



TOWN OF VANCEBORO

BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING

*Held their regular monthly meeting on
September 9, 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 McMillen**.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. Approval of minutes from last meeting. **Alderman McMillen made a motion to approve minutes. Motion was seconded by Alderman Ipock and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VI. Approval of Cash Receipts and Disbursements. **Alderman Belrose made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Alderman Ipock and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VII. Public Comment.

Tanya McGhee, Girl Scout Leader with Troop #4132 brought three girls from her troop to ask the Board of Alderman could they place a bike rack that they had built at the Richard W. Bowers Park. The Alderman agreed to allow the Girl Scouts to place their bike rack at the park.

Harvest Beam was represented by Cooper Hilbert, an ECU student that is working in our area to improve broadband internet throughout the Town of Vanceboro and surrounding areas. They sent out surveys to our area to help raise awareness through the USDA and FCC to help get funding to help in problem areas. They will be holding an internet service focus group here at the Town Hall on Saturday, September 21st from 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

- VIII. Ferguson Waterworks. **Mr. Bryan Jones stated that the Town of Vanceboro would benefit from going with an AMR system for their water meters instead of**

purchasing AMI. He will send the presentation and references for the Board of Alderman and Mayor to reach out to and look over.

- IX. Police Report was presented by Chief Keys. Vanceboro Night Out was postponed due to the weather. We do not have a make-up date at this time. We received complaints of increased traffic at the Oaks apartments. Officer Johnson heavily monitored this area and as a result, a suspect was stopped leaving the area and was found in possession of heroin, marijuana and psilocybin. Officer Johnson also solved the larceny case in Stewart Park last month. Two juveniles were involved in that case. I'd like to recognize Officer Winnings for his hard work. He has investigated 11 incidents here in town and has charged or resolved the case. Cases include stolen firearms, stolen property, larcenies from businesses, child abuse and child sex crimes. Officer Johnson will be going to standardized field sobriety training and intox training. This will allow him to better detect impaired drivers as well as operate the intoximeter instrument needed to process DWI's.**

The Viper radios that the department is currently using will be fading out and we will need to purchase a flash software upgrade for all three radios. This will need to be done before January 2025. Ira Whitford of Craven County Emergency Services will upgrade the batteries and install the new flash software.

- X. Mayor's Reports. Hope everyone had a safe Labor Day. There are no birthdays to report this month. Jolynne and I will be celebrating our 25th Anniversary this month. Deaths in town this month include Raymond Laughinghouse, Joseph Motley, Gregory Herrera, and Marshall Bland. Our thoughts and prayers go out to each of their families. Next Board of Alderman meeting will be October 7th. Next Recycling date is September 12th. The tree was cut down that was hanging at the old park over on White Street. I attended the farm meeting at Nutrien Ag. Farm Bureau sponsored the event, it was great to see the support being given to our farmers. Representatives for US Senator Tom Tillis and Ted Budd was present at the meeting along with NC Senate Representative Bob Brinson, NC House Representative Steve Tyson, Congressman Greg Murphy representative, Chairman of Board of Commissioners for Craven County, Jason Jones. Republican Nominee for Lieutenant Governor Hal Weatherman will be at the VFW here in Vanceboro on September 12th from 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. West Craven High School is planning to have a homecoming parade on September 27th in Vanceboro. The police will be helping to close Farm Life Avenue and College Street to help with this event. Greg Churchill with Rivers and Associates has been reviewing the site plans and drawings for the new homes being built on Buck Lane. The property is already zoned as R-8 and will not need any changes by the Planning and Zoning Board.**

- XI. Alderman Reports.**

Alderman Cannon stated that there was a big bush in the Vanceboro cemetery in the old part, by the McVickers grave that needs to be cut back.

Alderman Belrose thanked Mr. Bryan Jones for sharing the AMR meter system with us and letting us know that it would be better for the town. What are the plans for selling the old Crown Victoria? Thank you for getting the tree down on White Street at the old park.

Alderman Ipock had no comment.

Alderman Jones thanked Mr. Bryan Jones for the education on the water meters. He appreciates the Public Works employees for the bushhogging they have been doing around town.

Alderman McMillen thanked the Public Works employees for their work getting the weeds down from around the park. I have contacted John Barr Recreation to come out and check the equipment at the Playground and to ask about purchasing some small equipment to add to the park. Vanceboro Christian Help Center will be holding open house on September 14th from 9 to 11 a.m. We will be having a ribbon cutting. The center has been blessed by so much being donated. The thrift store is also generating money to the center that helps cut down on costs. The concrete was donated for the 24x25 building. Come out and see how far the help center has progressed.

Public Works Supervisor, Vernon Edwards stated that Greg Churchill with Rivers and Associates had a lot to go through and has a lot of questions. He will meet with the builders for the project on Buck Lane.

XII. There being no further business we dismissed at 8:34 p.m.

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



CHAD E. BRAXTON
MAYOR



BEVERLY W. DRAKE
TOWN CLERK