

REGULAR MEETING OF TOWN COUNCIL

AGENDA

October 21, 2021

RULES FOR PERSONS ADDRESSING COUNCIL

1. Each speaker will identify himself or herself by giving his or her **name and place of residence**.
2. Each speaker will be limited to speaking one time on any topic. When you are finished speaking, please step away from the podium and be seated.
3. Each speaker will be limited to **three (3) minutes** and each group's representative will be limited to a **maximum of ten (10) total minutes**. Each group is encouraged to designate a single spokesperson for their group.
4. Each speaker will confine himself or herself to the general question before the Council and avoid irrelevant comments.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

(6:00 PM)

1. Invocation
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Public Comments
4. Agenda Adoption
5. Approve Consent Agenda *(All matters listed are considered to be routine and non-controversial by Town Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion unless a Council member so requests, in which case the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered separately.)*
 - a. September 16, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes (minutes will be sent separately
By email on Monday, if not sooner)
 - b. Budget Amendment (5)
6. Consideration of a Resolution Agreeing to Enforcement of the Polk County
Animal Control Ordinance Within the Town Limits (6)
7. Discussion Regarding Christmas Decorations (7)
8. Reports
 - a) Council Members Report (8)
 - b) Planning Board Minutes (9)
 - c) Managers Report (9)
 - d) Public Works Report (10)
 - e) Police, ABC, and Fire Department Reports (11)
 - f) Discover Columbus (12)
 - g) Fourth of July (13)
9. Adjourn

**Budget Amendment Request
Enterprise Fund**

<u>Account Number</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Current Appropriation</u>	<u>Increase (Decrease)</u>	<u>Ending Appropriation</u>
<u>Expense Line Items:</u>				
60-7110-230	Safety	1,000.00	3,750.00	4,750.00
60-7130-230	Safety	1,000.00	3,750.00	4,750.00
60-7130-391	Sludge Hauling	30,000.00	<u>40,000.00</u>	70,000.00
			47,500.00	
 <u>Revenue Line Items:</u>				
60-3839-850	Appropriated Fund Balance	265,470.00	<u>47,500.00</u>	312,970.00
			47,500.00	

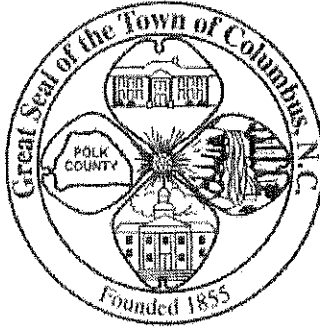
Explanation of Budget Amendment Request:

Budget amendment requested for additional sludge hauling needed due to dredging of aeration basin at WWTP.
Budget amendment requested for installation of safety lights on Public Works vehicles as directed by Council.

Approved by Council this 21st Day of October, 2021

Patrick McCool, Mayor

Monica Greene, Town Clerk



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Town Manager
Re: Consideration of a Resolution Agreeing to Enforcement of the Polk County
Animal Control Ordinance Within the Town Limits
Date: October 21, 2021

Background

This item is a follow up from last month's meeting when Animal Control was discussed. The attached proposed resolution basically says that the Town will allow Polk County's Animal Control Ordinance to be enforced inside the Town limits. This is good because when the County decides to change their ordinance the Town will not have to take any action to have the new changes enforced.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

RESOLUTION AGREEING TO ENFORCEMENT OF POLK COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL
ORDINANCE WITHIN THE TOWN OF COLUMBUS

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statutes SS 153A-122, provides that the governing board of a city or town may by resolution permit a county animal control ordinance adopted pursuant to Article 6 of Chapter 153 of the General Statutes to be applicable within the city; and

WHEREAS, Polk County has adopted an animal control ordinance and the Town Council for the Town of Columbus desires that Polk County enforce its ordinance within that portion of the corporate limits of the Town which is situated in Polk County;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF COLUMBUS that the Town of Columbus hereby permits the Polk County Animal Control Ordinance to be applicable within the corporate limits of the Town of Columbus and requests that Polk County enforce its Animal Control Ordinance within that portion of the Town of Columbus which is situated in Polk County.

Adopted and approved this _____ day of _____ 2021.

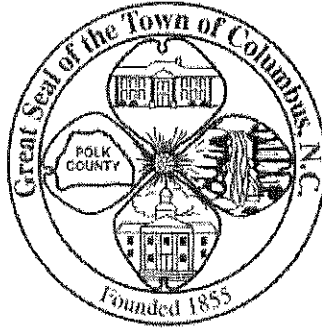
Pat McCool, Mayor

Attest:

Monica Greene, Clerk

Approved as to form:

Lora Baker, Town Attorney



MEMORANDUM FOR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To: Mayor & Town Council
From: Timothy J. Barth, Town Manager
Re: Discussion Regarding Christmas Decorations
Date: October 21, 2021

Background

If there are certain items that the Town Council would like to see among the Christmas decorations now is the time to make sure we can get what we need in terms of supplies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

1 **COLUMBUS PLANNING BOARD & BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS**
2 **Minutes of Regular Meeting**
3 **Tuesday, September 7, 2021**

4
5 The Town of Columbus Planning Board and Board of Adjustments met on Tuesday, September 7, 2021,
6 at 6:00 p.m. in the Columbus Town Hall Council Chambers.

7
8 **Roll Call:** Catherine Elliott, Chair
9 Jimmi Buell
10 Marshall Watkins
11 Mark Blanton
12 Ernie Kan, Voting Alternate Member

13
14 **Staff Present:** Timothy J. Barth, Town Manager
15 Daisey Trejo, Customer Service Representative

16
17 The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. A roll call was taken, and the chairman acknowledged all
18 present except Virginia Greene.

19
20 **Public Comment**
21 There was no public comment.

22
23 **Consideration of Minutes of the August 12, 2021, Joint Meeting with the Town Council.**
24 Mrs. Elliott made a motion to approve the August 12, 2021, Planning Board & Board of Adjustment
25 minutes as written. Mrs. Kan seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

26
27 **Consideration of a Preliminary Plat for the White Oak Property Housing Assistance Subdivision**
28 Mrs. Elliott asked if anyone had any questions regarding the subdivision. Ms. Kan asked if the
29 subdivision would be attached to the county water system and if the county would maintain the
30 waterline. Mr. Barth responded that the water system would be from the county, but the town
31 would maintain the waterline. Mr. Watkins asked if public works would oversee the installation
32 of the waterline. Mr. Barth stated public works would be involved but not in the sense of
33 supervising the job. Mrs. Kan asked if the road would be inspected. Mr. Barth said the road
34 would be inspected to make sure that it falls with town standards.
35 Ashlynn McCoy, the Executive Director of Housing Assistance, stated that Housing Assistance
36 Corporation has been in Henderson County for 33 years and has constructed around 200 single-
37 family homes. Ms. McCoy added that a couple of years ago, they bought a property from
38 Conservative Carolina and worked with the town to receive a grant for water and sewer services.
39 However, unfortunately, the grant was not approved. Ms. McCoy added that these homes would
40 be three bedrooms, two baths, and around 1,300 square feet.
41 William Buie, the Project Manager from WGLA Engineering, stated the property is almost 29
42 acres, and it was part of the White Oak property. Mr. Buie added that getting public sewer was a
43 priority, but unfortunately, it did not go through, and for that, they went with plan B, which is
44 having septic in each house and working with the county water line. Mr. Buie stated that the map
45 shows 20 total single-family lots averaging a little over an acre; the smallest lot is .77 acres. Mr.
46 Buie said the road extension will be connected to NC 108 and will need to get an NCDOT

47 driveway permit for the connection, and the road would be extended up the hill. Mr. Buie added
48 that the road is proposed to be a 20-foot-wide road with shoulders. Mr. Buie stated he
49 understands the board's questions and concerns about the road to make sure the road is being
50 built correctly with the Towns standards. Mr. Buie added that the purpose of the letter he
51 submitted was to make clear the intent to dedicate the road to the town if the board accepted it.
52 Mr. Buie added that his team would provide detailed plans, assist Housing Assistance in
53 selecting a contractor, be involved during construction, and have inspectors and technical
54 engineers on site. Mr. Buie stated he would give the town the certification at the end of the
55 project that the road has been constructed to the greatest extend possible. Mr. Buie added that the
56 town could go up to the road, take core samples, make sure the stone base is compacted
57 correctly, and the asphalt is as thick as expected. Mr. Buie stated that the extension of water into
58 the development would be ideal for setting up a master meter. Mr. Buie added that the town can
59 purchase water from the county and re-sale it internally to the individuals living in the
60 development. Mr. Buie added three phases to the project; the first phase is the first four houses,
61 the second phase is another couple of homes, the third phase is the last 11 lots. Mr. Buie stated
62 there is funding in place for Housing Assistance to be used for the infrastructure of the first
63 initial homes, but they need to use the grants before the end of the year. Mr. Buie added that
64 since public sewer is not an option anymore, they have contacted a consultant named Land
65 Resource Management, they do soil investigations and septic sites. Mr. Buie stated Land
66 Resource had submitted a map showing three colors: green means good soil for conventional
67 septic and orange is margin, meaning they can make something work, and the tan color means
68 unsuitable for septic. Mr. Buie added that you could see grey color squares representing houses
69 and gray dashed lines representing septic areas in the same map. Mr. Buie stated he would work
70 with Land Resource and the county health department to identify the location of the best soil on
71 each lot for septic. Mr. Buie added that the steepest is 10% on the road, but nothing tricky for
72 snow and weather difficulties.

73 Mrs. Kan asked how much can lot 20 be moved into the green zone, so it does not touch the
74 wetlands because it is a priority to conserve. Mr. Buie stated that once Town Council and
75 Planning Board approves the plan, next is to talk to Land Resource Management and have them
76 do GPS coordinates and test digging to confirm septic locations. Mr. Buie added that he does not
77 anticipate building close to wetlands to maintain the land's integrity. Sean Rose, the Director of
78 Single-Family Development, was present and stated clearing the ground enough for a house to be
79 put there but keeping the integrity of the land is a priority. Mrs. Kan added that people from NC
80 state had come and planted unique plants. Ms. McCoy stated per USC they have to do an
81 environmental review, which is currently under work. Mrs. Elliott asked if the plan is for the
82 person that is buying the property would help build the home. Ms. McCoy stated yes, the buyer
83 will contribute 10 hours a week to build their home, and as of the morning, two families have
84 qualified. Mrs. Elliott asked if the driveway for the first four driveways would be off highway
85 108. Mr. Buie stated it will, but they want to limit the number of driveways going into highway
86 108. Mrs. Elliott made a motion for Town Council to consider phase one as presented, Mrs.
87 Buell second, and the motion carried unanimously.

88 89 Board Member Comments

90 Ms. Kan stated she stepped in a hole walking towards the new Taco Bell building, and it is
91 dangerous for people walking by. Mr. Barth added he would have to go out there and see it. Mr.
92 Watkins stated Mr. Barth needs to contact the owner of Blue Water Pool. Mr. Watkins added that

93 the owner of Blue Water Pool needs to develop a timeline and a plan in which the owner could
94 afford to have the building come out in the way it was proposed, starting with a staircase that is
95 damaging other surrounding properties. Mrs. Kan asked if Trademark Building company could
96 clean up their cardboard boxes right in front of the building. Mrs. Elliott added that maybe the
97 company needs a recycling dumpster. Mrs. Buell asked if the new Taco Bell would be aligned
98 with the bank. Mr. Barth added that it is supposed to be aligned with the bank.
99 There being no other business to discuss Mrs. Elliott made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Watkins
100 seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:42PM.

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Catherine Elliott, Chairman

Daisy Trejo, Customer Service Representative

October 21, 2021 Town Manager's Report
Prepared for Columbus Town Council
Friday October 15, 2021

- 1) **Decorative Street lights Downtown:** The Street Lights in the downtown area that have not been working for quite a while are now all working with new LED lights.

- 2) **Elections are scheduled for November 2:** The Town will be holding local elections here at Town Hall November 2.

- 3) **Trick or Treat:** This is going to take place on Friday October 29 from 4:00pm – 7:00pm around the Courthouse Square. Businesses have been contacted via social media, and we hope to pass out flyers next week to make sure they know about it.

- 4) **Meeting on Jasmine Apartment Complex:** The Town will be holding a meeting on October 27 at 6:00pm in the meeting room of the Polk County Commissioners. Jim Yamin, the developer of the Jasmine Apartments, will explain how this development came about and what will be built. He will also answer any questions that anyone has.

- 5) **Girl Scout Pumpkin Derby & Fall Festival:** This festival will be held on Sunday October 24 from 3:30pm – 5:30pm. The festival will be near the east entrance to Stearns building. The highlight of the festival will be a pumpkin derby contest that will take place in Peak Street. They requested closure of a small portion of North Peak Street during the time of the derby (see attachment).

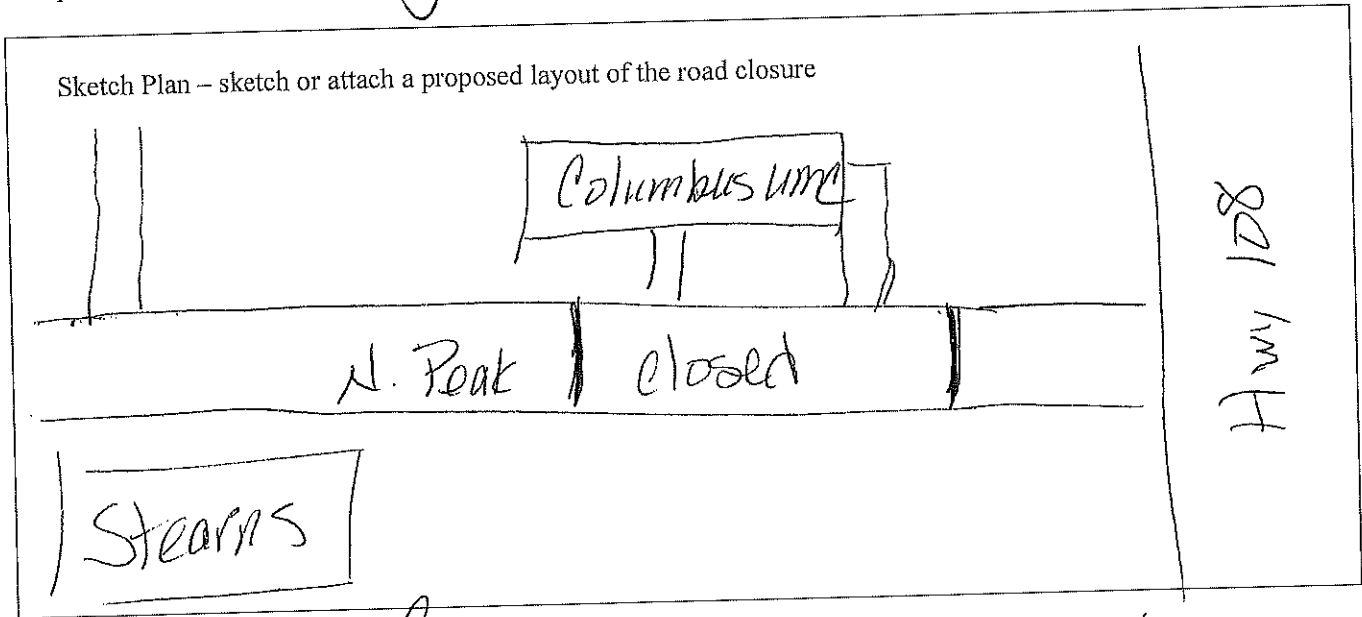


Town of Columbus

PO BOX 146 · Columbus, NC 28722 · (828) 894 - 8236

Road Closure Application

Name of Event / Purpose of Closure: Girl Scout Pumpkin Derby & Fall Festival
 Description (from where to where): N. Peak St. from former Columbus UMC to Stearns
 Length of Closure: 1/10 mi mi +/- Date of Closure: 10/24/21 Time of Closure: 3:30-5:30 am
 Requester Name: Lori Nichols Telephone: 8104-1021-1112
 Requester Address: 1100 Westbrook Drive Tryon
 Requester Email Address: ljohn4@windstream.net



Lori Nichols Requester's Signature 10/14/21 Date

For Town Use Only

Kim Benth Town Manager Approval 10/14/21 Date

[Signature] Chief of Police Approval 10/14/21 Date

Applications must be returned to the Columbus Town Hall seven (7) days prior to requested closure date. Requesters can mail the application to: Town of Columbus, PO BOX 146, Columbus NC 28722 or fax the application to (828) 894 - 2797.

Public Works Report
October 21st Meeting

- Public works had to rewire the grinder pump and install a new sump pump at the BP lift station. The old sump pump failed and caused the manhole vault to fill with ground and surface water that caused the grinder to short out. Everything is back up and running like it should.
- All the public work's trucks have been outfitted with safety lights. These will help us be more visible while working on the side of the road.
- The five light poles that the town own and maintain have been converted to new LED bulbs. We also put new globes on them. They are now working properly.
- The flagpole lights at veteran's park are now working as well. Someone didn't hook the photocell up correctly. I rewired it and they now operate correctly.
- Public works cleaned the curb and gutters along Mills Street and made everything looked good for the homecoming parade.
- Leaf pickup will begin on November 15th and run through the end of December. (Weather permitting)

Columbus Police Department

Monthly Activity Report

September 2021

Calls Answered

Wrecks	8
Alarm Calls	7
Domestic	1
Suspicious Vehicles	8
Suspicious Person	7
Assist Fire/EMS	1
Larceny	3
Stranded Motorists	5
Disturbance	5
Involuntary Commitments	7
Breaking & Entering	0
Suicide Threat	0
Hit and Run	0
Stolen Vehicle	0
Total Calls Answered:	814

Premise Checks

Residence Checks	257
Business Checks	9,611
Church Checks	664
Total Checks	10,532

Charges

Speeding Citations	72
No Operators License	10
Driving While License Revoked	15
Drug Charges	14
Uninsured Motorists	7
Careless & Reckless Driving	8
Registration Violations	38
Open Container	2
Total Charges	224
(Traffic & Criminal)	

Arrests

Felony Arrests	6
Misdemeanor Arrests	19
DWI	4
Fugitives Arrested	4
Total Arrests	33

Requested to Assist Sheriff's Office, City Police Departments & Other Agencies

Calls	16
Hours	7.86

Community Patrols – 391

Training Topics

Firearms Training
Mandatory In-service
K-9 Training

Total Training Hours: 96

COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

Department Head Report

October 21st, 2021 Council Meeting

Scott Hamby, Chief

- Statistical Data
- Columbus Police Department was able to order just under \$8,000 dollars' worth of traffic related equipment through the Governors Highway Safety Program. This equipment does not cost the tax payers of Columbus anything. It is rewarded to CPD due to their efforts in preventing vehicles collisions inside the city limits of Columbus.

Columbus Fire Department

Columbus, NC

This report was generated on 10/13/2021 3:35:18 PM

Town



Incident Type Count per Municipality per Station for Date Range

Start Date: 09/01/2021 | End Date: 09/30/2021

INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
MUNICIPALITY: COLUMBUS	
Station 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	12
320 - Emergency medical service, other	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	14
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	4
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
500 - Service Call, other	1
550 - Public service assistance, other	1
551 - Assist police or other governmental agency	2
553 - Public service	1
600 - Good intent call, other	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	4
713 - Telephone, malicious false alarm	1
733 - Smoke detector activation due to malfunction	1
# Incidents for 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	44
# INCIDENTS FOR COLUMBUS:	44

MUNICIPALITY: COLUMBUS (TOWNSHIP OF)	
Station 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	
131 - Passenger vehicle fire	1
160 - Special outside fire, other	1
311 - Medical assist, assist EMS crew	15
320 - Emergency medical service, other	1
321 - EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury	11
322 - Motor vehicle accident with injuries	1
324 - Motor vehicle accident with no injuries.	4
400 - Hazardous condition, other	1
462 - Aircraft standby	1
510 - Person in distress, other	1
553 - Public service	4
554 - Assist invalid	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	5
622 - No incident found on arrival at dispatch address	4
743 - Smoke detector activation, no fire - unintentional	1

Only REVIEWED incidents included.



INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS
MUNICIPALITY: SALUDA (TOWNSHIP OF)	
Station 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	2
# Incidents for 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	2
# INCIDENTS FOR SALUDA (TOWNSHIP OF):	2

MUNICIPALITY: TRYON	
Station 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	
111 - Building fire	1
611 - Dispatched & cancelled en route	1
# Incidents for 1 - Town of Columbus Fire Department:	2
# INCIDENTS FOR TRYON:	2

Only REVIEWED incidents included.