

**Town of Eastover – Special Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 4, 2024, 6:30 p.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☐ Frederick A. Williams**

MINUTES OF MEETING – January 4, 2024

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly F. McPhail, Bruce R. Sykes, Cheryl C. Hudson, J. Lawrence Buffaloe, Frederick A. Williams, Bruce R. Sykes, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the January 4, 2024, 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 January 4, 2024, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Ronald Autry stated that some residents have requested the Town to install streetlights from Murphy Road to Rock Hill Road and also on Baywood Road. The council asked Mr. Autry to get an estimate from Duke Energy for pricing.

Mr. Autry informed the Council that the League of Municipalities will help the Town to apply for a grant for an engineer design for sewer on Murphy Road and upgrade the 4” sewer line to 6” sewer line on US 13. He stated that he would like to attend an Eastover Sanitary District meeting and talk to them about applying for this grant. The Council requested Mr. Autry to continue with the meeting and then to contact the League of Municipalities.

The Council had previously requested Mr. Autry to find out about purchasing Radar Speed Signs. Mr. Autry stated that he has narrowed the search to two different designs. He asked the Council to decide if they wanted stationary signs or portable signs. After some discussion the Council directed Mr. Autry to get pricing for the stationary signs.

There is several Eastover Community Park Improvements:

Fire Pit near stage for flea drop and other events: Mayor McLaurin stated that he would like the Flea Drop to be moved to the Eastover Ballpark. He stated that a fire pit would be a nice addition. The Council agreed. This will be discussed further later in the year.

Basketball Court: Mayor McLaurin stated that a full court for basketball had been requested by some residents. He believes it will be a great addition to the park. The Council agreed and directed Mr. Autry to start getting bids for the court. The Council also discussed the best place to locate the court.

Pave Parking lot on left as you enter park with ARP funds: Mr. Autry stated that there are funds left from the ARP grant that would cover paving the parking lot. This would help with overflow parking at community events.

Mr. Autry gave the council a drawing of the new building for the maintenance shop and garage to be placed on the Eastover Ballpark property. He stated that the trailer should be moved by the end of the month. The plans for the new building need to be drawn to scale and sent to Cumberland County Planning and Inspections.

Council Member Cheryl Hudson stated that she has not heard anything from Commissioner Glenn Adams concerning the issues with manufactured homes being moved improperly. Mr. Autry stated that he had spoken to Ms. Sally Shutt, Assistant County Manager, she was going to look into this matter and get back with him. Council Member Hudson asked Mr. Autry to contact Ms. Shutt again concerning this matter.

Funds from the American Rescue Plan grant have been spent reimbursing the Town for several projects and purchase. Approximately \$700,000.00 needs to be spent by the end of 2024. The Council suggested using these funds for the basketball court, fire pit, paving the overflow parking lot, and upcoming concerts.

Council Member Stan Crumpler stated that he has talked with several bands, and they are very interested in coming to the Town of Eastover to put on a concert. Council Member Crumpler stated that he would like to have concerts once a month over the summer months. The Council stated that they would like a mixture of bands: Gospel, Country, Beach, Bluegrass, Rock, etc. Council Member Crumpler stated that he would be contacting a band to play in May 2024.

The Council mentioned several other items:

- Christmas tree lighting at ballpark, Christmas lights around walking trail
- Flea hill drainage-Contract ends in March 2024
- 86-inch TV has been installed at the Community building, upgrade the internet connection at community building
- Mowing and cleaning up the Town's property behind the doctor's office

Town of Eastover

Charles G. McLaurin, Mayor

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