

MINUTES
Foxfire Village Council
Regular Business Meeting
March 11, 2025 ~ 4:30 PM
Village Hall Meeting Room

1. Call to Order: Mayor Gregorich called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM
2. Members Present: Mayor Pro Temp Janet Nauman, Councilmembers Mary Gilroy, Warren Morgan, and Don Nelson
3. Others Present: Police Chief Michael Amezquita and Several members of the public.
4. Opening Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance
Councilmember Mary Gilroy led the opening prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.
5. Approval of March 11, 2025, Regular Business Meeting Agenda

Mayor Gregorich added *Closed Session Minutes for 02/14/2025* to the Consent Agenda, *Citizens Comments* to the Mayor's Report, and *Interlocal Agreement* under New Business. Mayor Pro Temp Nauman added *Park Trails, and Pool and Park Septic Tanks* to her report.

Councilmember Nelson moved to approve the March 11, 2025 Regular Meeting agenda as amended, seconded by Mayor Pro Temp Nauman and carried unanimously.

6. Consent Agenda

All items listed below are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and without discussion.

A. Approval of Minutes

- February 11, 2025 Regular Business Meeting
- March 6, 2025 Special Meeting
- February 14, 2025 Closed Meeting

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman moved to adopt the consent agenda as written, seconded by Councilmember Gilroy and carried unanimously.

7. Public Comment Period for Items Not on the Agenda
NONE

8. Zoning Report – Lisa Kivett

Lisa Kivett provided the following zoning report from February 12, 2025 through March 11, 2025.
Currently a total of twenty-two (22) homes are under construction or in the beginning stages of lot clearing.

Two (2) Single Family Residence Application:
6 N. Shamrock
909 Tufts Vista ETJ

Two (2) Certificate of Zoning Compliance were issued:
368 Porterfield Lane
165 Hartsell Lane

Other Permits Issued:
One (1) fence
One (1) Accessory Building
One (1) pool
One (1) temporary sign

Councilmember Morgan asked what the current water-tap fees are and what they are based on. Kivett replied \$1,925.00 and based on actual labor costs and material costs. Mayor Gregorich added the fees were reviewed and updated approximately four years prior. Morgan suggested reviewing them again and updating them as needed. The council will further discuss in a work session.

9. Council Member Reports:

A. Finance – Mary Gilroy

- Financial Report

Councilmember Gilroy reported the following balances as of February 28, 2025. The total cash balance in the general fund is \$3,231,668 consisting of the First Bank checking, money market, petty

cash and Capital Trust accounts. The total cash balance in the water fund is \$1,277,834, consisting of First Bank checking, money market capital project accounts, petty cash and Capital Trust accounts. Gilroy provided council members with an updated Budget vs Actual report for their respective departments. She is planning to meet with each member individually to go over budget numbers for their respective departments.

- County Fire Department Funding FY25/26

Gilroy and Mayor Gregorich recently attended a meeting in Moore County that included the Fire Commissioner. Several things were taken from the meeting, including the need to review the upcoming FY2026 and FY 2029 West End Fire Budgets. There is a new truck scheduled for FY2026 for \$550,000. Gilroy suggest the Village set up a Public Safety Reserve, so we are not surprised with costs such as this. Secondly, Wayne Vest from Moore County asked the Fire Commissioners to consider the CPI when they are looking at funding for the upcoming budget. Lastly, the County has changed funding this year, to include a personnel bucket in addition to the operational and capital buckets.

- Foxfire FY 25/26 Budget

Gilroy reported that Streets and Parks, Police Department have been reviewed, Administration and the Water Department are next on the schedule.

She is waiting for the County to send the revenue numbers and suggested waiting to approve the Village budget until the County approves their budget due to the fire department funding. The Village CPA has agreed to review the salary worksheets.

The County has collected \$882,489 of the \$914,000 in ad valorem taxes. Sales tax revenue is coming in ahead, just under \$50,000 each month. This is good because we budgeted \$600,000. Video Franchise Tax is on track.

B. Streets and Park – Janet Nauman

- Pool and Park Septic Tanks

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman reported the septic tank at the pool facility was replaced. The septic tank at the park will be drained this weekend.

- Park Burn

The park burn was conducted on Friday and all three trail loops were burned. Nauman was informed that an extensive sinkhole developed on the yellow loop. She contacted Black Rock Landscaping and Moore County to come out and inspect the 4' deep hole. A drainage tube will need replaced and the hole filled with rock. Nauman does not have a cost yet but will need a budget amendment. She hopes repairs will be made over the weekend. Caution tape and cones are placed around the area of the hole. This portion of the trail should not be walked on or around. Nauman added that Fire Chief Stromberg suggested we use sawhorse style barricades and signage when needing to close trails. They can also be used by the police department if they need to close a road. Discussion followed

C. Water Department – Warren Morgan

Councilmember Morgan reported the following:

- The pump replacement project on wellsite #4 was complete and will be invoiced soon. Purchase orders are prepared for the exterior work on wells #4 and #5, and work should be complete the first week of April.
- NC Department of Environmental Quality completed their annual inspection of the water system, particularly the well sites. Both Jesse Southard and David McKew accompanied the inspector, and any minor issues were handled immediately.
- Jesse Southard took the State B Distribution exam and successfully passed. He is awaiting the official notification.
- Seventy-five defective meters were replaced. The electronic element needed replaced because they were manual read meters. The replaced elements will be returned for a rebate. We have a good stock of meters on hand.
- Well #13 construction packet was sent to the State, and we are waiting for the approval to begin construction. Brief discussion ensued. Morgan added that construction might be started sometime in May.

D. Public Safety – Don Nelson

Police Chief Amezquita reported the following:

- The Chief presented the department activity log for the previous month that included 1,100 events, an increase of 400 calls from the month before. No particular category spiked, it was pretty much across the board.
- Citations have increased by 150 from the previous month, even while two officers were in school for an entire week.
- Speed signs were relocated in January so we could get a count of the vehicles traveling through the Village. The astounding number of vehicles traveling Hoffman Rd in one month was 44,000. The speed sign placed in front of the police department shows 41,000 vehicles and the sign placed at the other end of the Village if traveling from Roseland Rd. shows 46,000.
- We have 94% compliance with speeds on main roads through the Village (Richmond and Hoffman) where the speed limit is 45. It is nearer to 95-96% on the surface Roads.
- Purging of the evidence room continues. Several orders have been sent to the DA's office. Once approved and signed off by a judge, we can destroy the evidence.
- Officer Coughenour assisted the WEFD and several other responding departments with a brush fire in the ETJ. The Chief thanked Officer Coughenour for assisting.
- Officer Coughenour is scheduled to attend a Lidar training class later in the month. He is currently the only officer to be certified. The Chief elaborated on some of the training and certifications the officers receive.
- The Chief added that the park trail sinkhole is a concern and has asked that notice be emailed or placed on the resident Facebook page.

Fire Chief Eric Stromberg reported the Following:

- Stromberg reported a slightly slower month from January for call. Twenty calls for service, representing 28% of the total calls were for Foxfire.
- Fire staff have begun spring activities. They power washed the exterior of both station buildings and will paint the balusters.
- Annual hose testing and flow testing of hydrants is set to begin. This will take approximately 4 weeks. He will let both Jesse Southard and Lisa Kivett know when they begin so proper notice to residents can be posted.
- Stromberg reported several brush fires in the area and a gas tanker brakes fire on Hoffman Road. The gas tanker was hauling 87,000 gallons of fuel which was very concerning and requiring the road to be temporarily closed. He thanked the police department for assisting with traffic control during this event.
- Stromberg provided more information on the sawhorse style barricades that were suggested for the park trail closures. The barricades are 6' to 8' in length and average \$100 to \$250 each.
- WEFD is still working on the 2025-2026 budget.
- A full-time shift employee was transitioned to a regular M-F schedule and a new firefighter was hired to fill the shift position.

Mayor Gregorich asked about the recent brush fire and if a cause was determined. Stromberg responded it was still under investigation. Brief discussion followed on recent fires.

E. Mayors Report – Janice Gregorich

- Foxfire Blvd. Parking and Upcoming Meeting

Mayor Gregorich reported that letters were constructed and mailed out certified to affected property owners on Foxfire Blvd. advising them of a Special meeting scheduled for April 24th at 6:00 PM. The meeting is to address their questions or concerns about Foxfire Blvd.

- Citizen Comment

Gregorich reported receiving an email from a citizen concerned about the upcoming election and the

Village Council meeting times. This citizen is concerned that the 4:30 PM meeting times severely limit the candidate pool of younger residents who work during the day and are unable to run for a council seat. Gregorich continued reading the email which is made part of these minutes as *Attachment "A"*. Gregorich added that meeting times were discussed in the past but could be brought up again for discussion at the work session.

Mayor Gregorich added that council members do not just come to meetings and have things given to them to act upon. They are all very active during the week and all during the day between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Council members are meeting with contractors, State officials, and other local government officials, attending required classes, etc. She added there is a big commitment and those with full-time jobs will need to understand this. Working as a Village Council member is a true public servant and an unpaid position. A special public meeting will be scheduled in May with the Village Attorney for anyone interested in running for a council seat. The Attorney will outline the requirements and commitments required by State and local statutes that they need to be abreast of.

Councilmember Gilroy who works a full-time job commented on how difficult it can be to work and also serve on the council. She does not discourage anyone from running but pointed out they should be aware of the time and dedication needed depending on the department they oversee.

- Interlocal Agreement

Mayor Gregorich reported the Village received an interlocal agreement with Moore County for the county to assume zoning control over an 8-acre Village zoned RA-5 portion of a 133-acre County zoned parcel located on Jackson Springs Road, within the ETJ. This property is very close to the property that was proposed for a golf/RV park a few years prior. What the Village was given looks to be marketing material and not an actual development plan and as far as we know, nothing has officially been submitted to the county. It appears to include an 18-hole golf course, 90 cabins and 50 homes. Brief discussion followed. Gregorich is waiting for the Village attorney's advice and asked the council to discuss the interlocal agreement at the upcoming works session.

10. Public Comment Period - Comments on items listed on this agenda.

Tom McClellan - 3 Dogwood Court suggested that Moore County notify the property owners in the ETJ of this possible development.

11. Adjourn

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember Gilroy and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 PM.



Lisa A. Kivett, MMC, NCCMC, CZO
Village Administrator/Clerk



Janice Gregorich
Mayor