

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 8, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Eastover Community Center**

**x☐ Mayor Pro Tem Cheryl C. Hudson, Presiding.
Council Members: x☐ J. Lawrence Buffaloe,
x☐ M. Stan Crumpler, x☐ Bruce R. Sykes, x☐ Kimberly F. McPhail,
and ☐ C. Brian Pearce**

MINUTES OF MEETING – November 8, 2022

Mayor Pro Tem Cheryl Hudson, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, Bruce R. Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the November 8, 2022, Eastover Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Mayor Charles G. McLaurin and Council Member C. Brian Pearce were absent from the meeting; however, they provided a written waiver of notice prior to the November 8, 2022, Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance were Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney, Mr. Ronald Autry, Town Administrator and Ms. Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Pro Tem Cheryl Hudson called the November 8, 2022, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member Bruce Sykes gave the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Pro Tem Cheryl Hudson asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the agenda as stated.

Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the agenda as stated. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was 5-0 for approval.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Herman Britt, Tom Geddie Road, and Deputy Ross Green signed up to speak.

Mr. Herman Britt informed the Council that there is an issue with blue bags containing papers. He stated they were all over people's yards and it looks like littering. He asked the Council to investigate this matter and come up with a solution to have this stopped.

Deputy Ross Green addressed the Council. He told them that there is a growing issue with the hotels in the Town of Eastover. He stated that he arranged a task force to go to the OYO hotel. Deputy Green said that there were several issues: suspicious vehicles, stolen vehicles, drug paraphernalia, and several other matters.

Deputy Green presented a call report to the Council showing several times a month Deputies are called out to these hotels for various reasons. He wanted to bring this matter to their attention and let them know that it is becoming an issue.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consider approval of the Town Council Meeting Minutes for the October 11, 2022, Meeting. See Exhibit A.**
- 2. Consider approval of the September 2022 Financial Reports. See Exhibit B.**
- 3. Public Hearing Meeting November 22, 2022, at 7pm**

Mayor Pro Tem Hudson asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the Consent Agenda. There were none. Mayor Pro Tem Hudson asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the Consent Agenda as stated.

Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was 5-0 for approval.

VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

Agenda Item #1:

S. Preston Douglas & Associates, LLP, CPA Mr. Lee Grissom

Mr. Lee Grissom told the Council that the FY 2022 Audit had no difficulties, no disagreements, and no transactions. He stated that the Town had a strong fund balance and is very conservative.

He said the assets and deferred outflows of the Town exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$9,865,442 at the close of the current fiscal year. The Town's net position increased by \$853,484 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022. A portion of the Town's net position, \$2,775,528 (28.13%), reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery and equipment, and infrastructure); less any related debt used to acquire those assets that are still outstanding. The town uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

Governmental activities increased the Town's net position by \$853,484, which was an \$8,185 decrease from the prior year change in net position of \$861,669. Key elements of this change are as follows:

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes by maintaining a tax collection percentage of 99.22%
- Increase of total expenses by \$94,931, which primarily came from increase in expenses in public safety by \$62,846, transportation by \$15,805, and cultural and recreational by \$14,741

The Town of Eastover's investments in capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2022, totals \$2,775,528 (net of accumulated depreciation). The investments in capital assets include land, buildings, improvements, furniture and equipment, and construction in progress.

Major capital asset transactions during the year include the following:

- The Town acquired the Town Hall building in the amount of \$240,000. The town financed this town hall building and is expected to pay it in full by December 2024.

After a brief discussion by Council, Mayor Pro Tem Hudson asked for a motion to approve or disapprove the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit. Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2022 Audit. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe. The vote was 5-0 for approval.

Agenda Item #2:

Award Paving Contract

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that there was only 1 bid received. State statute requires 3 bids; therefore, the contract must be rebid. The date for the rebid is set for November 22, 2022, at 10:00am.

VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE:

- Mayor McLaurin is not feeling well. Mayor Pro Tem Hudson asked that everyone pray for him.
- Mayor Pro Tem Hudson stated that she had received a phone call with a positive response on the pickleball courts and additions to the Eastover Ballpark.

VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE.

- Firehouse Dance Studio had a recital at the Eastover Ballpark. Council Member Crumpler stated that there were approximately 300 people in attendance. He said the amphitheater needs lights and a sound system
- Temple Baptist Church and the Eastover Fire Department had a Halloween event at the Eastover Ballpark, and it was extremely successful.

IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE.

- The Mid-Carolina Council of Government has hired a Code Enforcement Officer.
- The new fence is in place at the Eastover Ballpark newly acquired property.
- The new parking lot poles have been set for lights.
- Musco has put the current field lights at the ballpark. They would be able to install the new pickleball court lights. They will build the complete unit and it is warranted for 25 years. They will install a control panel that will have auto setting with a warning that the lights will be shut off.

X. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Mayor Pro Tem Hudson asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bruce Sykes at 8:10 p.m.
The motion was 2nd by Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe. The vote was 5-0 for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

Attest: _____, **Town Clerk**
Elizabeth S. Bass