



**Town of Haw River
Town Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 2, 2023**

The Haw River Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023, in the Haw River Municipal Building at 6:00 pm.

Council Members Present: Mayor Kelly Allen, Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Lovette, Patty Wilson, Steve Lineberry, and Shawn Riggan.

Members Absent: None

Other Members Present: Town Manager Sean Tencer, Town Clerk Lesley Gonzalez, Assistant Police Chief Brian Phillips, Public Works Director Robert Brewer, Parks & Recreation Director Jesus Campos Garcia, Fire Chief Tyler Franklin & Town Attorney Jacob Wright

Mayor Allen called the meeting to order and gave the invocation at 6:00 pm.

The items on the **consent agenda** were as follows:

1. Approval of the minutes from September 11, 2023, Haw River Town Council meeting.

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Lovette seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

Public Hearing

NONE

PRESENTATION:

2. NC House Representative Steve Ross gave a speech to announce that \$6.1 million

in grant funding was awarded to the Haw River Fire Dept allocated from the 2023-2024 NC State Budget. He gave a brief overview of the 2023-2024 NC State Budget that will become official tomorrow after midnight since Governor Roy Cooper will not sign his approval nor veto. Representative Steve Ross stated there were some challenges that were causing the budget passing to be delayed in Raleigh. Mr. Ross stated that himself, State House Representative Dennis Riddell, and Senator Amy Galey gathered information from their districts on important needs and began to prioritize these by contacting both mayors and managers from local municipalities. The final budget allocations resulted in Alamance County receiving about 48 million dollars from the NC State budget appropriations. This will allow for a new law enforcement training center located on Hwy 49 north of Green Level. In this fiscal year's budget, the Town of Haw River will receive 6.1million-dollars in grant funding for the Haw River Fire Department for capital improvement projects and fire equipment needs. Senator Galey, Rep. Riddell, and Rep. Ross presented the town with a sizable prop check for ceremonial purposes. The real money will hopefully come within the next a month or so. Mr. Ross hopes this grant will alleviate expense needs for the fire department as well as the Town of Haw River.

Councilmember Lovette agreed this grant will alleviate money for other expenses in our town budget in the coming years.

Mayor Kelly Allen stated how she was very grateful for the assistance from our State Representatives and Senators for getting these funds approved for the Town of Haw River.

NEW ITEMS:

3. The Town Council considered adding a new shift firefighter position to the Town of Haw River Fire Department per Fire Chief Tyler Franklin's request. This position will start January 1, 2024, with a starting salary of \$43,457.56.

Town Manager informed the council members the Haw River Fire Department includes 3 full time firefighters and 1 Fire Chief, and about 20 volunteers and a few part timers.

Fire Chief Franklin explained to the council members how this additional full-time employee will help the current staff on fire/medical calls. The call volume has increased, and additional full-time staff will allow more time for double coverage and give the current staff the ability to take time off and still have shifts covered.

Mayor Allen and Mayor Pro-Tem Lovette stated how important our public safety's services are for our town and their residents.

Councilmember Lineberry asked Fire Chief Franklin to explain how the "Kelly Schedule" would work in the fire department? Chief Franklin suggested on giving

them a copy of the calendar to better understand the staffing schedules. This new employee will be assigned a full shift and fill in on shifts when needed.

Councilmember Riggan made a motion to approve the full-time firefighter position for the Haw River Fire Dept. to begin Jan 1, 2024. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

Public Comments:

- The public is allowed to address the Town Council on any non-agenda item at this time.
- Be sure to sign in, stand and state your name and address for the minutes.
- Please limit comments to 3 minutes or less.

Lauren Agnew residing at 418 Roma Rd.-wanted to announce a BBQ benefit dinner at First Baptist Church in Haw River to raise money for former fire-fighter Isaac Faucette due to his recent cancer diagnosis. The family will be traveling to Florida for treatments for 8 weeks. The meal will be at First Baptist Church in Haw River on 10/21/2023.

Aric Geda residing at 216 Graham Rd.- gave Mark Swing his gratitude on having the town's public works employees come to his house to fix a broken water line in a very prompt manner.

Manager's Report

1. **Hanover Road Sewer Meter Project** – \$210K - CJ Utilities has been awarded the contract for construction. The contractor is still waiting for some materials for the job that were backordered.

2. **Lang Street Pump Station** – \$5 million - AWCK has sent NC DEQ the engineering drawings for approval.

3. **AIA Water and Sewer Inventory Assessment** – \$250k - AWCK will start the administration and engineering for this as soon as possible. This inventory will also help update the Town's GIS files.
4. **Small Waterlines Improvement Project** – \$3 million - AWCK is currently surveying for the improvements, and hopefully will go to bid this fall.
5. **Lift Stations Upgrades** - \$525K – hoping to go out to bid within a month or so.
6. **AMI Radio Read Meters (Town-wide)** – working on RFQ/RFP with AWCK
7. **Tyler Tech** – The new payroll system has been implemented, and the water/sewer billing change-over will be this Fall.
8. **NC General Assembly Wishlist** - Town staff completed a “wish-list” regarding major purchases/projects for House Representative Steve Ross and Senator Amy Galey. Congratulations to the Town of Haw River Fire Department for receiving 6.1 million dollars.
9. **Water and Sewer Connection Fees Update** – The Town needs to discuss hiring a third- party to update the water/sewer connection fees to adequately collect more fees based on multi-family development. The Town has been discussing this with AWCK, and they suggested hiring Stantec for \$25,000 to do the updated study as required by NCGS.
10. **Town of Haw River 50th Year** – The Town of Haw River will have a street concert on October 12th from 6 pm to 8 pm with the Mason Lovette Band playing and the Ladies Auxiliary selling pizza and drinks.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Manager Tencer informed the Town Council that outdated/old/unused equipment items were sold on GovDeals.com from both Public Works and Parks and Rec. Departments equaling around \$50,000.

Adjourn

Mayor Allen asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lovette made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Wilson seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

Council Adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Kelly Allen, Mayor



Lesley Gonzalez, Town Clerk