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**CITY OF HAMLET REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
HAMLET CITY HALL- COUNCIL CHAMBERS
201 MAIN STREET, HAMLET, NC 28345
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025
6:00 PM
Minutes**

Governing Body Present:

Mayor	Amy Guinn
Council Member	Eddie Martin
Council Member	Oscar Sellers
Council Member	Tony Clewis
Council Member	Maurice Stuart

Staff Present:

City Manager	John Terziu
Assistant City Manager	Mackenzie Webb
City Attorney	TC Morphis
City Clerk	Heather Hawks

Others Present: Edna Miles, Trey Goodwin, Doc Sylvain, Esco Latimer, Gerard Morrison, Harold Wallace, Steve Crews, Tedder Trash, Allen Cox, Don Norton.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Guinn called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Invocation/Moment of Silence

Pastor Steve Crews gave the invocation.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Council Member Stuart motioned to adopt the agenda. Council Member Clewis provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Consent Agenda

Council Member Clewis made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Comments from Attendees

Esco Latimer thanked the City Council for their support during his clean up on efforts on Hwy 74 and Lowes for their generous donation. He stated he is proud of what was accomplished and thanked Robert Brown for his help with the cleanup by sending two city workers.

Gerard Morrison stated May is Asian and Island Pacific Month and reminded everyone about the John Coltrane Festival on October 4, 2025.

Don Norton stated limbs at the fairgrounds need to be trimmed and the grass needs to be cut.

New Business

6. 56th Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week Proclamation

Mayor Guinn read the proclamation honoring Heather Hawks and all clerks for Municipal Clerks Week.

7. Resolution 2025 – 09 Opposing Legislation

Assistant City Manager Webb stated the NC General Assembly has introduced several bills in the 2025 session that undermine the authority of local government to conduct planning duties and manage community growth. HB765 and SB688 would restrict or take away the ability for citizens to participate in the planning and zoning process, subject local elected and appointed officials to possible legal retributions and usurp current city planning and zoning ordinances. HB1009 and SB314 would repeal the City's authority in the ETJ, limiting the ability to regulate and plan for development right outside the city limits.

Council Member Martin asked City Attorney Morphis if this complies with legality.

City Attorney Morphis stated it does, and it is a good way to express the city's opinion.

City Manager Terziu stated we have been working closely with CodeWright on updating our ordinances. If these bills pass it could affect the city negatively.

Council Member Martin made a motion to approve Resolution 2025 – 09 to oppose legislation, Council Member Sellers provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Hamlet Recommended Org Chart by Department

City Manager Terziu presented slides showing proposed changes to the current Org Chart including adding Finance Tech, and a fleet mechanic, moving Code Enforcement from the Police Department to the Planning Department, and combining the two parttime IT positions into one fulltime IT position.

Council Member Sellers asked if we need this many assistants in each department.

City Manager Terziu stated these changes will take effect July 1, 2025, and will make each department more efficient.

Council Member Martin stated the City Clerk should be moved under City Council on the Org Chart.

City Manager Terziu made the requested changes by moving the City Clerk under City Council.

Council Member Martin made a motion to approve the revised City Org Chart; Council Member Sellers provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

9. FY26 Fee Schedule

City Manager Terziu stated the increase in fees will help balance the budget and cover the cost of doing business. Fees increasing July 1, 2025, include water rates, sewer rates, tamper fees, late fees for sports sign-ups, zoning fees, and land development fees.

Council Member Stuart thanked City Manager Terziu for working on fee increases to keep the city running smoothly.

Council Member Stuart made a motion to approve FY26 Fee Schedule, Council Member Clewis provided the second. The motion was passed unanimously.

10. Sanitation RFQ Results

City Manager Terziu stated the city has discussed contracting out for sanitation and received one bid from Tedder Trash. Tedder Trash is a reputable company based out of Rockingham who serves multiple contracts with outstanding ratings, one of which is a federal contract to service all of Ft. Bragg, NC.

Council Member Sellers asked how long the contract would run.

City Attorney Morphis stated most contracts are for 3 to 5 years.

Council Member Sellers made a motion for the City Manager/City Attorney to negotiate contract with Tedder, with the intent to approve contract during the June council meeting and begin services July 1, 2025, Council Member Clewis provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

11. AIA Water RFQ Results

City Manager Terziu stated Hamlet was awarded the State Reserve Program (SRP) grant funding by the NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Infrastructure in the amount of \$150,000. We received an RFQ from WithersRavenal and LKC. Based on recent and current work for the city, LKC scores higher than WithersRavenal with a 100 – 95 weighted score.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to approve LKC as the engineer of choice to complete the City of Hamlet Water Asset Inventory and Assessment, Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

12. AIA Wastewater RFQ Results

City Manager Terziu stated Hamlet was awarded the State Reserve Program (SRP) grant funding by the NC Department of Environmental Quality Division of Water Infrastructure in the amount of \$150,000. We received an RFQ from WithersRavenal and LKC. Based on recent and current work for the city, LKC scores higher than WithersRavenal with a 100 – 95 weighted score.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to approve LKC as the engineer of choice to complete the City of Hamlet Wastewater Asset Inventory and Assessment, Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

13. Request for funds: System Development Fee (SDF) Study

City Manager Terziu stated Raftelis helps local governments and utilities thrive by providing management consulting expertise to help transform local governments and utilities. They've helped more than 600 organizations in the last year alone. They provide a wide range of management consulting services including finance, assessment, communications, technology, executive recruitment, strategic planning, stormwater utility services, and solid waste services.

City Attorney Morphis stated a fee should be in place before growth happens in a city.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to approve \$25,000.00 towards a financial or a licensed professional engineer System Development Fee consultation, Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

14. FY26 Budget Update

City Manager Terziu gave an overview of the budget thus far stating he has cut the budget by 10%. He also stated Mayor Pro-Tem Covington asked for a motion for a Budget Meeting next Tuesday at 5:00pm.

Council Member Clewis made a motion to have a Budget Meeting Tuesday, May 20th at 5:00pm, Council Member Stuart provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

15. City Manager Request for Leave

City Manager Terziu stated he has a trip planned to Columbia from June 27 – July 6 and is requesting time off.

Council Member Martin made a motion to approve City Manager Terziu's time off from June 27 – July 6, Council Member Clewis provided the second. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business

16. City Manager's Report

City Manager Terziu gave several updates: he thanked Allen Cox for his work on the Charlotte Street project, the Wastewater Treatment Plant is out for public notice, the Water Treatment Plant only received 2 bids (3 required), UDO process is continuing with CodeWright, trailer for public works purchase sold so we are looking for another one, lastly we have 3 upcoming birthdays for Mayor Guinn, Doc and Mackenzie.

17. Comments of Council

Council Member Martin reminded everyone of Post 49 opening day on May 23 at 6:30 pm honoring Richmond County Firefighters.

Council Member Sellers had no comments.

Council Member Clewis asked for Robert Brown's family to be remembered in prayer, he thanked Doc Sylvain for his hard work on the baseball field, and he thanked all employees for their hard work.

Council Member Stuart thanked all attendees for coming and reminded everyone that May is National Mental Health Awareness Month and National Military Month.

18. Mayor's Comments

Mayor Guinn stated May is National Military Month and she would like to thank the military for their service.

19. Motion to Adjourn

Council Member Clewis motioned, seconded by Council Member Stuart to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously at 7:33 pm.