

MINUTES
Foxfire Village Council
Regular Business Meeting
September 10, 2024 ~ 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, Don Nelson and Warren Morgan
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 September 10, 2024, Regular Business Meeting Agenda

Mayor Gregorich deleted *Land Use Plan* which will instead be discussed at the upcoming work session. Mayor Pro Temp Nauman added *Sunset Dr.*, *Hoffman Road*, and *Park Trails* to her report.

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman made a motion to adopt the September 10, 2024 Agenda as amended, seconded by Councilmember Nelson 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

- August 13, 2024 Regular Business Meeting
- August 29, 2024 Work Session

Councilmember Nelson made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Councilmember Morgan and carried unanimously.

7. Public Comment Period for Items Not on the Agenda

Leslie Frusco – 8 Hillside Drive said she could not stay for the meeting and asked to make a comment on an agenda item. Mayor Gregorich replied she would not allow that at this time. Ms. Frusco left the meeting.

8. Council Member Reports:

A. Finance – Mary Gilroy

- Financial Report

Ms. Gilroy reported the following cash balances as of August 31, 2024. The total in the general fund capital trust account is \$2,473,000, total reserves \$1,435,000 with a cash on hand of \$3,130,000. The total in the water fund capital trust account is \$860,633, total reserves \$175,000 with a cash balance of hand of \$1.25 million. Gilroy added if the Federal Government lowers interest rates this week, it will take 30 days to cycle through to the capital trust account and our interest earned will slightly decrease. Gilroy proposed conducting a first quarter FY 24-25 review after the first quarter finishes. Gilroy added we have \$124,000 in contingency but there was some budget amendments made that are not reflected in this number. She will contact the Village CPA.

- Sales Tax Update

Gilroy received an advanced distribution report for sales tax as of July 31, 2024. She provided a copy to each member which showed the Village should receive \$57,521 in September. Discussion followed. We received the first payments for property taxes from the County Tax Department.

The Village auditor was here this month conducting the onsite audit. Both Shannon, the new bookkeeper, and Sharon, our retired Deputy Finance Officer, worked very hard compiling everything needed for the audit.

B. Water Department – Warren Morgan

Councilmember Morgan announced the Village will step down from a Stage 2 Water Restrictions to a Stage 1 later in the week. Stage 1 asks that residents voluntarily conserve water, something that we should be doing every day. Information will be posted to the website and signs will be changed out. Lab results on the new well came back and it passed the rating tests. Specifications and drawings still need to go to the State for review.

C. Streets and Park – Janet Nauman

- Street Paving Update

Pinetree Terrace and the entrance to the Village Hall are scheduled for paving this year. October 7th or 8th are potential dates for work to be done. Those living on Pinetree Terrace will still have access to their homes while the paving is done.

- Meeting with DOT

Nauman and Mayor Gregorich had a meeting with Sarah Foster from the Department of Transportation. Ms. Foster provided much valuable information and contacts for each department. Their discussion included the passing zone on Hoffman Road and danger it causes, a program where the Village could be reimbursed for mowing State roads, and the intersection of Hillside Drive and Hoffman Road.

- Hillside Drive

Options to improve the obstructed view coming from Hillside were discussed. For now, we will take the conservative route and just remove obstructing bushes. Option 2 is the removal of trees.

- Sunset Drive

We received approval to fix the entrance to Sunset Drive. No date has been scheduled as of yet.

- Park Trails

The two areas of the trails with forms will be filled in with cement rock tomorrow. It should take about a day to cure. Only the two major areas were repaired this year. We will look at the other areas at some point in the coming year.

D. Public Safety – Don Nelson

Police Chief Amezquita presented the following report:

- The Police Department is now fully staffed, and he is very proud of the entire staff.
- Officer McNeill is finished with training and on his own. Once he completes his probationary period, he will be sent to do some outside training.
- Corporal Kivett completed his training for promotion to Sergeant.
- This month has been very busy and there was a chase that initiated on Hoffman Rd. and ended in Aberdeen. Officer McNeill was working by himself and stopped a vehicle which then fled. Officer McNeill caught the suspects with assistance from Moore County Sheriff and Aberdeen PD. Two people were arrested and a third will be shortly. Because of the *North Carolina Run and Done Statute*, we are able to seize the vehicle.
- Checking stations conducted recently through the Governor's Highway Safety Program resulted in stopping a female for DUI.
- Month to date, we have seized almost 2 lbs. of marijuana. One out-of-town car stop resulted in seizing 1.25 lbs. of vacuum sealed bags of marijuana and a gun. Other Schedule 4 controlled substances were also confiscated. Brief discussion ensued regarding guns and confiscation of them.
- Chief Amezquita spoke with two companies who sell license plate reader systems. He requested quotes from both.
- There were some issues with Village uniforms and both Officer McNeill and Coughenour are currently not in the proper attire. He is working with a different vendor and hopes to have everyone in polo shirts.
- Several events are scheduled at the Village Park where officers will be involved.

Councilmember Nelson received a printout from Fire Chief Stromberg for total calls for the month of August. Station 65 answered 31% of the total WEFD call and 65% of those were EMS related. The highest demand time for calls is 4:00 pm.

Nelson attended a safety meeting with County Commissioners to discuss the new fire truck radios mandated by the federal government. The cost is estimated at 1.7 million dollars, 1 million to the county and each fire district responsible for \$680,000. No federal or state funds are available to assist with the cost. West End's total cost will be \$32,300. Foxfire will pay between 25-30% of that amount. Nelson provided details on the new radios.

E. Mayors Report – Janice Gregorich

- Corporal Kivett's Promotion

Mayor Gregorich announced that Corporal Derek Kivett was promoted to the rank of Sergeant effective September 8, 2024. He will be sworn into this new rank on September 15th once the Village Administrator returns from vacation.

9. New Business
None

10. Old Business
None

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

Dan Leary 73 N. Shamrock asked if a resolution had been approved regarding increasing the fire department funding. Gregorich replied, no, not as of yet.

Gerard Frederique – 27 Eagle Drive asked what the plans are for new wells beyond the new well coming online next year. Mayor Gregorich replied there has been discussion on this and it will be further discussed at the upcoming work sessions.

12. Adjourn

Mayor Pro Temp Nauman made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Morgan and carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:24 PM.



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



Janice Gregorich
Mayor