



## Town of Haw River Town Council Meeting Minutes Monday, May 6, 2024

The Haw River Town Council held its regular meeting on Monday, May 6, 2024, in the Haw River Municipal Building at 6:00 pm.

Council Members Present: Mayor Kelly Allen, Mayor Pro-Tem Lee Lovette, Steven Lineberry, Patty Wilson, 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, and Town Attorney Charlie Davis.

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

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### **Consent Agenda**

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

1. Approval of the minutes from the April 1, 2024, Haw River Town Council meeting.
2. Approval of the following budget amendments:
  - a) 2024-013 – Fire – Fire Safer Grant - \$496,000.00 (Revenue)
  - b) 2024-014 – Planning - (Plan Review and Development Fees) - \$22,600.00 (Revenue)
3. Town Council shall set a special meeting date for the 2024-2025 budget presentation on May 20<sup>th</sup> per staff request.
4. “Addendum” added to the Consent Agenda:

Cobb, Ezekiel, & Loy C.O. contract to prepare financial statements for FY 2024-2025.

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to approve the addendum. Councilmember Lovette to add the engagement letter to the consent agenda

Motion carried 5-0

Councilmember Wilson made a motion to accept the consent agenda as presented. Councilmember Riggan seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

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## **Public Hearing**

4. None

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## **Presentations:**

5. The Town Council adopted a resolution to apply for a grant/loan for \$210,000 for lead service line field investigations.

If a loan is required, the Town Manager will request approval from the town council.

Councilmember Wilson made a motion to adopt the resolution to apply for a grant/loan to cover the \$210,000 lead line field investigations that will be conducted throughout the town. Councilmember Lovette seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

6. The Town Council was given a presentation by Fire Chief Tyler Franklin regarding the proposed expenditures of the \$6.1 million dollars received by the NC Office of Budget Management by the NC General Assembly (Materials will be provided during the meeting).

Fire Chief Franklin gave council members booklets with information showing the breakdown of the proposed expense lines. These amounts may be subject to change depending on inflation and/or rising costs.

Proposed expenses:

Pay of First National Bank Loan for Engine #43	\$ 450,000.00
RFQ – fire station remodeling	\$ 3,000,000.00

Purchase new fire engine	\$ 1,000,000.00
New Brush truck	\$ 185,000.00
Truck #46 upgrade	\$ 125,000.00
UTV	\$ 65,000.00
Training Center	\$ 600,000.00
Contingency	<u>\$ 675,000.00</u>
<b>Total Grant</b>	<b>\$ 6,100,000.00</b>

Fire Lt. Christopher Presley presented information regarding the proposed Training Center. The cost will be roughly \$600,000 that will cover the grading, the lab facilities, and equipment to set up the training center. Lt. Presley also elaborated regarding safety standards and gave out updated Occupational Safety and Health Administrations (OSHA) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) legislation to the Council members. Training requirements for firefighters are currently 36 hrs./year.

Alamance Community College (ACC) fire academy students have been training at Rockingham Community College (RCC). The new training center in Green Level, NC is for Law Enforcement not for Fire Departments. The fire academy students will be increasing in the upcoming years due to ACC offering the classes to local high school students, therefore our new training center will be beneficial in servicing these students. The Haw River Fire Dept has several instructors on staff and the cost for maintenance of the training center should be minimal. Donations can be given to utilize the facility, but training smoke will be purchased for the classes. There will be minimal water usage since the fire engines should maintain at minimum 2,000 gallons of water on scene.

The cost should be around \$600,000 for 6 labs - 2 bids have been scouted. One in state, another out of state. Lt. Presley elaborated how this facility could reduce the Town's Insurance Services Office (ISO) scoring, which can help lower the resident's homeowner's insurance. The Town of Haw River is currently at a score of 4, but the target is to get a 3.

Councilmember Wilson asked if air packs would be purchased with the grant. Fire Chief Franklin responded by saying the current packs are fine now, but the updated version will be released in the upcoming years which will be when the air packs can be purchased.

Councilmember Lineberry asked if this training center expense will be the last expense on the grant list which Lt. Presley responded that yes, possibly since other expenses take precedence.

The Town Manager suggests we go ahead and sign the contract for the fire truck to receive the discounted rate. The training center expense should be last, but he does not see it a problem to have this accomplished.

Councilmember Lovette inquired if the fire department would be able to handle day to day operations while the construction and growth is underway. Chief Franklin said it shouldn't be too much of a problem.

Councilmember Riggan mentioned this grant money will be a career change for the Haw River Fire Department and that this will probably never happen again.

RFQ will also be sent out for the remodeling.

Councilmember Lineberry made a motion to accept the expenditure listing from Fire Chief Franklin for the \$6.1 million grant from the NC General Assembly as a guideline. 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.
- None

**Manager's Report**

As stated in the Agenda Packet of May 6, 2024.

Correction will be made to the ISO rating listed in the manager's notes. The rate is currently a "4" and not a "3."

Mayor Allen asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Riggan made a motion to adjourn. Councilmember Lineberry seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0

Council Adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

  
 Kelly Allen, Mayor

  
 Lesley Gonzalez, Town Clerk