



**Town Council
Work Session Minutes
September 14, 2023 – 9:30 a.m.**

Mayor O’Cain called the Work Session Council Meeting to order at 9:29 a.m. on September 14, 2023, in person at Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park, NC 28739.

The following attended in person at Town Hall:

- Mayor Carey O’Cain
- Mayor Pro Tempore A. Paul Hansen
- Commissioner George W. Banta
- Commissioner Deb Bridges
- Commissioner Kristin Dunn
- Town Manager Alex Carmichael
- Town Clerk Tamara Amin
- Finance Officer Kirk Medlin
- Police Chief Bobbie Trotter
- Public Works Director Brandon Johnson
- Mr. Gary Anderson- Parks and Greenways Chair
- Ms. Denise Layfield- Parks and Greenways Representative

The following were absent:

- Assistant to the Town Manager Jordan Jones
- Fire Chief Tim Garren

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Town Manager Carmichael asked to add the Laurel Green Playhouse Update to the agenda. Commissioner Dunn moved to approve the amended agenda. Mayor O’Cain asked for discussion; there was none. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

M.O.U. AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ECUSTA TRAIL

Mayor O’Cain said the County has asked the Town to participate in a Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U.) for the maintenance of the Ecusta Trail. Mayor O’Cain said in order to proceed the Town needs to get a budget from Mr. Todd. Council will not reply until there is a budget.

Commissioner Banta wants to know what the Town's roles and responsibilities are on police, equipment, personnel, etc. All these things are going to cost the Town money. The Town will need to increase their manpower, get special vehicles, etc. The Town needs clarity.

LAUREL GREEN PLAYHOUSE UPDATE

Ms. Denise Layfield said the Laurel Green Playhouse is over 20 years old and needs maintenance. There is a beam that needs to be addressed urgently.

Commissioner Dunn left the meeting unexcused at 9:45 a.m.

Ms. Layfield suggested having Mr. Ken Gaylord take control of the project and he would be able to find a subcontractor and manage this project for the board.

Mr. Anderson said the board had put \$5k aside for the Laurel Green and is asking the Council to pay the rest.

Mayor O'Cain said to get a proposal together by Tuesday's meeting of the Council and then they can move forward from there.

Mr. Anderson and Ms. Layfield left at 9:56 a.m.

AGENDA REVIEW FOR THE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

Mr. Carmichael said the Town Council will hold their regularly scheduled Town Council meeting on the third Tuesday of the month, September 19, 2023, at 9:30am. The Town Council reviewed the draft agenda.

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Public Comment**
- 4. Approval of the Agenda**
- 5. Consent Agenda**
 - A. August Monthly Report
 - B. Minutes for the August 10, 2023 Work Session
 - C. Minutes for the August 15, 2023 Regular Meeting
- 6. Old Business**
 - A. Paving and Culvert Contract Amendment
- 7. New Business**
 - A. Board of Adjustment Appointment
 - 1) Paul D. Bell
 - 2) Travis Bonnema
 - 3) Donald T. McIntyre
 - 4) Wesley Belew
 - B. Surplus Property

8. Town Manager's Report

- A. Update On English Ivy Removal Project
- B. Status of Laurel Green Stream Restoration
- C. Lakemoor Sewer Status
- D. Website Development Status

9. Department Head's Reports

- A. Public Works
- B. Fire Department
- C. Police
- D. Administration

10. Mayor and Commissioner Comments

11. Adjournment

Staff said there are some additions to the agenda:

Summit Contract for the website, Discussion of applications of Town Center and Mountain Mixed Use zoning compliance, and the Laurel Green Budget Amendment.

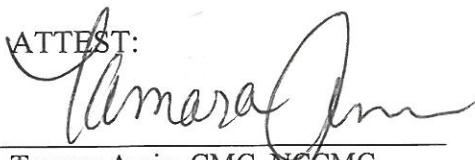
Mayor O'Cain said he would not be present for the Regular Meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Hansen asked about Ecusta Crossing. Mr. Carmichael said they are going to be applying for the final plat.

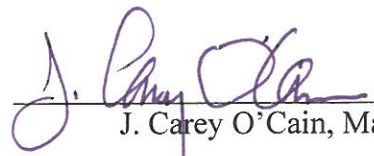
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Commissioner Bridges moved to adjourn at 10:02 a.m. Mayor O'Cain asked for discussion; there was none. Commissioner Dunn left unexcused and is counted as an aye vote. The motion carried.

ATTEST:



 Tamara Amin, CMC, NCCMC
 Town Clerk/Deputy Tax Collector



 J. Carey O'Cain, Mayor
 10/17/23

 Date