

MILTON NORTH CAROLINA TOWN HALL

Town Offices: 173 Broad Street
Town Hall Meetings: 11928 Academy Street
TUESDAY: January 14, 2025----7:00 PM. Minutes
Town Hall Hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am-5:00 pm.
Thursdays- 4:00 pm.-7:00 pm. Payments Only

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Angela Upchurch called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. Mayor Angela Upchurch stated that this meeting is being recorded, and I (**Mayor Angela Upchurch**) would like to remind you of **Public Comments. Please** call Town Hall at 336-234-0030 by 2:00 p.m. on the Tuesday the day of the Town Meeting and leave your name, address, and your reason for Public Comments.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Angela Upchurch asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Angela Upchurch welcomed everyone to the January 14, 2025, Town Meeting. Wishing all a Happy New Year.

PRESENT: Mayor Angela Upchurch, Mayor Pro Tem. Robert Palmer, Shirley Wilson, Town Clerk, Commissioner Jackie Jeffries, Commissioner Sherri Garrard, Elizabeth Lattime, Finance Officer

Absent:

APPROVALS: Mayor Angela Upchurch called for approval of January 14, 2025, Agenda: **Mayor Angela Upchurch has an addition to the agenda: Add blower motor discussion to the agenda. Commissioner Bob Palmer** motioned to approve the Agenda for January 14, 2025. **Commissioner Jackie Jeffries seconded the motion. All were in favor. Mayor Angela Upchurch** asked for the approval of December 10, 2024, Minutes. **Commissioner Jackie Jeffries** motioned to approve the December 10, 2024, Minutes, as they stand. **Commissioner Bob Palmer** second the motion. All were in favor.

Swearing in of Commissioner Elect Danny Cash: Mayor Angela Upchurch Read the following:

I, Danny Cash, do solemnly and sincerely swear, that I will support the Constitution of the United States; that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of North Carolina, and to the constitutional powers and authorities which are or may be established for the government thereof; and that I will endeavor to support, maintain, and defend the Constitution of said State, not inconsistent with the Constitution of the United States, to the best of my knowledge and ability; so help me God. Danny's response (I will) Mayor Angela Upchurch: **CONGRATULATIONS DANNY!!! We look forward to your service to the Town of Milton.**

Auditor Tony Brewer, to present the 2024 audit to Commissioners. Explaining

Handout Report will be filed with January 14, 2025 Minutes.

- ✚ Tony passed out a guide which makes the governmental accounting and the audit more understandable. Tony explained the Audit and Results.
- ✚ The second part is required to explain Indicators and Indicators of Concern.
- ✚ **Tony explained pages 1-3 Opinions.**
- ✚ **Tony explained pages 4-12 Management's Discussion and Analysis**
- ✚ **Pages 13-20 Exhibits 1-8 Discussed Statement of Net Position, Activities, Balance Sheet, Revenues, Changes in Fund Balance, Fund Net Position, Cash Flow, Notes to Financial Statement, Notes to Financial Statement Balance Sheets (Comparative)**
- ✚ **LGC needs a letter of concern for Performance Indicators. (Indicators of Concern have 60 days to sign and send a Response. Seventy-one percent or lower large expenditures cause a concern.**

MAYOR REPORT: Mayor Angela Upchurch

- ✚ Before this meeting, someone told me they noticed water leaking from 77 Broad Street. I went to the house, and there was evidently a burst pipe, with water running out of the side of the house. (No one lives at the property.) Thomas Gilreath came to try to turn off the water, but the meter is very old, and the Town's tool does not work on this. Trying with a wrench, Taco Smith stopped to advise, and finally got the water turned off. (Jessie Mullins was on the way, but he was further out.)
- ✚ Town Milton Work Session Wednesday January 29, 2025, from 10:00-2:00. This is required to be a public meeting. This meeting will be discussing and getting feedback from the accomplishments and needs identified in 2024 and what is expected in 2025. No voting will take place. Sharon Williams will come to receive a token of appreciation from us for her work as finance officer.
- ✚ Water and sewer rates are now billed as separate line items. This was recommended by state agencies. No cost changes, only shows as two-line items. The base rate is \$69 for both water and sewer. Split, these costs are \$34.50 for sewer, and 34.50 for 2000 gallons of water, plus any overage gallons.

- ✚ It is very important for everyone to receive a water bill due to any public hearing notices and water cut-off for fire hydrant replacement. Residents should receive a bill even with zero balance from now on.
- ✚ **HYDRANT REPLACEMENT MONDAY JANUARY 20 AT 10 FOR APPRX 2 HOURS**
- ✚ Thomas Gilreath (Roadrunner) has been filling in for Jeff Williams reading the meters.
- ✚ A glitch with QuickBooks caused some to see an extra “invoice” on last month’s bill. When speaking with QuickBooks, this was likely caused by site maintenance. Shirley Wilson complained to them that there was no indication that maintenance was in progress.
- ✚ **Planning Board Vacancy:** Those interested may fill out an application. Must be a resident within town limits. Contact Roxanne Palmer.
- ✚ Great response for the Chair yoga class. The class will be held every Monday, beginning Monday, January 20, 2025, at 1pm at Milton Baptist Church. Parking in rear. The instructor is Wanda O’Neal. The class is free. This is not required, but if you would like, bring a couple of dollars to donate to the instructor’s gas costs.
- ✚ Getting the Town’s SAMs number, which is a federal generated number, registered has taken hours of work, more so as the previous administration began the process but did not finish, which left us with a lot of registration information to change. Piedmont Triad Regional Council has assisted, and I am personally grateful to them. To receive assistance from this council of government requires a \$550 annual fee, and so far, this has been money well spent. The fee was donated for this fiscal year, which was much appreciated. *(We have some reports from Piedmont Triad Regional Council.)*
- ✚ No news regarding well pump replacement other than I met with a well drilling company to begin discussions about replacing the pump. Currently I am waiting for a Duke Energy representative to come out and tell us what voltage is going into the current Well Pump House.
- ✚ Also showed the well driller Well #5 off of Community Circle, which was used by the Town at one time, or there was an attempt to. Bob and I wonder if the low output well (20 gpm) at the pump house, mentioned in Michael Behler's 2017 email to DEQ, could be dug deeper and used as a secondary water source.
- ✚ Commissioner Jackie Jeffries shared with the board information concerning people in California that lost their homes. Mrs. Kate Shirley Hope a long-lived resident of Milton and an educator for many many years. Her son lives in California and his family lost everything. His sister asked me if the town of Milton could or would help by sending a donation to help. Get donations in honor of Mrs. Kate Shirley Hope and send them to the family. (Darrell Hope and Family)
- ✚ (At the end of the meeting, I (mayor Angela Upchurch) announced (reminded by Shirley Wilson) the quarterly Joint Meeting will be held here February 20th at 6pm.)

Financial Report: Elizabeth Lattime

STAFF REPORT:

General Fund Revenue: As of January 2025

Income: \$56,387.00

Expenses: \$36,345.00

Remaining Balance:

Water Sewer Fund: As of January 2025

Income: \$67,030.00

Expenses: \$80,993.00

Remaining Balance:

Additional Information to our Financial Report:

Accounts disconnected for non-payment.

Late fees accessed.

New applicant for service

Request for termination of service

Deposits refunded.

As of December 31, 2024

Bank Statement General Fund: \$43,105.55

Cash on Hand Today: \$43,687.81

Checks Outstanding: \$1,420.21

Available Balance: \$42,267.60

Bank Statement Water Fund: \$17,990.00

Cash On Hand Today: \$17,268.74

Outstanding Checks: \$3,663.70

Available Balance: \$14,205.04

NC Capital Trust SCIF: Closed payment went to Withers Ravenel

NC Capital Management Trust: **\$130,416.99**

Change in Value Interest: **\$494.89**

Ending Balance: **\$130,911.88**

As of January 01, 2025, PACE Analytical rates will increase 5.2% ==Increase 30.84 a week for testing, \$1603.16 per year

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Earnestine Hamlett, new owner of the Event Center at 241 Broad

- 🚧 **Questions: Who owns the dirt pile behind the post office? Use to fill holes after tree removal.**
- 🚧 **Do I need permission to park on the graveled section or for the parking Lot at the Post Office.**

Old Business: Mayor Angela Upchurch N/A

New Business: Earnestine Hamlett New Business Approval

- 🚧 **London's Event Center: Commissioner Bob Palmer motioned to approve the New Owner's Application. Commissioner Sherry Garrard seconded the motion. All were in favor.**
- 🚧 **Discuss water line over Country Line Creek:** This line currently runs across private property. The line crosses Country Line Creek in the woods and is tied to a tree. This property was sold, and there was no easement obtained for this water line. The current owner will not give an easement, and truly it is not the best route. DEQ and LGC will be assisting us with a possible grant application to include this with our other needs. However, the current line has deteriorated and needs to be replaced with PVC in order to continue to provide water to two customers. The owners of property need to agree to this temporary replacement line. Cost: \$4,590. (At this point- costs go up monthly.) Commissioner Bob Palmer made a motion to spend the money necessary to replace the PVC to provide drinking water to the homeowners. Commissioner Sherri Garrard seconded the motion. **All were in favor.**

Blower Motor: Matt texted stating that Blower #1 was not working. The motor in one of the two blowers at the wastewater site has locked up. They usually alternate. These are original blowers to the site, and they keep the wastewater aerated while bacteria break down. An electrician could see if he can repair the motor, but we are weighing the cost of paying him to work on a possible repair or buy a new one and save the broken motor for parts to possibly repair the other one as needed. The cost is \$2-3000 for a new one.

Commissioner Palmer explained what a Blower does.

EDC Report: Shirley Wilson—Report all information concerning Milton Events to the EDC Board. Danny Cash will be sworn in tomorrow night at the Townhall meeting 7:00 January 14, 2025.

- **Chamber of Commerce** is exploring state revenue options for a four- or five-star daycare center near Pelham Business Park
- **PCC: The commissioners unanimously approved our proposals for the easements for the utilities, water, and sewer.**
 - 🚧 **Partnership with PCC and the County for Co-Square giving our students a discounted rate to join.**
 - 🚧 **Our blast program continues to go really well.**
 - 🚧 **Caswell County Campus received a \$13,000.00 grant from the Community Foundation of Dan River Region. Monies will be used to expand the Blast Program and offer an AG Across North Carolina trip for High School aged students who are interested in pursuing Ag as a Career so we can see what Ag looks like as a career across the state.**
- **Amanda Hodges: Tourism: The Farmer's Market:** will open the last Thursday in April through September
 - 🚧 **Need Volunteers. Young people need to stay in the country.**

CLOSE OF MEETING: Mayor Angela Upchurch asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Commissioner Bob Palmer** motioned to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner **Jackie Jeffries** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Time:**

Next Meeting February 10, 2025

Minutes humbly submitted by: Shirley Wilson