



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

**April 15, 2025 at 6:30 PM
Elm City Train Depot 101 Nash St.**

In attendance:

Mayor Tawanda Moore (hereinafter, Mayor Moore)
Commissioner Gil Wheeler (hereinafter, Commissioner Wheeler)
Commissioner Bridget Wimberley (hereinafter, Commissioner Wimberley)
Commissioner Tim Bridgers (hereinafter, Commissioner Bridgers)
Commissioner Vonica Carr (hereinafter, Commissioner Carr)

Also in Attendance:

Town Attorney Slade Rand (hereinafter, Slade Rand)
Town Clerk Melissa Younger (hereinafter, Clerk Younger)
Finance Officer Tiondra Fields (hereinafter, Finance Officer Fields)

Absent:

Zoning Officer Shawn Lucas (hereinafter, Zoning Officer Lucas)
Public Works Supervisor Wilbur Etheridge (hereinafter, Wilbur Etheridge)
Mayor Pro Tem Tammie Atkinson (hereinafter, Commissioner Atkinson)

Call To Order: Mayor Moore called the Regular Council Meeting to order on April 15, 2025, at 6:30pm.

Invocation: Mayor Moore

Pledge Of Allegiance: Mayor Moore

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the agenda for the April 15, 2025 Regular Council Meeting, with the additions of Bekki Manning, Theresa Whitley, and Mike Tolson to the presentations and discussions portion. **Commissioner Bridgers** made a motion to approve the agenda for the April 15, 2025 Regular Council Meeting with said additions. **Commissioner Wheeler** seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Monthly Council Meeting on March 11, 2025. Commissioner Bridgers made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the Regular Monthly Council Meeting on March 11, 2025.

Commissioner Wheeler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Presentations/Discussions:

- **Theresa Whitley** came to update us on the progress of park renovations in Town. At Alice Spivey Memorial Park, two light poles have been removed by Duke Energy, and one large tree was removed by Pitt Tree Services (at the price of \$5,000).
- **Bekki Manning**, who is responsible for compliance with the wastewater and water for the Town of Elm City and reports any issues to the State, joined us to explain the process she follows with reports, and any violations that the Town receives. She stated that a lot of the things that need to be fixed are the responsibility of the town. *EMS SOLUTIONS*

James Pittman joined in to explain the process of testing, the lagoon system, and flushing the hydrants. Him and Bekki both entertained questions from the public and answered what they could.

Mayor Moore presented a six-month contract from Bekki Manning to work for the Town as a "Compliance Manager" at the rate of \$1,200/month. Within that contract, Ms. Manning would email monthly reports, handle violations/postings, attend the Towns' monthly meetings, communicate with engineers, contractors, and State Inspectors as well as supply a Local Water Supply Plan. Mayor Moore asked for a motion to approve said contract. **Commissioner Carr** made a motion to approve bringing Bekki Manning on as a Compliance Manager with the contract she provided. There was not a second motion. The motion died.

Commissioner Bridgers made a motion to table the discussion. **Commissioner Carr** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Mike Tolson** addressed the recent newspaper article and felt that he was "thrown under the bus" for happenings that do not fall in line with his responsibilities as the Town Engineer. He stated several times that he is not the operator of wastewater facility, wastewater collection, drinking water distribution system, or water treatment facility. However, he does believe that he has worked very hard to find grant funding and projects to improve overall water quality. Mr. Tolson continued with some recommendations that he believes would help with the ongoing violations, such as operating the spray fields correctly, and flushing hydrants on a daily basis, if necessary. He also recommended the Town purchasing automatic flushing devices that attach to the hydrants and are timed to flush the hydrants. He stated that it would be best to find the problem areas and start there. He also updated us on current projects, such as a water filter and emergency backup system at the 3 wells- Ballfield, Bloodfield and the Oakview Mobile Home Park: rebuilding Cedar Ridge lift station, as well as the other two lift stations.

Mr. Tolson recommended having the Board vote on the current contract. **Commissioner Bridgers** made a motion to approve the contract for \$116,000 with Braswell & Sons for the rehabilitation of the Cedar Grove lift station, and the Elms Point Subdivision. **Commissioner Wheeler** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- **Budget Discussions – Tabled**

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Town Staff Reports: None

Mayor & Commissioner's Reports: None

Public Comment/Hearings: None

Adjournment: Mayor Moore asked for a motion to adjourn the April 15, 2025, Regular Monthly Council Meeting. Commissioner Bridgers made a motion to adjourn the April 15, 2025, Regular Monthly Council Meeting. Commissioner Wimberley seconded the motion. Commission Wheeler opposed. The motion passed 3-1. Meeting was adjourned at 8:41pm.