

**Town of Eastover – Special Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, September 26, 2023, 5:30 a.m.
Eastover Ballpark/Eastover Community Center**

**x☐ Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Presiding;
Council Members: x☐ 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 – September 26, 2023

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly F. McPhail, Bruce R. Sykes, Cheryl C. Hudson, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, C. Brian Pearce, Bruce R. Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the September 26, 2023, Special Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance was Mr. Ronald Autry, Town Administrator, Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney and Ms. Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk.

Mayor Charles McLaurin called the September 26, 2023, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Item #1:

Storage Building

The Council met at Eastover Ballpark and discussed where the new bathrooms and concession would be placed at the amphitheater. Mr. Ronald Autry and the contractor had marked off the area where the new bathrooms and concession will be placed. The permit has been completed.

Agenda Item #2:

Cul-D-Sac at Ballpark

The Council went to the cul-de-sac on Ballpark Road and stated that bollards and a yellow chain need to be put in place for the walking trail. The cul-de-sac needs to be painted with “no parking” stripes. Council Member Kim McPhail made a motion to approve placing bollards, with a yellow chain, and painting “no parking stripes” on the cul-de-sac. Council Member Brian Pearce seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Mr. Ronald Autry had marked off spaces where the new maintenance building will be placed on the newly acquired property at the ballpark. The Council looked at the mobile home on the property and are deciding whether to sell it or keep it. The Council will discuss this further at the October 10, 2023, regular Town Council Meeting.

Agenda Item #3:

Gate Operated by timer at park

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that the Town of Wade has a gate that opens and closes their park by a timer. He stated that the Town of Eastover could get this gate to help control the activity at the ballpark. He also stated that timers could be placed on the bathroom doors, so they lock/unlock at certain times.

The Council asked Mr. Autry to get more information concerning the timer for the gate and bathrooms. Mr. Autry will present this at the October 10th regular Town Council Meeting.

Agenda Item #4:

**Cameras (Park & Intersection)
(Visitation with Fay. PD)**

Mr. Autry got a quote from Gill Security for license plate reader cameras and upgrading the existing camera at the ballpark. The quote was for \$2,000.00 for the license plate reader and upgrading the camera in the front parking lot.

Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe made a motion to only purchase the license plate reader camera. Council Member Kim McPhail seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #5:

Pickle Ball Courts

Mr. Autry received two quotes to have the pickle ball courts modified. One was from North State Resurfacing, for \$42,250.00 and the other was from Americourt Sport Surfaces for \$34,750.00. North State Resurfacing can put the Town in line for the modification for spring of 2024. Americourt was not sure when they would be able to start due to staffing issues.

Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve North State Resurfacing for the pickle ball court modification and to add two more courts if the price does not go over \$80,000.00 for all. Council Member Cheryl Hudson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

The Council would like to research purchasing a shelter for the bleachers at the pickle ball courts, so there will be somewhere for the observers to sit in the shade.

Agenda Item #6:

Action on Non-Responding Violations

Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Tony Porter, has requested to attend the October 10, 2023, Town Council Meeting. There are several properties that he would like the Council to decide how they would like to proceed with the violations.

Agenda Item #7:

Employee for Maintenance

Mr. Autry informed the Council that a full-time maintenance person would have to work at least 30 hrs. per week and have full benefits. Paying this person \$17.50 an hour would cost approximately \$36,000.00 plus benefits. To hire a part-time person, at least 20 hours a week but no more than 30 hours a week. Paying this person \$15.00 an hour would cost the town \$19,000.00 a year.

Mr. Autry presented two options to the Council. The first option was to hire a part-time employee and continue with the contract with Cardinal Landscaping until it is renewed. The second option was to hire a full-time employee and a part-time employee.

After some discussion, Mayor McLaurin asked for a vote. Council Member Lawrence Buffaloe made a motion to hire a part-time employee at a rate between \$17.50 and \$25.00 depending on experience and continue with Cardinal Landscaping until the contract expires, at which time the Council will revisit their options. Council Member Brian Pearce seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Agenda Item #8:

Stage Rental Guidelines

The Council had some discussion about the guidelines. Mr. Autry asked each Council Member to write their ideas down and email them to him or the Town Clerk, Ms. Bass. The ideas will be presented at the October 10, 2023, Town Council Meeting.

Agenda Item #9:

Solicitation Ordinance

Mr. Donald Hudson stated that he needed more time to research this type of ordinance. He stated that he will discuss this at the November 14, 2023, Town Council Meeting.

Council Member Bruce Sykes stated the Representative Diane Wheatley was able to get the Town another \$450,000.00 for various projects.

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that the North Carolina League of Municipalities has assigned the Town a representative for the American Rescue Plan funds. He said that he will modify the report to adhere to the guidelines.

VI. CONSIDER A MOTION TO ADJOURN.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bruce Sykes. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brian Pearce. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

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