



# ***TOWN OF VANCEBORO***

## **BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING**

*Held their regular monthly meeting on  
November 4, 2024 at 7:00 PM  
in the Jimmie L. Morris Boardroom*

- I. Call to order by **Mayor Chad Braxton**.
- II. Roll call **Those Present: Mayor Chad Braxton, Alderman Steve Belrose, Alderman Keith Cannon, Alderman Thad Jones, Alderman Russell Ipock and Alderman Todd McMillen.**
- III. Invocation by **Alderman Jones**.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. Approval of minutes from last meeting. **Alderman Ipock made a motion to approve minutes. Motion was seconded by Alderman Belrose and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VI. Approval of Cash Receipts and Disbursements. **Alderman Jones made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Alderman Ipock and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VII. Public Comment.

**Hud Jordan of 704 College Street inquired of the camper trailer on Mill Road. He stated it had been there for 17 months and wanted to know why it was being allowed to happen. We have ordinances and rules in place to avoid this.**

- VIII. Public Hearing. **902 College Street – Rezoning request.**

**Mayor Braxton opened the public hearing. The planning and zoning board met regarding the rezoning request for 902 College Street from R10S to Commercial. The planning and zoning board made a recommendation to the Board of Alderman to leave the property zoned as R10S.**

**Alderman McMillen made a motion to close the public hearing. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and carried. Vote 5-0.**

**Alderman McMillen made a motion to deny the request to change the zoning at 902 College Street from R10S to Commercial. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and carried. Vote 5-0.**

- IX. Police Report was presented by Chief Keys. The Dodge Durango is back from being repaired. Our department helped serve food and concessions at the Family Fun festival hosted by the Bailey Lane and Oaks Apartments on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The department has completed our in-service training requirements for the year. We are good to go for another year. We have received more complaints regarding unknown vehicles in the area of Buck Lane. Officer Johnson has been patrolling the area and was able to apprehend a wanted subject and found a drunk driver. Samuel Ray White was arrested by the Craven County Sheriff's Office. He was a subject involved in a motor vehicle parts theft from two businesses in town. The quote to update our radios to Flash and for four new batteries is \$1,919.69.**

**Alderman Ipock made a motion to approve the purchase of the Flash update for the radios and the new batteries. Motion was seconded by Alderman Belrose and carried. Vote 5-0.**

- X. Mayor's Reports. The mayor shared an example of a leash law to see if the Alderman were interested in holding a Public Hearing to adopt this ordinance for the Town.**

**Alderman Jones made a motion that we hold a public hearing to consider adopting a leash law for the Town of Vanceboro. Motion was seconded by Alderman Cannon and carried. Vote 4-1. Alderman Belrose did not support having the public hearing. Public Hearing will be held on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 7 p.m. in the Jimmie L. Morris Boardroom.**

**The Alderman met on October 21, 2024, to discuss our options for new water meters in town. We had quotes from three different businesses and decided to go with Utility Services at a total cost of \$275,970.**

**Alderman Jones made a motion to purchase our new meters from Utility Services. Motion was seconded by Alderman Belrose and carried. Vote 5-0.**

**The Town received three bids from companies to maintain our two town cemeteries throughout the 2025 calendar year. This will include: 34 cuts per year, 2 fire ant applications, weed eating, edging of monuments, trash removed and old flowers from the property. TBH Forestry bid \$44,200, All Star Lawn Care bid \$25,000 and Jenkins Bushhogging bid \$19,200.**

**Alderman Ipock made a motion that we accept the bid from Jenkins Bushhogging to maintain our two town cemeteries for the 2025 calendar year. Motion was seconded by Alderman Belrose and carried. Vote 5-0.**

Mayor's Reports. Election Day is tomorrow, come out and exercise your right to vote. The parking lot here at the Town Hall and Police Department got restriped. Limb pickup out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant will be picked up next month. The edging of the sidewalks throughout town is almost complete. Election signs should be removed throughout town within 14 days of the election date. Any signs remaining up after that time will be removed and be placed out at the Water Plant. Turnage Construction will begin the ditch mowing throughout town over the next few weeks. Timmy Hawks repainted the Water Treatment Plant inside for a total of \$5,800, it looks great. Craven County Recreation and Park Director Billy Wilkes has retired, Mark Seymore is the new Director. Disk golf and pickle ball will be installed soon at West Craven Park. The Dodge Durango was repaired and put back in service today. Our next Board of Alderman meeting will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our next recycling date is November 7<sup>th</sup>. Alderman Ipock's wife is celebrating a birthday today. Public Works Supervisor, Vernon Edwards and I, met with the engineers regarding the Buck Lane project. They should be resubmitting drawings for this project. Overall, these new homes will generate approximately \$5 million in tax value for the town. The Town hall will be closed on November 11<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and 29<sup>th</sup> in observance of Veteran's Day and Thanksgiving. Our hearts and prayers go out to the families of Mr. Kenneth Fillingame, Mr. John Gray Jr., and Mr. Delano Hill of Inlet, SC. I attended the Family Fun festival at Bailey Lane, Donna Patrick, the new manager is doing a great job for both apartments. I attended the dedication of the West Craven High School performing arts center, in memory of Mr. Michael Averette. Thank you to The Board of Education and Mrs. Linda Thomas for their hard work with this presentation. Trunk or Treat was well attended, would like to thank the Global Methodist Church and the Police for providing a safe place for the children to go and enjoy the evening. We will swear in the new board after the old business is completed at the next meeting on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

XI. Alderman Reports.

Alderman McMillen received one quote to add two items to the Richard W. Bowers Park. The quote was for a two-seated rocker and one animal for a total of \$3,500.00. I will look at other places to compare before we decide what to add to the park. The side gate for the park is constantly having to be shut on the White Street side, we may want to consider purchasing a lock to keep it closed.

Alderman Ipock stated that Hallelujah Night at Global Methodist Church was a huge success. He thanked Vernon for helping with cones and setup, the Police and Mayor for their help with making it a great success.

Alderman Jones had no comment.

Alderman Belrose asked if we could take the back pay from the prison and invest it to earn more money for the town. I received a quote from Ag Grow to place a buffer out at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to hide the limbs from the road. The total is \$2,240.00

Alderman Ipock made a motion we purchase the buffer at a cost of \$2,240 from Ag Grow. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and carried. Vote 4-0.

Alderman Cannon thanked the board for the opportunity to sit on the board. I took Alderman Earl Wright's place, and it has been an honor to serve behind such a great man. I'm proud of the Town, the Board of Alderman, and all the accomplishments throughout the journey. I'd like to thank everyone and the staff.

Franciso Rodriguez of 326 Buck Lane asked about the Buck Lane project and his concern for the increase of cars once the new homes are built. He stated the roads are very narrow and people are constantly walking, and it is a safety concern.

XII. There being no further business we dismissed at 8:27 p.m.

I hereby certify that the above is true and accurate record of said minutes.



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CHAD E. BRAXTON  
MAYOR



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BEVERLY W. DRAKE  
TOWN CLERK