

**Town of Eastover - Town Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 13, 2026, 7:00 p.m.
Eastover Community Center**

**x☐ Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Presiding.
Council Members: x☐ M. Stan Crumpler, x☐ Bruce R. Sykes, x☐ Kimberly F. McPhail,
x☐ Frederick A. Williams, x☐ Lisa Sessoms-Lewis, and x☐ E. Wayne Beard**

MINUTES OF MEETING – JANUARY 13, 2026

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin, Council Members: Kimberly McPhail, Frederick A. Williams, Lisa Sessoms-Lewis, Bruce R. Sykes, E. Wayne Beard, and M. Stan Crumpler attended the January 13, 2026, Eastover Town Council Meeting. A quorum was present at the Town Council Meeting. Also, in attendance were Mr. Ronald Autry, Town Administrator, Mr. Donald Hudson, Town Attorney, and Ms. Elizabeth Bass, Town Clerk.

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Charles G. McLaurin called the January 13, 2026, Eastover Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Council Member Fred Williams gave the Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

Mayor McLaurin asked for a motion to approve/deny the agenda as presented. Council Member Lisa Sessoms-Lewis made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Kim McPhail. The vote was unanimous for approval.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Members of the public may address the Town Council on items not listed on the printed agenda. Please state your name and address and observe the three (3) minute time limit. The total comment period will be 15 minutes or less. Citizens should sign up with the Clerk to speak prior to the start of the meeting.

Ms. Diane Wheatley from the House of Representatives, District 43 and Mr. Danny Matthews, Chairman of the Board for Eastover Fire Department, signed up to speak.

Ms. Wheatley stated she was running again for the House of Representatives for District 43. She said there will be a primary election on March 3rd. She stated she was excited for the opportunity to serve. Ms. Wheatley stated that she is always available for the Town and any needs/concerns that may arise. She thanked the Town and the Council for their cooperation.

Mr. Danny Matthews gave the Council a year-end review of the Eastover Fire Department. He stated the Eastover Fire Department responded to 977 calls for the year. Of those, 855 were fire incidents, 158 were medical/EMS calls, 116 were motor vehicle accidents and 205 were medical transport. Mr. Matthews said the firemen had completed a total of 7,127.75 hours of training, obtaining 6 Certifications, and a total of 9 hours completed for specialized training. The fire department now has 9 full-time and 15 part-time employees.

V. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 1. Consider approval of the Town Council Meeting Minutes for December 9, 2025. See Exhibit A.**
- 2. Consider approval of the November 2025 Financial Reports. See Exhibit B.**

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

Council Member Bruce Sykes made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as stated. The motion was seconded by Council Member Stan Crumpler. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VI. DISCUSSION AGENDA:

Agenda Item #1:

New signers for bank accounts

Mayor McLaurin stated that since Council Member Cheryl Hudson was a signer on the bank accounts and she is no longer on the Council a new signer must be chosen. He said that currently Mayor McLaurin, Council Members: Stan Crumpler and Bruce Sykes are the signers.

After some discussion Council Member Stan Crumpler nominated Council Member Lisa Sessoms-Lewis to replace Council Member Cheryl Hudson as a signer on the bank accounts and to keep Mayor McLaurin, Council Members: Stan Crumpler and Bruce Sykes as signers on the bank accounts. Council Member Bruce Sykes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VII. RECEIVE MAYOR'S UPDATE:

- Senior Games Registration starts January 19th
- Reports of Homeless people staying in the bathrooms at the ballpark. Need to have sheriff deputy check on this nightly
- Daily Record from Dunn will start reporting on the smaller towns
- Mayor's Coalition Meeting is February 6th in Falcon

- There are some Christmas decorations that were left on the ground and a few still left on the poles.
- Some plans for the Town's 20th anniversary have already been made. Still a lot to do
- Community watch was about online platforms. The meetings will be every other month on the second Monday of each month
- There was a small attendance at the flea drop
- Council Member Fred Williams accepted the nomination to be the FAMPO representative for the Town of Eastover to replace former Council Member Cheryl Hudson. Mayor Charles McLaurin and Mayor Pro Tem Stan Crumpler will be alternates. Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve; Council Member Bruce Sykes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

VIII. RECEIVE TOWN COUNCIL UPDATE:

- The Sounds of Summer concerts series will be:
 1. May 9th-Smokin Hot
 2. June 13th-Embers featuring Craig Wollard
 3. July 11th-Too Much Sylvia
 4. August 8th-Rivermist

IX. RECEIVE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S UPDATE:

- None

X. WORK SESSION

- Ballpark bathrooms: they need timer locks to prevent people from sleeping in there, would like to discuss cleaning schedule with parks and rec, and the heaters in the bathrooms have been damaged
- 20th Anniversary for the Town of Eastover will be in 2027, need vendors and Food Trucks. Rivermist will hold a concert.
- The Council discussed nominating a new representative for FAMPO to relieve the past representative.

Council Member Fred Williams accepted the nomination to be the FAMPO representative for the Town of Eastover to replace former Council Member Cheryl Hudson. Mayor Charles McLaurin and Mayor Pro Tem Stan Crumpler will be alternates. Council Member Stan Crumpler made a motion to approve; Council Member Bruce Sykes seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous for approval.

XI. 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 8:20pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Lisa Lewis-Sessoms. The vote was unanimous for approval.

Town of Eastover

Charles G McLaurin, Mayor

Attest: _____,
Elizabeth S. Bass, Town Clerk