



**SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2025, 7:00 P.M.**

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the temporary Council Chambers of the South Hill Town Hall located at 111 E. Danville Street, South Hill, Virginia 23970.

I. OPENING

Honorable Mayor Mike Moody called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Moody called upon Interim Clerk of Council Kristine Martin to call the roll, which was as follows:

A. Council Members

Lillie Feggins-Boone
Delores Luster

Jenifer Freeman-Hite
Carl L. Sasser, Jr.

Gavin Honeycutt
Michael Smith

B. Staff in Attendance

Keli Reekes, Town Manager
Kristine Martin, HR Manager/Interim Clerk
Leanne Patrick, Administrative Asst.
Jesse Bausch, Town Attorney Services

Greg Geist, Police Chief
David Hash, Code Compliance Official
Dahlis Morrow, Dir. of Fin. & Admin.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster, to approve the agenda for February 10, 2025, including the addition of the Nicks Lane Area Housing Rehabilitation Board appointment. The motion carried unanimously.

III. ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES TO FILL WARD 2 VACANCY

Mayor Moody presented Randy Crocker for consideration of appointment to fill the Ward 2 vacancy. Mr. Crocker was the only candidate who submitted a resume for consideration by the February 3, 2025 deadline. The General Registrar has confirmed the candidate is a registered voter in Ward 2. Council was given the candidate's resume to review.

The candidate was present and expressed verbal interest to fill the vacancy. The candidate also welcomed questions and comments from Council. Vice Mayor Honeycutt expressed pleasure in the candidate's interest in filling the vacancy.

A Special Meeting will be advertised and held on Tuesday, February 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. to make the interim appointment. The interim appointment expires on December 31, 2025. The seat will be up for election at the next general election on November 4, 2025 to fill the remainder of the term.

IV. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL

At this point in the meeting, the following citizen addressed Council:

- **Wade Crowder-** Expressed concerns over subpoenas issued by a Council member and the dog park.

V. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Rezoning Case #2025-2

David Hash informed Council that a Notice of Public Hearing was published which asked for comments regarding Rezoning Case #2025-2, a request by Antonia Rogers to rezone the property located on the corner of Cook Lane and E. Virginia Street from Central Business District C3 to General Residential District R2-16. The property is currently owned by Stepping Stones Properties, LLC.

Mr. Hash opened the Public Hearing:

- Jamethro Rogers provided clarification on the intended development of the property.

Mr. Hash closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Feggins-Boone to approve Rezoning Case #2025-2 to rezone the property located on the corner of Cook Lane and E. Virginia Street from Central Business District C3 to General Residential District R2-16. The motion carried unanimously.

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

A. Consent Agenda

1. Minutes

a. January 13, 2025 Regular Meeting

2. Monthly Financial Report

Dahlis Morrow submitted the financial report as follows:

General Fund	- \$ 11,625,451.13	Total Investment Accounts	- \$27,391,155.19
Water and Sewer Fund	- \$ 51,452.70	Total Police Dept. Savings	- \$ 48,639.59
Cemetery Fund	- \$ 19,771.45	Del. Taxes Due Thru 01/31/2025 -	\$ 646,061.51
Total in Checking	- \$ 11,696,675.28	(Real Estate and Personal Property)	

A motion was made by Councilor Feggins-Boone, second by Councilor Luster, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Items for Approval

1. Town Manager Report

a. Schedule Public Hearing – Regional Industrial Facility Authority

Keli Reekes informed Council that, as outlined in the Town's Comprehensive Plan, Town staff, in collaboration with County staff and the South Hill Industrial Development Authority, have been working to identify a new site for an industrial park. Staff worked with Mecklenburg County and legal counsel in the development of the Route 58 Activation Regional Industrial Facility Authority (RIFA) to include the approval of the Member Locality Participation Agreement.

A motion was made by Councilor Smith, second by Councilor Luster to hold a public hearing on March 10, 2025 to approve the creation of the Route 58 Activation Regional Industrial Facility Authority. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Ratify Petition for Special Election

Mrs. Reekes informed Council that a special election will be held on November 4, 2025 to fill the remainder of term of the Town Council seat vacated when Councilor Mike Moody assumed the role as Mayor on January 1, 2025. The term of the vacated Town Council seat will expire December 31, 2026. The Town Attorney filed the petition for the special election with the Circuit Court Clerk as per Code of Virginia.

A motion was made by Councilor Feggins-Boone, second by Councilor Luster to ratify and approve the petition filed by the Town Attorney for the special election. The motion carried unanimously.

c. South Hill Volunteer Fire Department – Request for Street Closure

Mrs. Reekes informed Council that the South Hill Volunteer Fire Department (SHVFD) is requesting a street closure from the stoplight at Atlantic Street to Main Street on Sunday, March 23, 2025 beginning 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to conduct downtown Aerial Operations.

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Vice Mayor Honeycutt to approve the South Hill Volunteer Fire Department's street closure request on Sunday, March 23, 2025 from 8:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m.. The motion carried unanimously.

d. Town Hall Update

Mrs. Reekes provided an update on the mold remediation efforts in Town Hall, stating that the project remains on schedule. The mold remediation process is halfway to completion. Air quality testing has been done and Mrs. Reekes is anticipating a report of the results this week.

Regarding the restoration project of Town Hall, work cannot begin on the restoration of the building until the mold remediation project is completed. The mold remediation is projected to be completed by the end of March 2025. The projected timeline for the restoration project is six to nine months.

Upon additional discussion, Councilor Smith inquired about livestreaming capabilities for future Town Council meetings at the temporary location. Mrs. Reekes stated that the audio-visual equipment necessary to livestream meetings is costly and recommended that the Town not make the investment in the equipment at the temporary location. Mrs. Reekes further stated that if Council wished to move forward with the temporary equipment, staff would certainly proceed with installation.

C. Reports to Accept as Presented

For efficiency, the following reports for January 2025 were presented as a group to accept as presented.

1. Town Manager Report

a. Facilities Reservation Calendar

Mrs. Reekes submitted a calendar of activities and reservations at Centennial Park, Parker Park, the South Hill Exchange, and other Town facilities. The calendar is up to date at the time the Council packets are distributed, but it changes frequently as new reservations are made.

2. Police Report

Chief Geist submitted the monthly police report. He reported there were 251 activity incidents, 30 reportable criminal offenses, 1,218 calls for service, and \$140,850 in property recovered. Other miscellaneous items included 138 training hours and 34 warrants issued. Administrative news was shared.

3. South Hill Volunteer Fire Department (SHVFD) Report

Chief Michael Vaughan submitted the Fire Report. He reported the SHVFD responded to 233 total alarms from October 2024 through December 2024. Calls responded to in Town were 122, within the county district were 107, and involving fire were 30. Mutual aid given was 34, and automatic aid received was 61. Training included Vehicle Extraction, Apparatus, Vehicle Shoring, and FFI. Fundraising efforts included a Brunswick Stew on November 9, and continual sales of Engine 71 t-shirts and Henry raffle tickets. Administrative news was shared.

4. Municipal Services Report

C.J. Dean submitted the municipal services report on the following:

- Lead and Copper Inventory
- Waterline Installation
- Winter Weather Events
- Stormwater Project Easement Agreements

5. Code Compliance Report

a. Report of Activity

David Hash submitted the report of activity as follows:

Inspections Completed	-		45
Permits Issued	-		24
Fees Collected	-	\$	24,936.63
UEZ Exemption	-	\$	0
Rehab Exemption	-	\$	0
General Exemption	-	\$	0
Work Value	-	\$	5,293,615.00

New businesses included:

- Single Output – 935 W. Atlantic Ave. (Retail)
- Pomp Boys Motors – 200 W. Danville St. (Automotive Dealership and Repairs)
- Marino's Pizza (New Owners) – 202 E. Atlantic St. (Quick Service Food)
- Deacon Jones Honda of South Hill – 1121 E. Atlantic St. (Automobile Dealership)
- Deacon Jones CDJR of South Hill – 1123 E. Atlantic St. (Automobile Dealership)
- South Hill Submission Grappling – 110 W. Danville St. (Jiu Jitsu School)

b. Dilapidated Properties

Along with the list of completed dilapidated properties, a report on the status of approximately 45 dilapidated properties was also presented.

6. Business Development Report

Brent Morris submitted the business development report on the following:

- New Industrial Park Development
- Strategies for recruiting new businesses, including restaurants and lodging
- Continued efforts to address the need for housing development

7. Human Resources Report

Kristine Martin submitted the human resources report on the following:

a. HR Accomplishments Updates

- Managers and Supervisors have started the 2024 evaluation process.

b. Employment News

- Josh Spence, Water & Sewer Crew Supervisor, has dedicated 15 years of employment to the Town.
- Leanne Patrick, Administrative Assistant, began employment effective February 10, 2025.

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Luster, to approve the reports as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

VII. APPOINTMENTS

A. Clerk of Council

A motion was made by Vice Mayor Honeycutt, second by Councilor Feggins-Boone, to appoint Leanne Patrick, Administrative Assistant, as Clerk of Council. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Nicks Lane Area Housing Rehabilitation Board

A motion was made by Councilor Freeman-Hite, second by Councilor Luster, to appoint Dahlis Morrow, Director of Finance and Administration, to the Nicks Lane Area Housing Rehabilitation Board. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Moody adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

VALIDATION

Minutes approved this 10th day of March, 2025.


Leanne Patrick, Clerk of Council


W.M. Moody, Mayor