

BADIN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – SPECIAL CALLED MEETING

August 15, 2023

BADIN TOWN HALL

VISITORS

Liz Lowder, Valerie Tyson, Dan Dalton, Sue Dalton, Sarah Allen, Cynthia Powell, Gary Rife, Jane Rife, Shawnette Robinson, Duncan Robinson, Jenny Henderson, Lenora Council, Avonda Thomas, Tito Thomas

Council Members Present:

Gary Lowder, Mayor
Demar Huntley, Mayor Pro Tem
Deloris Chambers
Dale Ward
Charles Council

Staff Present:

Jay Almond, Town Manager
Amanda Bowers, Town Clerk
Stephen Smith, Police Chief
Terry Eudy, Public Works Director

Opening prayer by Deloris Chambers.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

Badin Town Council presented Certificates of Appreciation to Amanda Bowers, Jane Rife, Valerie Tyson, and Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lowder called the meeting to order. Meeting agenda is carried from regularly scheduled council meeting canceled from August 8 due to power failure in Badin Town Hall.

AMENDMENT(S) TO THE AGENDA

Motion to add 7(a) Special Event application: Chambers

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve July 11, 2023 Public Hearing minutes regarding Spruce St. parking:
Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to approve July 11, 2023 Regular Meeting: Chambers

Second: Ward

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

BUSINESS

Town Council received a special event application from Teens Making a Difference to have a Veteran's Parade September 16, 2023, during the West Badin Festival.

Motion to approve Veteran's Parade: Huntley

Second: Ward

Discussion: Waiver of permit fee also requested.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Motion to waive special event permit fee for Veteran's Parade: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Town Council considered adding to the Town of Badin Street Name Change Ordinance. Text amendment to Section 7, states Section 7 is not required if change request is town initiated.

Motion to amend Section 7 of the Town of Badin Street Name Change Ordinance so that Section 7 is not required if the street name change request is town initiated: Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Mayor Pro Tempore Demar Huntley composed a letter to Eagle Creek Renewable Energy regarding shoreline maintenance. Town Council consensus is to send the letter.

Town Council reviewed new guidelines for the special event application. A non-refundable permit fee was raised to \$100 and a deposit fee of \$300 which may be refunded after event cleanup and final inspection by the town. If the park is used for parking only, the fee is \$100.

Motion to adopt new special event application/guidelines: Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Town Council discussed reserving specific dates/weekends for annual events that happen at the same time every year including, West Badin Festival on the 3rd Saturday in September, Historic Badin Hardaway Powwow on the last weekend in October, Winterfest on the 1st Saturday in December, and Juneteenth on the 3rd weekend in June.

Motion to lock-in or hold these dates for annual events every year: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Discussion: Councilman Council asked if that means no other events may take place at the same time. Ward said the lock-in events should have priority.

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Town Council considered allowing council members to act as volunteer municipal labor. North Carolina League of Municipalities (NCLM) legal department reported a council member can write and sign, or email a letter to the town releasing the town from liability and that would constitute a contract upon the town's reply.

Motion to allow council members to work voluntarily on town property using town equipment upon letter releasing town from liability: Lowder

Second: Chambers

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Town Council discussed placing a town attorney on retainer. Jim Phillips and Connie Josey have been contacted. Service would be on an as-needed basis. More information on cost and procedure will be brought to the next meeting.

Council increased building repair & maintenance line item from \$3,500 to \$10,000 to help fund interior décor, including floors and walls. The estimate was \$16,510 for entire town hall. Town Council will get more estimates and table talks until more information is available.

Motion to table interior décor discussion until further information is obtained: Ward

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Street surface patching and town wide storm water management analysis are underway by councilmembers Council and Ward. Ward presented a packet for Phase EE patching and drainage. Town Council would like 3 estimates by next meeting for drainage jobs that need to be contracted, including Grant and Jackson, and Sherman and Lincoln.

Current alley closure request off Roosevelt St. is stalled due to lack of payment by requesting party, Christopher Carrothers. Additional alley closure requests are pending once the open request is completed. Ward suggested closing only the portion of the alley that has been paid so council may move to other requests. Town Council will look into partial closure.

Town Council members agreed to submit goals in the August council meeting for internal review and selection as a function of working toward budgeting for projects in the upcoming fiscal year. Mayor Lowder has received goals from 3 members. Further discussion will take place at the Aug. 30th Special Called meeting.

Town Council reviewed a draft Solar Farm Ordinance. A public hearing is needed.

Motion to set public hearing to gather input on solar farm ordinance at 6:45 p.m., Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in Badin Town Hall: Council

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

PUBLIC WORKS:

Eudy reported the following:

- Next limb/brush collection Sept. 5, 2023.
- 8 Loads of Brush and 7 Loads of Storm debris collected in August.
- Appreciates council members' help around town.

Eudy requested a utility vehicle to replace the dilapidated club car. Three estimates: 2024 Club Car Carry-All 1500 is \$14,877, 2024 Kubota RTV-X1120 Diesel is \$17,199, and 2024 Kawasaki Pro DXT FE Diesel EPS (Mule) is \$18,999. Ward said there isn't money in the budget and they could get a used vehicle at half the cost of new. Councilman Council asked about leasing. Mayor Lowder said funds are budgeted for a dump truck and blower. Eudy suggested waiting on a dump truck to fill the more immediate need, a utility cart.

POLICE REPORT:

- Chief Smith reported 1,691 calls for service in July.
- Radar unit was installed in the 2021 Durango.

- New Ram public safety truck is in service.
- Sgt. Hawkins returns from leave next week.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Almond presented financial report ending August 4, 2023. July revenue from property tax, sales & use tax, occupancy tax.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Almond reported the following:

1. Demar Huntley attended the Stanly County CVB meeting 8:30 a.m., August 9.
2. Fill dirt for West Badin Park has been applied and seeded.
3. Oakboro will host COG at 6:30 p.m., Aug. 29 in Oakboro Community Building.
4. Badin Council will host a special called meeting 7 p.m., Aug. 30 in Badin Town Hall.
5. Badin Town Hall will be closed Sept. 4 in observance of Labor Day.
6. Next Regular Council Meeting is 7 p.m. Tues., Sept. 12, 2023 in Badin Town Hall.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Council said West Badin needs spraying. Mayor Lowder said we should have a conversation with Randy Bush about Alcoa property maintenance.

Chambers thanked public works for cleaning Roosevelt median.

Ward said Eudy is concerned about getting a utility vehicle but they also need a dump truck, and town should look at used utility vehicles. He wants to accelerate alley closure requests.

Councilman Council said that a lot of things will pass us by if we find something and have to wait until the next meeting to make a decision. Mayor Lowder suggested using part of the \$30,000 budgeted for dump truck to get the utility vehicle for public works, maybe set a cap for \$8,000. Ward said \$7,000 should be enough. Mayor Lowder asked Ward if he's willing to look for one. Ward said he was. Mayor Lowder asked the council if they felt comfortable finding \$7,000-\$8,000 in the budget if they find one that suits our needs. Almond said that the \$30,000 that is in the budget is an acceptable use for either item. Mayor Lowder asked for a consensus for Ward to help look out for a utility cart for \$7,000-\$8,000. Councilman Council volunteered to help with the search.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting: Chambers

Second: Huntley

Vote: Passed/Unanimous

Minutes approved September 12, 2023.

Minutes prepared by Amanda Bowers.