

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2023, 6:30pm

Attendance – Mayor, Levell Langley

Council Members: Tony Bennett, Sandra Russ, Scott Briley, Craig New

Absent: None

Minutes: Averil Parker

Media: Nancy West-Brake, *The Nashville Graphic*

Public Attendance: Todd Mallory, Mary Hadley Rose, Patsy McGhee, Jeremy Crawford, Roy Garner, Mr. & Mrs. Donnie Meeks

Call to order: Mayor Levell Langley

Opening Prayer: Commissioner Scott Briley

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Adoption of Minutes and Financial Statement(s) –

After a brief discussion of the minutes, a motion to approve the September Minutes was made by Commissioner Sandra Russ and seconded by Commissioner Craig New. Motion carried (4-0).

Deputy Finance Officer Sandra Russ informed the board that there will not be a Financial Report until Pate, Horton, & Ess get everything they need from the CPA. DFO Russ also went over the amended budget ordinance to update the line item to reflect the professional services of Pate, Horton, & Ess.

Old Business:

Item(s) 1: Veterans Day Service Update

Commissioner New informed the Council that the last time he spoke with Mr. Winstead everything for the service was coming together.

Item(s) 2: Christmas Festival Updates (Attachments I – V)

Interim Clerk Averil Parker informed the board that planning has been moving along well and all the craft vendor spots have been filled and there were approximately 4 food truck spots left. Clerk Parker also provided quotes for entertainment, photography, and portable toilets. Clerk Parker also asked about a theme for the event and the Council agreed that Parker could make that decision.

Item(s) 3: Pickleball Courts Update

Mayor Langley updated the Council that he had received two (2) out of the three (3) requested quotes for the pickleball courts. He provided clarification that there would be three (3) courts added. The Council reviewed and discussed the quotes presented and Commissioner New made a motion to accept the quote from Turn-Key Contractors Inc. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Russ. Motion carried (4-0).

Item(s) 4: Earp Property Update

Mayor Langley and Commissioner New, with guidance from the Town Attorney and pursuant to the Town Ordinances; informed the Council that the Town will move ahead with cleaning up the lot. The Council believes the property owner(s) were allotted enough time to clean up the lot. The Council discussed the possibility of a lien being placed on the lot if the owner(s) do not repay the Town for the cleanup.

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2023, 6:30pm

New Business:

Item(s) 1: Public Input (Limited to Three (3) Minutes Each)

Donnie Meeks spoke about the nuisance property neighboring him. He spoke with people on the safety of the property as he has now seen children coming from the lot. He gave a brief history of the lot. His wife also mentioned more safety concerns due to the lot.

Item(s) 2: ROAHPS

Mary Hadley Rose presented on behalf of the Historical Society. The Society would like to have a work session where they can meet with the Council and Mayor on the progress and future of the Teacherage. Rose and the Council discussed various dates and decided that November 2nd, 2023 at 6:30 in the Council Chambers would work for the majority.

Item(s) 3: Memorial Tree/Charms

Commissioner Russ informed the Council that since taking on the project it has not been stated/clarified about the possibility of the Town replacing the trees if they died or were destroyed. Also, about the replacement of the charm that have been placed on the trees. The Council discussed the item. A motion to replace the current dead/destroyed trees and to put a three (3) year warranty on the tree that Town will replace the tree from the time it was planted was made by Mayor Pro Tem. Tony Bennett and seconded by Commissioner New. Motion carried (4-0).

Item(s) 4: Bidding for Grass Cutting Contract

Mayor Langley informed the Council that the contract for the grass cutting of the Town Hall, Log Cabin, and the lot next to the fire station need to be renewed. Mayor Langley requested the Clerk to place an ad in *The Nashville Graphic* requesting quotes for the contract.

Item(s) 5: Town Christmas Party (Attachments VI – XXII)

The Council discussed this item briefly and a motion was made by Commissioner New to hold the event at Smith's Pavilion in Dortches and to have the same menu as the previous year; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem. Bennett. Motion carried (4-0).

Item(s) 6: Town of Red Oak Annual July 4th Event (Attachment XXIII)

Mayor Langley informed the Council that Starfire Corporation recently reached out to the Town on scheduling the 2024 July 4th event. The Council discussed this item and agreed to continue to hold the event the Sunday before the 4th of July; which would be June 30th 2024. A motion was made by Commissioner Russ to hold the event on June 30th, 2024 and use Starfire Corporation to display fireworks. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem. Bennett. Motion carried (4-0).

Item(s) 7: North Carolina Arts Grant (Attachments XXIV – XXX)

The Council briefly discussed this item and asked for clarification on who was providing the grant. A motion was made by Commissioner Briley to move forward with pursuing the grant opportunity and seconded by Commissioner Russ. Motion carried (4-0).

Item(s) 8: LEO Contract Statistics Report (Attachments XXXI)

The Council reviewed the report and briefly discussed this item.

A motion to enter a Closed Session stating GS 143-318.11 Personnel Matters was made by Commissioner New and was seconded by Commissioner Briley at 6:4pm. Motion carried (4-0).

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2023, 6:30pm

Members of the public, media, and Interim Clerk Parker were excused from the Council Chamber and could later return.

A motion to re-enter the open session was made by Commissioner Briley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem. Bennett at 7:07pm. Motion carried (4-0).

Members of the public, media and Interim Clerk Parker were allowed to return to the Council Chambers.

Item(s) 9: Clerk Hiring

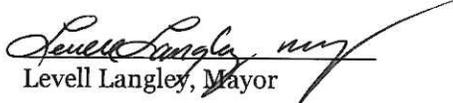
Commissioner Briley asked Interim Clerk Parker where she saw herself in the next three (3) to five (5) years as it relates to public service and the area. Interim Clerk Parker stated that she is committed to working in local government and committed to public service.

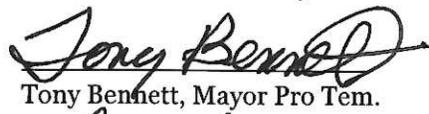
A motion was made by Commissioner Briley to offer Interim Clerk Parker the position of Town Clerk at a salary of forty thousand seven hundred and sixty-eight (40,768) dollars effective immediately; seconded by Mayor Pro Tem. Bennett. Motion carried (3-1).

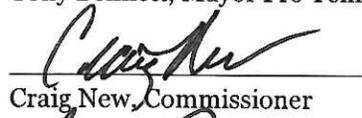
Other: No further discussion

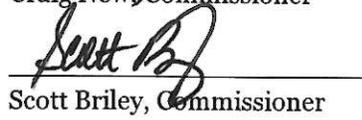
A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Briley and seconded by Mayor Pro Tem. Bennett. Motion carried (4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes
October 9th, 2023, 6:30pm


Levell Langley, Mayor


Tony Bennett, Mayor Pro Tem.


Craig New, Commissioner


Scott Briley, Commissioner


Sandra Russ, Commissioner


Averi Parker, Town Clerk