

MINUTES
DANBURY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
DANBURY LIBRARY
November 20, 2024

A meeting of the Danbury Town Council was held at the Danbury Library on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 6:30 P.M.

Present: Mayor Pro-tem Gary East and Council members Wendi Spraker, Steve Shelton and Dave Hoskins. Town Administrator Mike Barsness, Town Clerk Renea Brown and Town Attorney Eugene Russell were also present. A quorum was recorded.

Absent: None.

Visitors present: Trevor Gardner and Bennett Early represented Gardner & Co., Olivia Shelton, Shannon Connor, numerous members of the community and Terri Flagg represented Stokes News.

Gary East called the meeting to order at 6:33 P.M.

Steve Shelton requested that an addition be made to the agenda to add the clarification of not having a city mayor. On the motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Gary East, item #13 was added to the agenda. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the agenda as amended.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST STATEMENT:

Gary East read the Conflict of Interest Statement regarding items on the meeting agenda. Dave Hoskins stated that he would not be voting on the Text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance due to conflict, Steve, Wendi and Gary stated that they have no conflict of interest.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Shannon Connor, 109 Seven Island Rd addressed the council in reference to skeet shooting on her property. She requested some type of consideration to exempt her from the firearms discharge ordinance due to the size of property. She explained in detail that they were discharging their firearms for recreational purposes and for her son to practice for his 4-H club. They may occasionally discharge one to scare away harmful wildlife. Olivia Shelton stated that the noise is upsetting to her and her pets.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS: Steve Shelton thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and being so courteous about the matter. He stated that virtually all municipalities have a firearms discharge ordinance.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Gary East thanked everyone for coming out and having a calm and courteous conversation about this problem. His only report is that Christmas in Danbury is December 8th and it will be dedicated to Janet Whitt. Steve stated that his sound system would work. The time will be approximately 4:30 for the event.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. On motion of Dave Hoskins, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the September 25, 2024 meeting.
2. On motion of Dave Hoskins, seconded by Steve Shelton, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Meeting Notes of the October 23, 2024 meeting.
3. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Accounts Payable for the period of September 26, 2024 to November 20, 2024.
4. The invitation was opened for Public Hearing comments on Ordinance 2024-04 Text Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance proposed by County of Stokes adding Taprooms and Craft/Micro Breweries to the Table of Uses by District. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker, the floor was opened to public comments at 6:40. Shannon Connor expressed concern to the tubers being overserved on top of drinking on the river. Mrs. Connor stated that she is in favor of the Taproom and just wants to make sure that everyone is responsible. No other visitors expressed opinions. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker the floor was closed at 7:05. Gary East asked if they were ready to vote, both Steve Shelton and Wendi Spraker agreed to vote.
5. Gary East read the Statement of Consistency for the proposed Text Amendment to add Taprooms and Craft/Micro Breweries to the Zoning Ordinance Table of Uses by District. On motion of Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker the Statement of Consistency was adopted. Steve Shelton, Wendi Spraker, Gary East voted Yes, Dave Hoskins abstained. On motion of Wendi Spraker, seconded by Steve Shelton the text amendment was adopted. Steve Shelton, Wendi Spraker, Gary East voted Yes, Dave Hoskins abstained.

6. Trevor Gardner and Bennett Early presented the FYE 6/30/24 Audit Report. Bennett Early discussed each step that was taken for the audit and the findings. The only finding noted was the timing of an invoice that was paid after the FYE where the work was done in the previous FYE audit and this timing issue caused the town's LGC calculations to be under the desired fund balance threshold. No council members had any questions about the report.
7. The consideration of Policy P-2024-01 Computer use Policy was addressed. On motion of Dave Hoskins, seconded by Steve Shelton it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve Policy P-2024-01.
8. The consideration of Resolution R-2024-01 to dissolve the Petty Cash Fund was addressed. On motion Dave Hoskins, seconded by Wendi Spraker it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve Resolution R-2024-01.
9. The consideration of Resolution R-2024-02 to declare HP 8610 printer to be surplus. On motion Dave Hoskins, seconded by Steve Shelton it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve Resolution R-2024-02.
10. The consideration to amend the FY 2024-25 Budget by increasing it from \$77,500.00 to \$103,300.00 to allow for additional advertising, replacement of a printer and to include grant funding for street paving. On motion Wendi Spraker, seconded by Dave Hoskins it was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the Budget amendment for FY 2024-25.
11. Administrator's Report
 - a. Financial report was given by Mike Barsness.
 - b. Mike stated that he has nearly completed the solid waste proposal.
 - c. Mike suggested that Bruce Burgess begin a new 3-year term in lieu of picking up the existing term of previous member. This will prevent the issue of so many members potentially leaving the board at the same time. Eugene stated that they would need to vote on it. On motion Steve Shelton, seconded by Wendi Spraker it was unanimously RESOLVED to alter Bruce Burgess's term on the planning board to end on 7/25/2027.
12. Steve Shelton addressed the council to get clarification on the process of moving forward without a mayor. The Town attorney addressed all concerns stating the mayor's position can remain unfilled until the next election.

On motion of Dave Hoskins, seconded by Wendi Spraker, it was unanimously RESOLVED to adjourn the council meeting. Adjournment was at 7:54 pm.

Gary East
Mayor Pro-tem

Attest:

Renea Brown
Town Clerk

(Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 18, 6:30 PM, at the Danbury Library.)