

Town of Mount Olive
April 11, 2023
Regular Board Meeting
Minutes

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Those in attendance per roll call of Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins were Commissioner Delreese Simmons, Commissioner Barbara Kornegay, Commissioner Tommy Brown, Commissioner Vicky Darden, Town Manager Jammie Royall, Town Attorney Carroll Turner and Town Clerk/Administrative Assistant Sherry Davis.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins welcomed everyone to the meeting. Harlie Carmichael delivered our invocation and Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion for an excused absence for Mayor Kenneth Talton. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins read the Conflict of Interest Statement; there were no conflicts.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to accept the agenda. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to approve the March 14, 2023 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then moved to the Public Forum. He advised everyone to hold comments to three minutes.

Ms. Angela Williams of 1008 South Breazeale Avenue, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-429-1150 spoke about Jesus and celebrating the life of Samuel Ray Branch, Sr. She is tired, disgusted and distressed. She stated Town Manager Jammie Royall could not talk to her but one hour. She said if he cannot fix this, he needs to go. She mentioned speaking with former Mayor Joe Scott, former Town Manager Charles Brown, Mayor Kenneth Talton and Town Manager Jammie Brown. Her place is mold infested now and she has health problems. Her mother is now deceased. She said she wants her Uncle Samuel Ray Branch, Sr. persecuted to the highest extent of the law. She asked Police Chief Jason Hughes to go arrest Samuel Branch, Sr. She stated is a conflict of interest for Board Members to be in people's pockets. They do not want to be told to go to 1012 South Breazeale Avenue or 606 Steele Street, Mount Olive, North Carolina. Her brother Carvis Lee was unable to attend and Ms. Renita Butts is just accompanying her.

Mrs. Doris Yates of 1202 South Breazeale Avenue, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-299-4000. She advised the corner stores are selling beer, lottery tickets, cigarettes, and loosies to underage children. They need to have trashcans and cameras. She asked does she need to call the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board. She wanted to thank the Mount Olive Police Department for their increased surveillance in her area. She prays that Mayor Kenneth Talton is feeling better soon.

Mr. Al Southerland of 513 East Pollock Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-394-0198. On behalf of Men of FIC, he thanked everyone who has helped them in the past twelve years. He thanked the Town of Mount Olive for the building at Carver Cultural Center that will be named the Henrietta Williams Community Center. Men of FIC headquarter will offer tutoring, job training and continue their annual book bag give away. They will provide a room full of school supplies for parents and students. They have been upgrading the building in phases; the roof has been replaced now they have enough to replace the windows on the north side.

Mr. Eric Kimes of 420 Norbert Wilson Road, Mount Olive, NC, 919-432-7112 wanted to comment on Action Memo 04-15 – Consider Authorizing the Town Attorney to Proceed with the Sale by Upset Bid for the Commercial Property on SW Center Street Lot. He stated this property is adjacent to two properties he currently owns. His intention is develop it into something the community can use. His gym idea fell through so he is thinking maybe a restaurant or brewery.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins thanked everyone for their comments and closed the Public Forum.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins advised Non-Action Item 04-14 -Plaque Recognizing Mount Olive Pickle Plant & Mount Olive First United Methodist Church Peanut Crew. Commissioner Vicky Darden presented the plaques to Bill Bryan and Lynn Williams of the Mount Olive Pickle Company and Martin Weeks of the Mount Olive First United Methodist Church Peanut Crew. She thanked them for their support and service to our community.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo –04-15 – Consider Authorizing the Town Attorney to Proceed with the Sale by Upset Bid for the Commercial Property on SW Center Street Lot. Town Attorney Carroll Turner advised Mr. Eric Kimes attorney contacted him on March 20 2023. It is the property across the old FCX facing Center Street. Mr. Kimes owns the Old FCX property; he owns the warehouse and the adjoining lots. The property is offering to purchase is a tax foreclosure and is owned jointly by the Town of Mount Olive and County of Wayne. The property has been appraised at \$10,600.00, which is Mr. Kimes' offer. This offer starts the upset bid process; law requires advertising in the

Goldsboro News Argus. This will give anyone else wishing to bid ten days to raise the bid. Once this process is completed, he will bring Mr. Kimes' offer back to the board.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins wanted to confirm we are not voting to sell the property to Mr. Kimes, we are just voting to start the upset bid process. Town Attorney Carroll Turner confirmed this was correct. He advised the Count of Wayne now requires a letter to be mailed to all adjoining property owners. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made a motion to start the upset bid process for the Commercial Property on SW Center Street. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo - 04-16 – Consider Amending Section 20 – 83 of the Code of Ordinances Prohibiting Stopping or Parking of Vehicles on Street Right of Way. Town Attorney Carroll Turner stated this item was tabled at the March 14, 2023 meeting. The ordinance work sessions have been productive and he made some adjustments suggested by the committee. The first draft stated vehicles. Later discussions limited this to tractor-trailers and limited areas. The amended ordinance prohibits parking as follows:

(10) At any place where official sign/s prohibit stopping or parking.

(11) By any tractor-trailer truck on any portion of the street shoulder or right-of-way. For the purposes of this ordinance, “tractor trailer truck” is defined as any truck tractor, trailer or semitrailer having three (3) or more axles. The street shoulder or right-of-way is further defined as within 15 feet of the edge of the paved street.

The streets controlled by the State of North Carolina already prohibits, this just makes us consistent with the state. Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to approve Consider Amending Section 20 – 83 of the Code of Ordinances Prohibiting Stopping or Parking of Vehicles on Street Right of Way. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo 04-17 - Consider Cemetery Plot Rates Increase. Code Enforcement and Cemetery Director Justin Hill stated that we have some of the cheapest rates in the county. Grass mowing costs are increasing and are coming up for rebids soon. He is proposing that we make all cemetery plots \$1,100.00 across the board. Town Attorney Carroll Turner inquired about the cost of setting a monument. Code Enforcement and Cemetery Director Justin Hill advised the permit fee for setting the base is \$50.00. Actual monument placement is the same as opening and closing of a grave, which is \$1,000.00. He stated some of the new monuments are currently leaning. This is due to ants, holes, rain and mowers packing the grass. He will try to pack dirt to correct these.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins said all three cemeteries look the best they have ever looked. Code Enforcement and Cemetery Director Justin Hill responded they need a few more cuts. Commissioner Delreese Simmons asked how he knows the current vendor is going to win the bid. Code Enforcement and Cemetery Director Justin Hill stated, he does not but whoever the vendor is there are some months that require more cuts than others do. Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins commented all cemeteries. Commissioner Delreese Simmons said he does not like something just being thrown on him and he would like to at least speak with his district first. Town Attorney Carroll Turner advised Wayne Memorial Park charges \$2,000.00 to \$3,000.00. He informed the board this item can be tabled until the May 9, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made a motion to table Action Memo 04-17 - Consider Cemetery Plot Rates Increase until the May 9, 2023 meeting. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo 04-18 - Consider Approval of Al Southerland to the Planning Board. Code Enforcement Officer Justin Hill said he would be replacing current member Gerald Bell who is unable to continue serving as a Mount Olive member. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made a motion to approve Al Southerland to the Planning Board. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo 04-19 - Consider Approval of Budget Ordinance Amendments #13, #14 & #15

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #13

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Olive, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

Section I. Correction to Previous Amendments # 9

A. Revenue

Other Financing Sources	10-3680-0000	\$ -287,300.00
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B. Expenditure

Capital Outlay –Equipment	10-4510-7401	\$ -64,900.00
Capital Outlay - Equipment	10-4700-7400	\$ -35,100.00
Capital Outlay – Equipment	10-5100-7400	\$-151,900.00

Capital Outlay – Equipment	10-6200-7400	\$-35,400.00
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Section II. Explanation

Correction to previous Budget Amendment #9 presented in November 2022

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #14

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Olive, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

Section I. Correction to Previous Amendments # 10

A. Revenue

Other Financing Sources	10-3680-0000	\$ (181,200)
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B. Expenditure

Capital Outlay –Equipment	30-8210-7600	\$ (145,800)
Capital Outlay - Equipment	30-8210-7600	\$ (35,400)

Section II. Explanation

Correction to previous Budget Amendment #10 presented in November 2022

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT #15

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Mount Olive, North Carolina, that the following amendment be made to the Budget Ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2023:

Section I. Additional Revenue for Fund 10

A. Revenue

B. Expenditure

Contingency	30-8200-8900	\$ (105,000)
Salaries and Wages	30-8100-0200	\$ 67,475
Salaries and Wages – Overtime	30-8100-0100	\$ 1,200
FICA	30-8100-0500	\$ 5,655
Health Insurance	30-8100-0600	\$ 15,100
Life Insurance	30-8100-0800	\$ 685
Retirement	30-8100-0700	\$ 9,100
Dental Insurance	30-8100-0801	\$ 2,925
401-K	30-8100-0900	\$ 2,860

Section II. Explanation

Transfer from Contingency dollars to 8110 Salary line items to forecast expenditures for 8100 (Water Treatment Department) thru the end of FY 22-23.

Finance Director Jamie Butler stated Budget Ordinance Amendments 13 & 14 are corrections to two previous budget amendments (leased vehicles). This is not applicable to us under GAZB rules. Number 13 is the #10 Fund and Number 14 is the #30 Fund. Budget Ordinance Amendment #15 is moving funds to forecast to a particular department for the end of the fiscal year.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to approve Budget Ordinance Amendments #13, #14 and #15. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Town Manager Jammie Royall Presented Report As Follows:

- He said good evening to everyone. He wanted to share his receipt of a letter of intent to fund for a storm water-planning grant. This planning grant pertains to storm water runoff and drainage.
- AECOM Engineering is handling this for us.
- He advised we have received our audit and it was good. There was one problem that was noted but it should not pertain to us. Therefore, he will get it corrected.

The Commissioner's Reports were as Follows:

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She thanked everyone for being here tonight and advised Norma Carole McDonald's funeral service will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 15, 2023 at the First United Methodist Church.

Commissioner Tommy Brown

- He stated the fundraiser for the Sgt. Matthew Fishman, Detective Ramon Torres and Sgt. Logan Cox went well and \$109,000.00 was raised. After expenses, the amount will equal \$105,000.00 to \$107,000.00.
- He said it was awesome to be a part of the fundraiser.
- He extended his condolences to the McDonald Family.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He said some of the people in the community wanted him to thank the Mount Olive Police Department for their increased presence and hard work.
- He stated he has received several complaints from people complaining about the \$30.00 per hour fee to use the gym. He informed them the light bill is almost \$1,000.00 per month and does not even include the costs of water and gas.
- He advised the Town does not have a lot of money. Taxes were raised last year and he feels they need to be raised again. Nobody wants to discuss this because it is an election year. Grants help but we need to take care of ourselves. He commented three cents on a \$300,000.00 home is only an increase of \$15.00 per year.
- He said the employees received a raise last year but they did not get one for years prior to that. The trash collectors only get \$13.00 per hour.
- He feels that it will not hurt anyone to raise taxes six or seven cents. It is currently sixty- seven cents per \$100.00 of value. Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins stated it is per \$1,000.00
- He commented that he is not afraid to lose anyone's vote and he hopes the commissioners agree.
- He stated yard waste has not been picked up. He spoke with Mitch Davis and he stated he will get on it and Commissioner Delreese Simmons believes him.
- Mayor Pro-Tempore asked a citizen attending to not interrupt the speaker.
- He thanked everyone for attending tonight.

Commissioner Barbara Kornegay

- She thanked Al Southerland and the Men of FIC for all their work in the community.
- Commissioner Delreese Simmons commented it is hard to get grants for streets Commissioner Barbara Kornegay responded that we keep looking
- She advised we are also seeking grant funding to replace our aging pipes. The requirement to flush fire hydrants but a great deal of pressure and the lines and during this process you have a boil water mandate. This testing allows us to find old pipes that need repair. Small towns have many challenges.
- She thanked Jamie Butler for the budget ordinance amendments
- She appreciate all the assistance from employees and citizens regarding the grants we have in progress.

Town Attorney Carroll Turner

- He advised the surveying for Carver Cultural Center is close to being completed.
- He is preparing the deeds for the Carver Cultural Center properties.
- He commented it is pleasing to him to see positive instead of negative comments on Facebook. A former Mount Olive resident came to visit with his daughter last week. They visited downtown and the cemeteries. They had encouraging words regarding how beautiful downtown looks and how nice everyone is. Sometimes we cannot see the forest for the trees. He is so glad someone came to town and was pleased with their visit.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins

- He said it is good to see old familiar faces and new ones at tonight's meeting. Each board member has his or her own strengths.
- He reminded everyone that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. We have the Mount Olive Children's Advocacy Center and the Exchange Club will be selling tickets at the North Carolina Pickle Festival on Saturday, April 29, 2023.
- He informed everyone the Mount Olive Veterans Memorial Committee reorganized in January to complete the two additional monuments from the original project. We are currently seeking donations for our goal of \$75,000.00. The Exchange Club donated two benches and the Mount Olive Veterans Committee will have a booth at the North Carolina Pickle Festival on Saturday, April 29, 2023 and will be selling tickets for a 50/50 raffle.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins thanked everyone for attending tonight's meeting.

There being no further business Commissioner Tommy Brown made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the board meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Wiggins
Mayor Pro-Tempore

Sherry Davis
Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk