

MINUTES
DANBURY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
DANBURY TOWN HALL
February 28, 2024

A meeting of the Danbury Town Council was held at Danbury Town Hall on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

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

Visitors present: Jake Elsdon. Terri Flagg represented Stokes News.

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

The proposed agenda was approved with the addition of a discussion item "Occupancy Tax and Tourism Development Authority".

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: None

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: None

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. The Arts Council Director has requested consideration be given to theming this year's parade "Stokes Arts 50 Years of Memories".

NEW BUSINESS:

1. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the January 24, 2024 meeting.
2. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of January 25, 2024 to February 28, 2024.
3. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to recommend Stokes County Commissioners appoint Jacob Elsdon as a Danbury ETJ Planning and Zoning Board member.

4. Council heard a recommendation from the Planning Board to adopt the proposed revisions to the Danbury Zoning Ordinance following a public hearing.
5. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to set March 27, 2024 as the date to receive public comment on proposed revisions to the Zoning Ordinance.
6. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, it was unanimously RESOLVED to increase the FY 2023-24 Operations Budget in the amount of \$4,200.00, for a total budget of \$81,580.00.
7. On motion of Wendi Spraker, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to amend the SCIF Project Budget to include Crestview Rd, Old Church Rd, King Circle, So. Mill Hill St, and Sheeprack Rd overlay; add \$6,000.00 from the Powell Fund, for a total budget of \$206,000.00.
8. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to amend the ARP Project Budget to cancel Crestview Rd, Old Church Rd, King Circle, So. Mill Hill St; Add Courthouse Circle (east), Courthouse Circle (north & Meadow Rd east [including No. Mill Hill St to Main St]); cancel \$10,500.00 of Powell funds. Total budget of \$58,321.00.
9. The FY2024-25 Budget Schedule was distributed. Revenue estimates will be available by end of March, proposed budget will be available in mid-May, public hearing at the regular May meeting, and adoption at the regular June meeting.
10. Replacement costs for the town hall roof were presented. Council asked for additional quotes before a decision.
11. A financial report was provided. General revenue is -9.2%, however, investments bring that loss to approximately -1%. A property valuation report (TR-2) for 2024 indicates a slight increase in residential and commercial valuation, however, it is off-set by increased exemptions resulting in a net loss of \$577,221.00 in total valuation and \$1,559.00 in taxes.
12. Stokes County is asking the Council for a Danbury representative to the newly formed Tourist Development Authority created to manage and oversee funding and expenses for the recently imposed county occupancy tax. A representative will be determined soon.

13. On motion of Gary East, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to enter closed session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss a personnel matter. The time was approximately 7:25 PM.

On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to re-enter open session. The time was 7:37 PM.

On motion of Gary East, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the meeting. The time was 7:38 PM.

Janet S. Whitt
Mayor

Attest:

Dianne B. Starnes
Town Clerk

(Next meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 27, 2024**, 6:30 PM, at the Danbury Library.)