Town's credit card limit was temporarily raised to \$50,000.00 once before for special projects for the park. After the special projects were completed the credit card limit was decreased to the original amount of \$5,000. With the construction of the new parking lot addition the credit card limit needs to be increased again.

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to approve the temporary increase to the credit card limit with First National Bank to \$50,000.00.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TOWN PARK UPDATE

Mayor Pro Tem McAlpine stated the Park seems to be running very well. Other than needing rain everything is looking good.

Mayor Pro Tem McAlpine said Wallburg is having their 20-year Celebration being incorporated, they were incorporated in 2004 and he wanted to inform Council that we are not too far behind them. We have been incorporated since 2006 so we might want to think about our celebration.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

Town Clerk Linda Hunt provided Council with monthly financial reports for June 2024 as follows:

June 2024

Total Income	\$2,424,754	124.8% of overall budget
Total Expenses	\$1,258,101	39.4% of overall budget

SET DATE FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS SOCIAL

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Jackie Edwards, Council voted unanimously to set Thursday, August 29, 2024 at 6:00pm for the Elected Officials Social to be held at Statler Heights located at 848 Hebron Church Road in Midway.

RIBBON CUTTING YADKIN RIVER PARK/WIL-COX BRIDGE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The Ribbon Cutting for the Yadkin River Park/Wil-Cox Bridge Centennial Celebration will be held on Friday September 24, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. at the park that is located off Exit 84 on I-85. Council was asked to let Deputy Clerk Ree Smith know if they would like to attend and she would respond to the County for them.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

On motion by Councilor Keith Leonard, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council voted unanimously to enter into Closed Session in accordance with N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss matters pertaining to personnel.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

On motion by Mayor Pro Tem Mike McAlpine, seconded by Councilor Keith Leonard, Council voted unanimously to reconvene to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilor Jackie Edwards, seconded by Councilor Robin Moon, Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

John Byrum, Mayor

Ree Goodson, Deputy Town Clerk