

WHEELER

6-10-25

**TOWN OF ELM CITY
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**June 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Train Depot Office 101 Nash Street St.**

In attendance:

Tawanda Moore, **Mayor**; Tammie Atkinson, **Mayor Pro-Tem**;
Gil Wheeler, *Commissioner*; Vonica Carr, *Commissioner*, Bridget Wimberley, *Commissioner*

Bridget Wimberley, **Finance Officer**

Shawn Lucas, **Zoning Officer**

Absent

Tim Bridgers, *Commissioner*; Slade Rand, *Town Attorney*; Town Clerk-(vacancy)

Call To Order: Meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Tawanda Moore

Invocation: Mayor Pro-Tem Atkinson led the meeting with prayer.

Pledge Of Allegiance: All in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved with the deletion of April 22, 2025 minutes as they were not available. **Motion was made by Commissioner Gil Wheeler with a Second by Commissioner Vonica Carr (unanimously)**

Approval Of Minutes were made: (April 15, 2025, May 5, 2025, May 8, 2025, June 2, 2025) **Motion was made by Commissioner Gil Wheeler with a Second by Commissioner Vonica Carr. (unanimously)**

Presentations/Discussions: The Board entertained the discussion of grant services help from Collier's Engineering per their written proposal which included; Scope of services. Mayor Moore shared the urgent need to continue the strives toward bettering the town's water issues.

Manufactured Home(s)

Public Hearing: ***Motion was made by Commissioner Gil Wheeler and Seconded by Commissioner Wimberley (unanimously)** to enter public hearing where Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Lucas shared his recommendation from the Zoning Department regarding R-20 Zoning concerning the allowance of Manufactured Home(s).

***Motion made by Commissioner Gil Wheeler and Seconded by Pro-tem Atkinson (unanimously)** to close public hearing and reconvene for the council to vote on the recommendation(s) of Shawn Lucas of Adopting a new ordinance to the Town of Elm City Zoning Ordinance thereby allowing Manufactured Homes Class A/B Doublewides in a R-20 Zoning District with the same existing additional standard for Year Time Line.

Vape & Tobacco Shop(s)

Public Hearing: *Motion was made by Commissioner Wheeler and Seconded Pro-tem Atkinson to enter public hearing where Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Lucas shared his recommendation from the Zoning Department regarding Vape and Tobacco Shops. No one spoke for or against the recommendation. Council Member/ Mayor Pro-tem Tammie Atkinson asked that someone from the planning board elaborate further on the issue that in times past was spoken highly "against" by the public. Mr. Gabe Merando elaborated further into the decisions made by the planning Board. Mr. Merando expressed some 'misunderstandings' of decreased or 'increased' footage communications amongst their planning board. Merando also shared that the planning Board was aiming to keep up with what other towns are setting as a standard operating procedural allowance.

*Motion was made to re-enter council session by Gil Wheeler with a Second by Pro-tem Tammie Atkinson. (unanimously)

*Motion was made by Commissioner Gil Wheeler with a Second by Commissioner Vonica Carr (unanimously) to Accept the recommendation of the planning department to add more standards to Vape Shope Ordinances by increasing the distance of vape shops by 800 feet over their previously "less" distances standard.

Budget Proposal FY 25/26

Public Hearing: *Motion was made by Commissioner Vonica Carr and Seconded by Commissioner Gil Wheeler to enter public hearing regarding the new Budget Proposal FY 25/26. No one from public opted to speak for or against the proposed budget. *Motion to close public hearing and re-enter council session was made by Pro-tem Tammie Atkinson and Seconded by Commissioner Gil Wheeler. (unanimously)

Employee Bonuses

*Motion was made by Commissioner Bridget Wimberley and Seconded by Commissioner Vonica Carr (3 in *favor* and Commissioner Gil Wheeler *against*) to accept Town Administrators recommendation for three employee bonuses per prior Closed Session (NC G.S 143-318.11) discussion during June 2, 2025 "Special Call Meeting" totaling \$1500 for three employees out of the current \$4000 budget allotted for Employee Bonuses under "Administration".

Posting Job Vacancy of Town Clerk/Finance Officer

*Motion was made by Pro-tem Tammie Atkinson and Seconded by Commissioner Vonica Carr to allow the NCLM (North Carolina League of Municipalities) to post the position for the Town of Elm City of a full time Town Clerk/Finance Officer.

Old Business: NONE

New Business: NONE

Public Comment/Hearing: No one from the audience signed up.

Town Staff Reports: Finance Officer Bridget Wimberley shared briefly that things are going well working with the town's third party finance team Greg Isley's group (namely Colleen Adams) as they work together to close out the present fiscal year (24/25).

Mayor & Commissioner's Reports: Mayor Moore shared that town's finances are continuing to look good and that the most recent town audit (2022) revealed issues that were not expressly that of this present administration. Mayor Moore expressed concern over the dissemination of false information into the community.

Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wheeler and Seconded by Commissioner Bridget Wimberley to adjourn the meeting (unanimous) at 7:03pm.