

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 14, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Eastover Community Center**

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

MINUTES OF MEETING – June 14, 2022

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, Cheryl C. Hudson, C. Brian Pearce, Bruce Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the June 14, 2022, Eastover Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the 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 Charles McLaurin called the June 14, 2022, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Charles McLaurin gave the Invocation and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Charles McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the agenda as stated. Council Member Brian Pearce made a motion to approve the agenda as stated. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe. The vote was unanimous for approval.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Trei Williams, Eastover Ballpark Association, and Mr. Patrell McMillan, with Cumberland County Department of Public Health, signed up to speak.

Mr. Trei Williams stated that the Ballpark season will be ending on Thursday, June 16th. He said he wanted to inform the Council of the following:

1. People are still parking on the walking trail
2. Need no parking signs in the back parking lot
3. There is a 50-minute response delay from Cumberland County Sheriff's Office in the evenings
4. Additional parking signs for the overflow parking need to be placed
5. Need to put no solicitation signs up
6. People are driving on the walking trail: signage my help an putting up removable poles might help

Mr. Patrell McMillan stated that he was the Town of Eastover's representative for Cumberland County Public Health Education. He stated he could help the community with various educational needs.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consider approval of the Minutes for the May 10, 2022, Town Council Meeting.**
- 2. Consider approval of the Minutes for the May 18, 2022, Special Town Council Meeting.**
- 3. Consider approval of the Minutes for the May 23, 2022, Planning Session Meeting.**
- 4. Consider approval of the April 2022 Financial Reports.**

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

Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Cheryl Hudson. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

Agenda Item #1:

Public Hearing: Presentation of Fiscal Year 2023 Budget (July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023).

Mayor McLaurin opened the public hearing.

Mayor McLaurin asked if anyone signed up to speak. There was no one.

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 will be approximately 5% higher than Fiscal Year 21-22. The proposed ad valorem tax revenue is projected at a slight increase due to an increase in property tax value with the tax rate to remain at 20.5 cents per \$100 value (collection rate at 98.5). Local Option Sales Tax has increased due to continued strong sales (The Sales Tax agreement ends June 30, 2023).

The three primary sources of the town's revenues are Property Tax (34%), Local Option Sales Tax (40%), and Utility Franchise Tax (7%). These three total up to \$1,610,000 of the \$2,014,150 budget.

Fire and Police protection, Parks and Recreation services, Street Lights, Zoning and Street Maintenance will continue to be provided by the Town.

The budget includes \$100,000 to continue the Town's support of the Eastover Fire Department, above and beyond the 10-cent tax that is provided to them. This again allows the Town to do so, without a tax increase.

Additional funding is budgeted for the following:

- Funds for proposed Bathroom Facilities, Picnic Shelter at Eastover Ballpark will come from the NC State Grant in the amount of \$450,000 that the Town was awarded and is in a special account
- \$300,000 has been appropriated from Powell Bill Fund Balance for the proposed paving project.
- \$597,502.83 is in a special account to be used later following decision of priority projects.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to close the Public Hearing. Council Member Cheryl Hudson made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Brian Pearce. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Mayor McLaurin asked the Council if they had any questions concerning the FY 2023 Budget. There were none. Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/disapprove the FY 2023 Budget.

Council Member Cheryl Hudson made a motion to approve the FY 2023 Budget. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Agenda Item #2:

Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 2022-04:

Department:

		<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
Expense:			
10-420-76	Capital Outlay	\$ 22,000.00	
10-420-21	Rent Bldg./Equip		\$ 12,000.00
10-420-99	Administrative Contingency		\$ 10,000.00
10-420-11	Telephone & Internet	\$ 3,000.00	
10-420-16	Main/Repair Equipment		\$ 3,000.00

Mr. Ronald Autry told the Council that this amendment would allow for an increase in Capital Outlay and Telephone and Internet accounts. The budget will still be balanced.

After some discussion mayor McLaurin asked if there were any questions. There were none. He then asked for a vote to approve/disapprove Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 2022-04.

Council Member Brian Pearce made a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 2022-04. Council Member Cheryl Hudson 2nd the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval

Agenda Item #3:

Cumberland County Joint Planning updated bylaws.

Council Member Stan Crumpler stated that the Joint Planning Department has updated their bylaws. They would like all municipalities to sign the bylaws.

Council member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve the updated bylaws. Council Member Bruce Sykes 2nd the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Agenda Item #4:

Cumberland County Sheriff's Contract for FY 2023

Mr. Autry stated that the new contract is \$93,000.00. He said the terms and conditions are the same as last year.

After a brief discussion Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe made a motion to approve the FY 2023 Sheriff's Contract. Council Member Brian Pearce 2nd the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE:

1. Need a gateway sign at the 295 interchange
2. The wind screen has been placed on the pickle ball court
3. Community watch had a good attendance
4. Need to order community watch signs
5. Need to consider annexation
6. Some places in Eastover need to be cleaned
7. No response from the Vape Shop from the letter the Attorney sent

VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE.

1. The Economic Developer will attend the August Town Council Meeting
2. Should see about having community services clean up areas around Eastover
3. Trailers on Beard Road need to be investigated
4. Possibly put a special needs play area at the ballpark
5. Need a special meeting with Eastover Ballpark Association and the Eastover Fire Department
6. Would like to ban bicycles, skateboards, and scooters inside the Eastover Ballpark
7. Spectrum will install wireless service, but underground lines need to be marked
8. There is some playground equipment that needs to be removed and the ropes need to be replaced
9. Would like to have a playground by the splashpad
10. Would like to find out about having the Ballpark sprayed for insects

IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S UPDATE.

1. The Council of Government is hiring a nuisance officer on July 1, 2022, to contract out to towns.
2. The trash containers have been ordered for the walking trail, but they will not be shipped until August 2022.
3. Still waiting on the permit for the metal building
4. The handicap ramp for the amphitheater is a foot to high. It will be rebuilt on site to make sure the corrections are done properly.

X. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bruce Sykes at 8:09 p.m. The motion was 2nd by Council Member Brian Pearce. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

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