

MINUTES  
DANBURY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
DANBURY LIBRARY  
January 24, 2024

A meeting of the Danbury Town Council was held at the Danbury Library on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Janet Whitt and Council members Steve Shelton and Wendi Spraker. Council member Gary East joined the meeting at 6:53 PM. Town Administrator Mike Barsness and Town Attorney Eugene Russell were also present. Council member Dave Hoskins was absent. A quorum was recorded.

Visitors present: Randy Benson of UNCG School of Arts, Becky East, and Terri Flagg representing Stokes News.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously  
RESOLVED to approve the agenda as proposed.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT:

Council member Steve Shelton read a Conflict of Interest Statement regarding items on the meeting agenda. No conflicts were reported.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Randy Benson from UNCG School of Arts announced his class has chosen Danbury as their "Any Town USA" film project this year. They intend to film their interviews and conversations with town residents and officials. They typically focus on small NC communities.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, it was unanimously RESOLVED to extend enthusiastic cooperation to Randy Benson and the Any Town USA film project.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Steve Shelton stated he recently led a group of approximately 30 people on a hike along Mill Creek. They visited the old mill site, the power plant, and other locations of historical significance.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Reminder that Danbury will be hosting the next League Meeting on Thursday, May 2, 2024, 6:30 PM, at the Arts Place.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. On motion of Wendi Spraker, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the December 27, 2023 meeting.

2. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of December 28, 2023 to January 24, 2024.
3. Council discussed the need to find new members for the planning board. There is one vacancy (in-town). Another member (ETJ) is not available due to illness. It was also suggested that alternate positions be re-established. One in-town alternate and one ETJ alternate would be satisfactory. Names of potential new members will be gathered and contacted. A brief job description will be developed and posted.

On motion of Gary East, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to re-establish alternate members on the town planning board.

4. A brief update on the status of Danbury Zoning Ordinance revisions was provided. The Planning Board has met once and will meet again next week to review proposed changes.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, it was unanimously RESOLVED to not set a public hearing date until after receiving a recommendation from the Planning Board.

5. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was RESOLVED to approve an additional street light at the corner of Main Street and Camping Island Creek Road. The vote was Gary East and Wendi Spraker in favor, Steve Shelton abstained. Motion passed.
6. It was reported that revenue is down 0.5% for the year. Sales tax has flattened, utility tax is down as predicted, motor vehicle tax is down but lagging in reporting. Property tax is near where expected.
7. Administrator's Report
  - a. There is enough SCIF grant and ARP grant money still available to pave several more streets: 1. Sheeprock Road repaving from the cemetery to the town limits. 2. Courthouse Circle east side, Courthouse Circle from west side catch basin to Main Street at North Mill Hill. Camping Island Creek Road, King Circle, and South Mill Hill were previously approved. Project ordinances will be amended and ready for next meeting.
  - b. Town Hall roof is in need of replacing. An estimate will be obtained on 1/25/24. Asphalt shingles, standing-seam metal roofing, and gutters will be priced.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. The time was 7:33 PM.

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Janet S. Whitt  
Mayor

Attest:

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Dianne B. Starnes  
Town Clerk

*(Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, February 28, 2024**, 6:30 PM, at Town Hall.)*