

Town of Mount Olive
February 14, 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. Reverend Dr. Dennis Draper delivered our invocation and Commissioner Tommy Brown 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 as presented. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion with a request to move the Commissioner Reports after the closed session. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to approve the January 10, 2023 regular meeting minutes. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay 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.

Mrs. Linda Boykin of 600 East Main Street, Mount Olive, NC 28365, 919-922-9364. She wanted to discuss the outdoor lighting on the south side of town. It has been an issue for a long time. She understands that Duke Progress Energy has a huge project going on near Walmart but would like the south side to be considered too.

Town Attorney Carroll Turner stated we have some wonderful employees working for the Town of Mount Olive. He congratulated Town Clerk Sherry Davis for obtaining her Certified Municipal Clerk's Certification. He then discussed the upcoming fundraiser for the families of the late Sergeant Matthew Fishman, Sergeant Logan Cox and Detective Ramon Torres on March 25, 2023. The event will be held at the Wayne County Fairgrounds from 11:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M. An auction will be held at 5:00 P.M. Raffle tickets are \$20.00 each, meal tickets are \$10.00. You will have a choice of BBQ Pork or BBQ Chicken and can eat in or take out.

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

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Non-Action Memo – 02-05 – Award of Recognition to John Ryan owner of Pizza Village. Commissioner Vicky Darden presented the award and stated Mr. Ryan has helped her anytime she has asked him to feed the Town of Mount Olive employees.

After the presentation, Commissioner Vicky Darden stated she is tired of certain people going around saying that she is the weakest link on the board. She would like them to make these comments to her face not on Facebook. She works behind the scenes.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action Memo - 02-06 – Consider Approval of the Black History Month Proclamation. Commissioner Tommy Brown made the motion to approve. Commissioner Vicky Darden seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then discussed Action-Memo – 02-07 - Consider Approval of Proclamation as 2023 National School-Based Health Care Awareness Month honoring WISH (Wayne Initiative For School Health). Commissioner Barbara Kornegay presented the Proclamation to Pamela Anderson, Director and Alice Summerlin. Mayor Kenneth Talton requested a motion to approve this Proclamation. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins then requested a motion to go into closed session

PURSUANT TO NCGS SEC. 143-318.11

(a) 6: To consider the competence, performance and/or fitness of an employee.

PURSUANT TO NCGS SEC. 143-318.11 – (a) (5) to establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating [the] price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease.

Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion to go into closed session. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

The closed session lasted approximately thirty minutes. The possible acquisition of additional property was discussed. Town Attorney Carroll Turner was asked to represent the Town in moving forward to see if the acquisition is feasible. Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins requested a motion to come out of closed session and back into open session. Commissioner Barbara Kornegay made the motion. Commissioner Tommy Brown seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins asked for the Town Manager and Commissioners reports.

Town Manager Jammie Royall Presented Report As Follows:

- He advised Mrs. Linda Boykin regarding the streetlights that Duke Progress has almost completed the project at McDonald's and Walmart and will then move down to her area.
- Commissioner Barbara Kornegay wanted to know if Duke Progress would manage the new lights. Town Manager Jammie Royall stated yes, we would just be responsible for the bill.

Town Clerk Sherry Davis had no report.

The Commissioner's Reports were as Follows:

Commissioner Vicky Darden

- She asked if she needs to request waiver of the vendor fee of \$100.00 for the Black History Parade on Saturday, February 25, 2023. She stated there is no charge for participants and the rain date is set for Saturday, March 4, 2023.
- She wanted to thank God for all our local fire departments who responded to the huge fire on Old Mount Olive Highway recently.

Commissioner Tommy Brown

- He asked everyone to come out to the benefit on March 25, 2023. Meal tickets are \$10.00 and raffle tickets are \$20.00.

Commissioner Delreese Simmons

- He discussed his concerns regarding the junk car ordinance. He feels Code Enforcement is only tagging cars that belong to Hispanic and Haitian owners. They feel like they are being targeted because the sticker is not in Spanish or Haitian Creole.
- Commissioner Delreese Simmons stated his example on Breazeale Avenue. Code Enforcement removed his cars but allows the white guy on Gordon Street to keep his. He said Code Enforcement said the Fire Department could not get a truck behind there. He asked is this racist and commented the train track shouldn't separate our town but it does. This makes the town look racist.
- He advised he was upset because he requested a couple of items be placed on tonight's agenda but they are not up there. Town Manager Jammie Royall had stated they needed more information first.
- He said he is more accomplished than any other commissioner in District 2.
- He commented that he should be provided with the code to the Town Manager and Town Clerk's office. He said there could be potential lawsuit. Town Manager Jammie Royall advised there is a key fob not a code and the Town Seal and sensitive information are stored in said offices.

Commissioner Barbara Kornegay

- She informed everyone the proposed Farmer's Market estimate is \$275,000.00 for an open-air market.
- She stated we meet with the Department of Commerce regarding the next steps for the Downtown Master Plan.

Mayor Pro-Tempore Steve Wiggins

- He advised he used to run a business and has mental snapshots of what our employees are doing right instead of wrong. Police Chief Jason Hughes is always on the scene and his officers do a great job. Utilities Director Jeremy King and his crew did good work in trouble shooting and repairing a like in his neighborhood recently. Public Works Director Mitchell Davis does a great job with the wore out equipment he has to work with. His yard waste is always picked up quickly. He assured Public Works Director Mitchell Davis they would get him some updated equipment. Parks & Recreation Director Josh Phillips has great programs.

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 Barbara Kornegay seconded and the motion passed 5-0.

Our next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in the board meeting room.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Wiggins
Mayor Pro-Tempore

Sherry Davis
Administrative Assistant/Town Clerk