

MINUTES

Town of Jefferson

Regular Meeting

October 21, 2025 – 6:00 P.M.

Jefferson Community Center

Members Present:

James Miller – Mayor

Jane Johnson – Council Member

Alvin Myers – Council Member

Geneiveve Robinson – Council Member

Tonya Rollings – Council Member

Others Present:

Howard Garland – Administrator

Stacey Cook – Town Clerk

Bennie Miles – The Link

Brian & Missy Sullivan

Jenny Campbell

Stacey Short & Courtney Sturdivant – Pee Dee Coalition

Chris Ballinger – CCSD Superintendent

Dot Myers

Tammy Martinez

Laura Horton

Call to Order

- **Mayor Miller** called the meeting to order @ 6:01 pm.

Invocation

- **Council Member Myers** gave the invocation.

Town Talk

- **Missy Sullivan** asked if the drainage project was complete on the ballfield?
 - **Admin Garland** stated no the project hasn't been started. An extension has been made from March to now May 2026.
- **Tammy Martinez** stated the town was looking good with all the poles decorated and ready for fall.
- **Laura Horton** mentioned the Fall Festival went well, despite the rain.
 - **Mayor Miller** commented that the festival was really nice and went very well.

For Council Action:

A. Approval of Minutes:

- Council Member Myers** made a motion to approve the minutes as presented on 9/16/25 & 9/23/25 Council Meetings.
- Council Member Johnson** seconded the motion.
- Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

B. Pee Dee Coalition – Stacey Short, Courtney Sturdivant

- a. **Mrs. Short** gave a brief overview of the Pee Dee Coalition Domestic Violence. She stated that October is Domestic Violence month. The Chesterfield County office is the 6th largest in the nation. She stated what they are doing and how they have continued to make a difference. They would like for Jefferson to be a part of festivities next year maybe a walk in the town.
 - i. **Mayor Miller** responded in thanking them for coming and presenting the information, as well as mentioning we do have a very nice walking trail and even talking throughout the town.
- b. **Mrs. Short** stated that she would definitely be in touch and was very appreciative of the time that was allotted for there group to come and present.

C. Dr. Chris Ballinger – Superintendent Chesterfield County Schools

- a. **Dr. Ballinger** gave a brief overview of the Bond Referendum that would be on the November 4th, 2025 ballot, that was on the ballot in 2024. He stated the impact on the school projects the bond would have if they were able to get the approval.
 - i. **Council Member Johnson** gave gratitude on the upgrade to the cafeteria's and where the money came from.
- b. **Dr. Ballinger** stated the schools were in need of upgrades, especially the high schools. One part being brand new and the other being dated from the when the school was built. They are looking to make the environments more kid friendly.
 - i. **Admin Garland** asked if the football fields were going to be different surface now.
- c. **Dr. Ballinger** stated that he would like to keep the fields natural and getting the lightning updated. He mentioned the areas of the concerns were not only for the coaches and players, but the community as well and what they are facing when coming to the events, such as lightning and bathrooms. He stated the artificial fields were about \$1 million to have them updated, so we would like to take that money and updating facilities and renovate additional facilities in the schools. So right now, we are trying to be good stewards of the money that is being given, but a great question.
 - i. **Council Member Robinson** asked the question did Chesterfield County Schools get any money from the lottery.
- d. **Dr. Ballinger** he stated that he thought the money went into the state pool and not exactly sure but would get back to the Council Member on this matter.
 - i. **Mayor Miller** asked about where the funding for the schools' employees pay came from.
- e. **Dr. Ballinger** stated the funding from what he understands comes from the state and local funding. The state changed their funding formula in 2023. Where it used to be the money would follow the student, now they changed it off of teacher positions and only giving based off of 75%.
 - i. **Mayor Miller** thanked Dr. Ballinger for coming and sharing the information to the town.

D. First Reading Ordinance 271 Jefferson Zoning Ordinance Update

- a. **Council Member Robinson** made a motion to approve the first reading ordinance 271 Jefferson Zoning Ordinance Update.

- b. **Council Member Johnson** seconded the motion.
- c. Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

For Council Information:

A. Financial Report

- a. The financial report was submitted for the council's information and signed.

B. Water/Sewer Report

- a. **Admin Garland** stated we finally got a piece of equipment on site after 6 years. He stated the construction bond was in place, along with all documents were signed, and roads have been marked. The project is set to be completed in February 2026.
- b. **Admin Garland** stated the East Jefferson Sewer Line grant was going to be put in for around March or April 2026 for 7700 linear ft. improvement to the sewer lines, including discovery. When the weather gets a bit cooler, we intent to walk to the area to make sure things are still located correctly. I have been talking to the former mayor, along with the engineers, because a lot of the sewer lines are in people's backyards. Something we are finding out, so if you see people walking that's what they are doing.
- c. **Admin Garland** mentioned in the next 3 to 5 years we would like to possibly make extensions to the sewer line on the bypass for commercial construction or water line extensions for folks that have water outside of town that are worried about the water pressure. We definitely have a plan in place.
 - i. **Council Member Johnson** asked when doing the project can they some water faucets installed in strategic places throughout the downtown area.
- d. **Admin Garland** stated he didn't see why not as long as they knew where to put the faucets.
 - i. **Jenny Campbell** stated that it would be a good idea to let everyone in the town know that the project is going on, due to the comments being put out on social media.
 - ii. **Council Member Rollings** stated that Stacey mailed out a letter on Friday dealing with this information.
- e. **Admin Garland** stated that we don't know either what we may be facing with asbestos and other unforeseen problems.

C. Fire Department Report

- a. **Mayor Miller** stated nothing to report.

D. Administrative Report

- a. **Admin Garland** stated we put in for a grant on the boys bathroom in the gym and were turned down as of today. We will definitely have to come up with something else.
- b. **Admin Garland** mentioned we are still doing the Tree City USA process. He stated that the application process has opened up and will need to get with the beautification committee to discuss how we are going to implement. If we are going to plant a tree for Arbor Day, then there will have to be a ceremony for the first Friday in December 2025. We will need to get a

tree ordinance in place and passed and the beautification committee could serve as our tree board.

E. Administrative Report

- a. **Council Member Rollings** stated how appreciative she was to Admin Garland for all the hard work and time put into getting the new lightning for the town. We had 4 lights, that after the 3rd time calling finished up the project. She made mention of the new lightning where Laura Horton had been mentioning was in the process of getting this added, as well as one more light in the town that was mentioned.
 - i. **Laura Horton** stated she was glad, due to the concerns of so many kids coming down that area with no lightning available, especially since the time change.
 - ii. **Mayor Miller** stated they were all in agreement on getting more lightning.

F. Mayor Report

- a. **Mayor Miller** stated he was appreciative for all the patience and support that has been shown in getting the new Carrico contact in place. We finally have a contract to be signed.
- b. **Mayor Miller** wanted to send thanks to all the community that helped with the decoration of the poles downtown. It really makes the town look great. As well, as thanking Laura Horton and their committee for getting the Fall Festival going. He gave thanks to Council Member Rollings for putting in all the work in getting the lightning project underway. He gave thanks to the beautification committee as well for the hard work they are doing to get the town looking great.
- c. **Mayor Miller** asked Admin Garland for Council Member Jane about the line that comes from the townhall, was it possible to get this buried underground when they start work on the 3 phases to the gym.
 - i. **Admin Garland** stated that everything with Duke Energy has to be separate request, but it would be possible to put in a new request for this. To send over the details in an email.
 - ii. **Mayor Miller** stated he would follow up on this request.
 - iii. **Council Member Johnson** stated that a similar situation was at her place of residence and Duke Energy would not touch the line due to the line being the cable companies.

SESSION END – 6:45 PM

- **Council Member Rollings** made a motion to go into executive session.
- **Council Member Myers** seconded the motion.
- Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

EXECUTIVE SESSION: (Employee – Administration, Property Lease 158 South Main Street, Facebook Communication – 7:43 PM

- **Council Member Johnson** made a motion to come out of Executive Session.
- **Council Member Rollings** seconded the motion.
- Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

Employee – Administration Full Time

- **Council Member Rollings** made a motion to give Andrea full time immediately.
- **Council Member Johnson** seconded the motion.
- Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

ADJOURNMENT – 7:46 PM

- **Council Member Robinson** made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
- **Council Member Johnson** seconded the motion.
- Approval passed by unanimous vote. (5-0)

Stacey Cook - Town Clerk