



November 12, 2024

**SECOND TUESDAY MEETING
TOWN OF DAVIDSON BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Town of Davidson Board of Commissioners held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 12, 2024 in the Town Hall and Community Center Board Room. Present were Mayor Rusty Knox, Commissioners Ryan Fay, Steve Justus, Tracy Mattison Brandon, Autumn Riersen Michael, and Ted Stauffer. Town Manager Jamie Justice, Town Attorney Karen Wolter, and Town Clerk Betsy Shores were also present.

- **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Knox called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- **ANNOUNCEMENTS/PROCLAMATION**

Communications Director Jessica Johnson announced the following:

The next Commissioner Chat will be held in the Cafeteria of the Ada Jenkins Center from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19. All residents are welcome to attend. The Town of Davidson Commissioner Chats are public meetings designed to be informal ways for residents to discuss current issues and projects in Town. This will be the last chat in 2024, however beginning in 2025, Commissioner Chats will be held in the spring and fall on the third Tuesday of the month from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

The Town of Davidson is pleased to announce the selection of Frank Jordan as the 2024 Jack Burney Award recipient. The award is named for G. Jackson Burney who served the Town in many capacities, primarily in planning and communications. Since 2004, Davidson has honored Burney and those whose unselfish service benefits the community. Community members are invited to attend the G. Jackson Burney Community Service Award ceremony on Wednesday, November 27 at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Davidson Town Hall and Community Center (251 South Street). The North Mecklenburg Moravian Band will play at 9:30 a.m., and Mayor Rusty Knox will open the ceremony at 10:00 a.m. in the Auditorium.

Town of Davidson municipal offices, including the Davidson Town Hall and Community Center at 251 South Street and the Davidson Public Safety Building at 216 S. Main Street, will close Thursday, November 28, and Friday, November 29, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Offices will reopen Monday, December 2 for regular business hours 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Waste Pro trash and recycling collection will be on a one-day delay during the week of Thanksgiving. For residents whose regular pick-up day would be Thursday, November 28, Waste Pro will collect on Friday, November 29.

Christmas in Davidson will take place nightly from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 5; Friday, December 6; and Saturday, December 7. The 42nd Annual North Mecklenburg Holiday Parade will take place on Saturday, December 7, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. The parade route is approximately two (2) miles long and follows Main Street (Hwy. 115) from the Town of Davidson ending at the intersection of North Main Street and Catawba Ave in the Town of Cornelius. After the parade, the Merry Main Street Tricycle Race will happen on Main Street in front of the Town Green. This annual event includes four-person trike teams sponsored by Davidson

- **CHANGES/ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

No changes to the agenda.

Commissioner Rierson-Michael made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **BUSINESS ITEMS**

(a) Planning Director Jason Burdette reviewed a **resident proposed text amendments** specific to fencing standards on corner lots (**Davidson Planning Ordinance 4.3.1.D**). This proposal originates from the construction of a non-compliant fence on a corner lot in 2023. The Davidson Planning Ordinance provides an option for a resident to propose a text amendment and staff is following the process outlined in the ordinance. Based on the consistency with other jurisdictions, and the staff and planning board recommendations the board did not approve the resident's proposed text amendments.

Commissioner Rierson-Michael made a motion to deny Ordinance 2024-11 an Ordinance to Address Fencing on Corner Lots and Consistency Statement. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

(b) Town Manager Justice presented the **2025 Advisory Board Appointments and Chairs of the Design Review Board/Historic Preservation Commission and Planning Board**. The Town of Davidson has six citizen advisory boards: Affordable Housing and Equity Board, Design Review Board/Historic Preservation Commission, Livability Board, Planning Board, Davidson Public Art Commission, and the newly formed Sustainability Board. A nominating committee consisting of the mayor, two commissioners, the manager, the chairs of the advisory boards, and the staff liaisons to the advisory boards reviews the applications and determines who to recommend for appointment. The Board of Commissioners receives the nominations and makes the final decision on appointments. Appointments are made by December to fill the expiring seats with three-year terms beginning in January. The number of seats on the advisory boards remains the same except the recommendations include reducing the Affordable Housing and Equity Board to twelve (12) members, reducing the Design Review Board/Historic Preservation Commission to seven (7) members, and increasing the Public Art Commission to twelve (12) members.

Commissioner Fay made a motion to approve the 2025 Advisory Board Appointments as presented and appointment of Rachel Johnson as Chair of the Design Review Board/Historic Preservation Commission and reappointment of Shawn Copeland as Chair of the Planning Board. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

(c) Finance Director Piet Swart presented the **Audit Request for Proposals**. The Town is required to have an annual audit per state law. The current auditor is retiring. The Town issued a RFP for audit services. Seven responses were received. Staff is recommending the Board approve a contract with RH CPA's, PLLC. The Board will be asked to consider approval of the contract on the consent agenda at the November 26 meeting.

(d) Parks & Recreation Director Leslie Willis presented a **proposed agreement with funding from Mecklenburg County for Beaty Park Phase II**. Beaty Park was completed and opened on July 8, 2023. In 2020, the Town of Davidson and Mecklenburg County met to discuss potential partnership opportunities. At that time, Mecklenburg County had already allocated all of their Capital Improvement Project Funding. Therefore, the park was designed to be done in two phases. The first phase of Beaty Park was funded by Town General Obligation Bonds, Town CIP funds, and a NC Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant. Recently, as part of their 2024-2028 Capital Improvement Plan, Mecklenburg County was able to set aside \$1,000,000 in funding to be allocated for additional improvements to the park. These improvements include a pond renovation, signage, improved maintenance access entrance to include ADA parking, a fishing pier, a pathway to the pier, a pedestrian crosswalk on Beaty Street, and the Beaty Street Multi-Use Path. This partnership is possible because the County recognizes that Beaty Park is located within a park gap area and a priority community in Meck Playbook and the County owns no property in close proximity to Beaty Park. In addition, Beaty Park is located along the proposed route of The Seam Trail, a 60-mile multi-jurisdictional multi-use trail that stretches from Statesville to the South Carolina state line. The Board will be asked to approve the Development and Cooperation Agreement with Mecklenburg County for Beaty Park and budget amendment on the consent agenda at the November 26 meeting.

- **CLOSED SESSION**

Commissioner Rierson Michael made a motion to move to closed session per NCGS § 143-318-11 (a) (3) Consult with Attorney at 6:46 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Commissioner Rierson Michael made a motion to end the closed and return to open session at 7:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

- **ADJOURN**

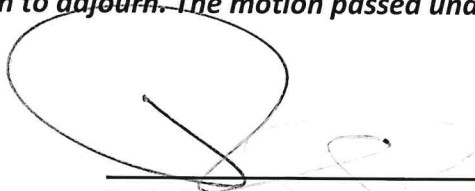
Commissioner Justus made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Attest:



Elizabeth K. Shores
Town Clerk


Rusty Knox
Mayor