



Wake Forest Board of Commissioners Meeting Minutes

The Wake Forest Board of Commissioners met on **Tuesday, August 20, 2024**, at **6:00 p.m.** in the Board Room at Wake Forest Town Hall, 301 S Brooks Street.

Mayor Jones called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Jones stated that Commissioner Shackelford would not be in attendance for tonight's meeting.

Mayor Jones led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members Present: Mayor Vivian A. Jones, Commissioner Ben Clapsaddle, Commissioner Faith Cross, Commissioner Keith Shackelford, Commissioner Nick Sliwinski, and Commissioner Adam Wright.

Commissioner Members Absent: None.

Staff Members Present

Assistant Town Manager Candace Davis
Assistant Town Manager Allison Snyder
Assistant Town Manager/CFO Aileen Staples
Town Attorney Hassan Kingsberry
Town Clerk Theresa Savary
Assistant Planning Director Jennifer Currin
Assistant Inspections Director Tim Edwards

Engineering Director Tim Watson
Facilities Director Mickey Rochelle
Public Facilities Specialist Steven Carpenter
Fire Chief Ron Early
Police Chief Jeff Leonard
Police Captain Julius Jefferson
Police Lieutenant Matt Perkinson

1. Approval of Agenda

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Seconder: Commissioner Sliwinski.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

2. Approval of Minutes

2.A. Approval of Minutes:

- July 2, 2024 Work Session
- July 16, 2024 Regular Meeting

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Second: Commissioner Shackelford.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

3. Presentations

3.A. Proclamation Recognizing September 2, 2024, as Saving Grace Day in the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina

Mayor Jones stated she would read the Proclamation Recognizing Saving Grace Day during an event scheduled on September 2, 2024:

**PROCLAMATION
SAVING GRACE DAY**

WHEREAS, Saving Grace began in 2004 at a family farm in order to bring adoptable dogs and loving homes together; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina is one of the highest states for euthanasia in the United States and their mission is to make an impact on that statistic; and

WHEREAS, Saving Grace was founded by Molly Goldston who handled animal care, adoptions, and all the business by herself. In the first few years, she was able to adopt out approximately 500 dogs; and

WHEREAS, Saving Grace has grown. Thousands of dogs are adopted out each year with the help of the paid staff and hundreds of volunteers working in the organization. Over 50,000 animals have been placed; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vivian A. Jones, Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina, and the Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim September 2, 2024, as Saving Grace Day in the Town of Wake Forest and urge all citizens to be aware of the need and to work together to rescue animals in our community.

This the 20th day of August 2024.

3.B. Proclamation Recognizing Constitution Week, September 17 - 23, 2024

Mayor Jones recognized Constitution Week:

**PROCLAMATION
CONSTITUTION WEEK**

WHEREAS, September 17, 2024, marks the two hundred and thirty-seventh anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America by the Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize this magnificent document and the anniversary of its creation; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper to officially recognize the patriotic celebrations which will commemorate the occasion; and

WHEREAS, public law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Vivian A. Jones, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Town of Wake Forest, North Carolina, and the Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim the week of

“SEPTEMBER 17 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 23 CONSTITUTION WEEK”

in the Town of Wake Forest and ask our citizens to reaffirm the ideals the Framers of the Constitution had in 1787.

This the 20th day of August 2024.

4. Public hearings / Public Comment
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4.A. Public Hearing to receive public comment on Proposed Bond Order authorizing \$1,460,000 Parks and Recreation Bonds (Two-Thirds)

Matthew Reck of 708 Ledgerock Rd., Wake Forest, NC, 27587 expressed concerns as a taxpayer in the town. He assumed that this bond was part of the bond that was approved in 2022. Upon reviewing the provided information, he noted that it stated his taxes would not increase. However, he observed that the Town of Wake Forest portion of his tax bill had risen by over \$500 this past July and questioned the reason for this increase. Mr. Reck highlighted the substantial amount of \$806,000 in interest payments and questioned whether this expenditure was a need or a want. He also raised concerns about the high 5.5% interest rate, suggesting that the town review its spending, particularly in light of the higher interest rates resulting from inflation since January 2021.

Mayor Jones asked if anyone else would like to speak. No one came forward to speak.

Mayor Jones declared the public hearing closed.

4.B. Public Comment: If anyone would like to address the Board of Commissioners on an item other than a public hearing item during the time of public comment, please sign up with the Town Clerk prior to the meeting. Each speaker is asked to limit comments to 3 minutes. Please provide the clerk with copies of any handouts you have for the Board. Although the Board is interested in hearing your concerns, speakers should not expect Board action or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the Public Comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate Town Staff and may be scheduled for a future agenda. Thank you for your consideration of the Board of Commissioners, staff and other speakers.

The following citizens provided comments:

- Jonah Moran, 3824 Quarry Rd., Zebulon, NC 27597
- Robert Bosely, 75 Adler Ct., Franklinton, NC 27525
- Matthew Reck, 708 Ledgerock Rd., Wake Forest, NC 27587
- Richard Swatt, 1029 Prairie Aster Ct., Wake Forest, NC 27587
- Catherine Nestor, 813 Precipice Way, Wake Forest, NC 27587
- Tripp Black, 520 S. Main St., Wake Forest, NC 27587

Mayor Jones asked if anyone else would like to speak. No one came forward to speak.

5. Consent Agenda

(A Consent Agenda is a group of items passed with a single motion and vote. These matters are of a generally routine nature. No debate is allowable on any item included on the Consent Agenda. If a commissioner or any citizen of Wake Forest or its ETJ wants separate consideration of any item, it may be removed from the Consent Agenda by request.)

5.A. Approval of an Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances Chapter 8, Article I, Section 8-1 – Fire Limits
[Filed in the Clerk’s Office as Ordinance 2024-25.]

- 5.B. Approval of a Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to execute, on behalf of the Town of Wake Forest, a Design Build Contract (AIA Document 141) for Fire Station 6

[Filed in the Clerk's Office as Resolution 2024-49.]

- 5.C. Approval of The Horse Creek Watershed Study

- 5.D. Approval of Resolution to Participate in North Carolina Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities Systems (North Carolina CLASS)

[Filed in the Clerk's Office as Resolution 2024-50.]

- 5.E. Approval of Advisory Board Ordinance Amendments

Filed in the Clerk's Office as Ordinances:

- 2024-20, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Resources
- 2024-21, Technology Advisory Board
- 2024-22, Urban Forestry Board
- 2024-23, Human Relations Council
- 2024-24, Public Arts Commission

ACTION:

Mover: Commissioner Sliwinski moved to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Secunder: Commissioner Wright.

Vote: Motion carried 5-0.

6. Legislative Items

No Legislative Items presented.

7. Planning Items

No Planning Items presented.

8. Administration and Financial Items

No Administration and Financial Items presented.

9. Public Services Items

No Public Service Items presented.

10. Parks and Recreation Items

No Parks and Recreation Items presented.

11. Public Safety Items

No Public Safety Items presented.

12. Other Business

12.A. Department Monthly Report

Received.

12.B. Wake County Tax Release.

No report.

12.C. Strategic Plan Quarterly Tracker

Received.

12.D. CIP Project Tracker

Received.

12.E. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Sliwinski recently attended the Northeast Community Coalition Meeting and was informed about the upcoming community-wide Voter Registration Drive on Saturday, August 24th, from 2:00 to 5:00 PM at the Hope House. He is also scheduled to

attend the Murder Mystery Dinner at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre. Additionally, the Town of Wake Forest will be hosting the 2nd Annual Mental Wellness Fair on Saturday, September 28th, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM at the Wake Forest Renaissance Centre.

Commissioner Clapsaddle announced that the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Update Open House is scheduled for September 4th and 5th. The Memorial Flag Raising Ceremony will take place on Monday, September 9th at 11:00 am at Centennial Plaza. Good Neighbor Day is set for Saturday, September 21st from 1:00 to 4:00 pm at Joyner Park.

With regard to the NC CLASS Resolution, Commissioner Cross expressed her gratitude to Aileen Staples and her team for responsibly investing taxpayer money. She also provided clarification on the approval of the Design-Build for Fire Station 6, addressing the confusion surrounding the building schematic. Additionally, she announced that Wake Forest Unplugged is scheduled for Sunday, September 1st from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at Joyner Park. Lastly, she thanked the public for participating in the public comment session.

Commissioner Shackelford had no report.

Commissioner Wright served as the emcee at Friday Night on White in August. He shared the dates of the upcoming UDO Update Open Houses: September 4th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Renaissance Centre, and September 5th from 6:30 to 8:30 pm, also at the Renaissance Centre.

Mayor Jones attended the Senior Informational Network Group (SING) at the Senior Center. She met with consultants working on the Feasibility Study for the Renaissance Centre. She also attended the Wake Forest Comic-Con Event and the Electricities Conference. Mayor Jones discussed Youngsville's request to divert non-local truck traffic from the main street downtown. The North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) would not approve the request without agreement from neighboring jurisdictions that would be affected. Youngsville would need to take the lead in discussing the route change with the other jurisdictions, and then the other jurisdictions would have to pass resolutions in favor of the change. At present, the Youngsville Board has not reached out to request a resolution about this. Mayor Jones asked the Board if they would like to pass a resolution or wait until Youngsville approaches them. The consensus of the Board is to wait and hear the request from

Youngsville first before making a decision. Mayor Jones said they would wait to hear from Youngsville.

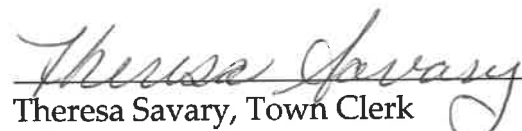
Assistant Town Manager Candace Davis had no report.


13. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Duly approved in open session this 17th day of September 2024.

(ATTEST)


Theresa Savary, Town Clerk


Vivian A. Jones, Mayor

