

Red Oak Town Council Meeting Minutes  
December 11th, 2023, 6:30pm

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**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:** John Battle, Todd Mallory, Zoning Officer Jackie Johnson

**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 November Minutes with corrections was made by Commissioner Tony Bennett and seconded by Commissioner Craig New. Motion carried (4-0).

Deputy Finance Officer Sandra Russ presented to the board financial records from July through October of 2023. The board discussed the records. A motion was made by Commissioner Bennett and seconded by Commissioner New to approve the financial records. Motion carried (3-0).

**Old Business:**

**Item(s) 1: Christmas Festival/Parade Update**

Clerk Averil Parker stated that the Christmas Festival went very well despite the frigid temperatures. People enjoyed the parade, vendors and food that were out there that day. Mayor Levell Langley agreed that the event went very well, and he enjoyed the turnout even with the weather. Clerk Parker stated that next year she would like some more changes to streamline the event more but overall, everything went well.

Clerk Parker also wanted to know about the compensation of the deputies not being paid by the Town of Red Oak for that night and Mr. Neil Boone for their services that night. After discussion, Commissioner Scott Briley made a motion to compensate Mr. Boone five hundred dollars (\$500) for his services that night and Smith's Red and White gift certificates worth twenty-five dollars (\$25) for the deputies not being paid by the Town of Red Oak for that night; seconded by Commissioner New. Motion carried (4-0).

**Item(s) 2: Earp Property Update**

Mayor Langley informed the Council that on during the court hearing on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the judge ruled in favor of the Town. The Town will bid out the contract to clean up the property and will place a lien on the property that must be paid off if the property owner wishes to sell. Mayor Langley also stated that the Town does not wish to make matters hard for the property owner and that there will not be any fines imposed and asked the judge to dismiss the fines previously imposed.

**Item(s) 3: Grass Cutting Bids**

Mayor Langley presented the grass cutting bids from Mr. Dwight Joyner, Mr. Travis Hunter, Mr. James Taylor and Mr. Sam Biehl. The Council reviewed the bids and discussed the bids in detail. After discussion a motion was made by Commissioner New to table the bids until references can be provided by those who submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Motion carried (4-0).

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### **Item(s) 4: Red Oak Boy Scouts Troop 16 & Cub Scouts Pack 16 Charter Update**

Clerk Parker provided correspondence from the Town Attorney stating that he reviewed the Charter paperwork provided by the Troop Master Stephanie Boone and that he sees no issue with it. A motion to approve the Charter was made by Commissioner New and seconded by Commissioner Briley. Motion carried (4-0).

### ***New Business:***

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

Mr. John Battle, 3446 West Hampton Drive, addressed the Mayor and Council on the status of the annexation that includes his home and several others. He stated that it has been close to a year if not a year and there has not been an update. Mayor Langley stated that he and Town employees, including the new Zoning Officer, have reached out to Mr. Donald Hilhorst on the status of the boundary maps which is the current stage of the process. Until the Town receives those they cannot be sent off to the State for recording. Mayor Langley also stated that he would reach out to Mr. Hilhorst again about the maps.

### **Item(s) 2: CodeWright Planners – Planning Board Usage**

Zoning Officer Jackie Johnson explained to the Council that the Planning Board would like to continue to use CodeWright Planners (Mr. Chad Meadows) but would like to know how long they can use him. Zoning Officer Johnson stated that it would be cheaper for him to appear on ZOOM as he charges for his travel in the time that the Town has already purchased. The Council all agreed that the Planning Board should continue to use the services as that is what they are for, and it is for the benefit of the Town. They do recommend that they meet via ZOOM to save money.

### **Item(s) 3: Nuisance Complaint – 3094 Hunter Hill Road**

Zoning Officer Johnson presented the Nuisance Complaint and stated that there is not an ordinance on shipping containers being on an owner's property. She consulted with Mr. Meadows of CodeWright Planners about how to go about the complaint about this matter; he stated that unless the Town would like to pass an ordinance about shipping containers there is nothing that can be done. \*After discussion by the Mayor and Council, Commissioner Briley made a motion to dismiss both complaints on the agenda due to Town Policy stating that complaints cannot be anonymous. The motion was seconded by Commissioner New. Motion carried (4-0).

### **Item(s) 4: Nuisance Complaint – 7509 Red Oak Boulevard**

\*Please see prior motion (Item 3) for action made by Council.

### **Item(s) 5: Establishing Zoning Forms**

Zoning Officer Johnson presented the Mayor and Council forms that the Town currently did that have. It would be in the Town's best interest to have these forms to streamline business. Zoning Officer Johnson consulted with Mr. Meadows of CodeWright Planners and used municipalities comparable to Red Oak for the forms. After reviewing the forms and discussing, a motion was made by Commissioner Briley to approve the forms with corrections; seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Motion carried (4-0).

### **Item(s) 6: Red Oak Methodist Funding Request**

Commissioner Bennett explained to the Mayor and Council that the church is requesting money for their literacy camp. It is a very successful camp that has helped school-aged children read well above their grade levels. After a brief discussion a motion was made to approve the funding request of the Red Oak Methodist Church for their literacy camp by Commissioner Russ and seconded by Commissioner Briley. Motion carried (3-0).

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**Item(s) 7: LEO Contract Statistics Report**

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 Bennett at 7:26pm. Motion carried (4-0).

Members of the public and media were excused from the Council Chambers and could later return.

A motion to re-enter the open session was made by Commissioner Russ and seconded by Commissioner Bennett at 7:37pm. Motion carried (4-0).

Members of the public and media were allowed to return to the Council Chambers.

**Other:** No further discussion

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner New and seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Motion carried (4-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

The meeting was then called back to order at 7:50pm by Mayor Langley.

**Item(s) 1: Property Correction**

Mayor Langley informed the Council that there was property that had not been transferred over to the correct owner due to incorrect filing. After discussion on the matter a motion to correct the property ownership with Nash County was made by Commissioner New and seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Motion carried (4-0).

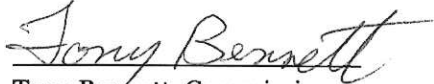
With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner New and seconded by Commissioner Bennett. Motion carried (4-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

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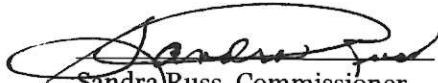
  
Levell Langley, Mayor

  
Averi Parker, Town Clerk

  
Tony Bennett, Commissioner

  
Craig New, Commissioner

  
Scott Briley, Commissioner

  
Sandra Russ, Commissioner