



Troy R. Bivens
Mayor

Chief Stephen Watkins
Gaston Police Dept.

Jennifer Hoyt
Town Clerk

Town of Gaston
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COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mike Cook
Carol McCombs
Jimmy Cox
Charles Sharpe

Steve Martin
Building Official

**TOWN MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday, August 13, 2024
7:00 p.m.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bivens called the meeting to order and opened the meeting with prayer.
Councilman Cox initiated the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilwoman McCombs motioned to accept the July 2, 2024 minutes. Councilman Cook seconded the motion.

III. CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Watkins gave an update on the Police Department activities

IV. BUILDING OFFICIAL'S REPORT

An update on open permits and business licenses were given to Council. Steve Martin was absent.

V. OPEN PUBLIC FORUM (Town Citizens can speak up to 3 minutes)

No one signed up to speak.

VI. CLOSE PUBLIC FORUM

Councilwoman McCombs motioned to close the public forum. Councilman Cox seconded the motion.

VII. OPENING STATEMENT (Information from Mayor and Council)

- Agendas and sign up sheets were located at the front door.
- Councilman Cox motioned to table the Hospitality Tax Reading to get more information. Councilman Cook seconded the motion.
- Councilman Cook motioned to table the Franchise Agreement with Ripple Fiber. Councilman Sharpe seconded the motion.
- Councilman Cook motioned to accept the 2nd reading of The Event Ordinance. Councilman Cox seconded the motion.

- Councilman Cox motioned to accept the 2nd reading of the amended Lexington County Animal Control Ordinance 24-03. Councilman Cook seconded the motion. Three Councilmembers motioned to accept the 2nd reading and one Councilmember motioned not to accept the 2nd reading. Second reading was accepted.
- Financial update reports – Sherry presented financials for June, 2024.
- Councilman Cox motioned to accept the 2nd Annexation reading of property at 116 Hunter Woods Drive (Zoned R3). Councilwoman McCombs seconded the motion.
- Assignments for Council (Updates):
 - Councilman Cook – Lavern Helms is working on installing the roof ventilation for the cookers. Spoke with the Pastor about having another car show at the festival.
 - Councilwoman McCombs – Suggested to move forward with a 2% Hospitality Tax on Commercial prepared foods. Delivered information to 18 businesses within the town limits.
 - Councilman Sharpe – Was absent.
 - Councilman Cox – Concerned about people living in tents on several properties in the town limits.

VIII. CLOSE STATEMENT

Councilwoman McCombs motioned to close the opening statement. Councilman Cox seconded the motion.

XI. ADJOURN

Councilman Cox motioned to adjourn. Councilwoman McCombs seconded the motion.