

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE COURT HOUSE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday September 19, 2022 7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the Charlotte Court House Town Council was held on Monday, September 19, 2022, at 7:00 pm. Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order. Council Members Ramsey, Michaelson, Haskins and Andrews were present. Council Members Arbogast and Braxton were absent. Council Member Andrews motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Council Member Haskins motioned to approve the August regular meeting minutes as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 4 ayes and 0 nays. Council Member Ramsey motioned to approve the financial statement as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 4 ayes and 0 nays.

**Citizen Comments** Gary Walker offered his support for the proposed Verizon cell tower, and stated his frustration having poor cell service during some important events.

**Charlotte Youth Ballpark Water Issue** Gary Walker stated that broken water lines at the concessions building at the ballpark caused extensive damage. He theorized that a build-up of pressure in the water system may have caused clamps on the pipe to stretch and break. Mr. Walker requested that the Town consider assisting with the cost of repairs. Discussion followed regarding information and photos provided by Clay Samples who inspected the site of the leak. There was consensus among Council Members that the water leak was not caused by an issue with the Town water system, and the Town should not provide compensation for the damage.

**Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) Re-Appointment** Mayor Watkins reported the need to re-appoint Claudia Koch to the BZA. Council Member Ramsey motioned to re-appoint Ms. Koch to the BZA for a five-year term which will expire on September 30, 2027. The motion was seconded by Council Member Andrews and carried by voice vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays.

**Planning Commission (PC) Report** Council Member Ramsey stated that the Town does not require residents to hook onto the water system. He stated that both Keysville and Drakes Branch have ordinances requiring residents hook onto their water system and advised that the Town pursue the same. Mr. Ramsey reported that the PC discussed the issue of Town residents having livestock and the requirement that livestock be kept 200 feet from the road. Mr. Ramsey stated he had a personal interest in the pending cell tower application and will withdraw from discussion and abstain from any voting. Mayor Watkins reported that two public hearings would be held regarding the proposed Verizon cell tower. The first would be at 6:00 pm on Oct. 11<sup>th</sup>, held by the PC for Comprehensive Plan review, and the second public hearing would be a joint hearing by both the Town Council and the PC, for comments on the required conditional use permit.

**Committee Reports** Building & Grounds – Council Member Ramsey reported that the handicap parking spot had been repainted. Mayor Watkins stated that the Council had not formally accepted Chris McCarty's quote to demolish the two dilapidated rooms at the rear of the Municipal building. Council Member Ramsey motioned to accept Chris McCarty's bid to tear down the two rooms at the rear of the Municipal building and close off the doorways with metal for a price of \$3,500.00. The motion was seconded by Council Member Andrews and carried by voice vote: 4 ayes, 0 nays. Council Member Ramsey stated that the security light on the side of the Municipal building remains operational. Karen Price stated that Stephen Walker has agreed to disconnect it and she will follow up with him to get it done. Financial Committee – Council Member Ramsey reported that every year the County passes a resolution setting personal property tax relief. He stated that the Town should do the same after getting the roster of personal property from the Commissioner of Revenue. Water Committee – Council Member Ramsey reported that work on the

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE COURT HOUSE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday, September 19, 2022**

**Page 2**

courthouse water tank has been completed. He stated that a tank at well #7 is blistering and needs to be replaced. Mr. Ramsey reported that a water leak on David Bruce Ave. was repaired. He stated that the leak was caused by a galvanized fitting that rusted and broke loose. Grounds, Streets & Lights – Council Member Ramsey stated his concern that the speed limit should be set at 25 mph throughout the Town. Following discussion Mr. Ramsey suggested that a resolution to lower speed limits in Town be drafted for the October meeting. Council Member Andrews stated that a streetlight on LeGrande Ave. was finally repaired. She stated that the Christmas tree on the courthouse square needs to be addressed, noting that it was not only in bad shape, but another tree was blending into it.

**Water Operations Report** Council Member Ramsey stated that via a conference call earlier in the day, Clay Samples reported that the SCADA system was moved from the courthouse tank to the Moses Drive tank and subsequently knocked out by a lightning strike. He is working to get parts to repair it. Mr. Samples stated his preference to have the float reinstalled on the courthouse tank, which gives them a visual means of monitoring the tank level if the SCADA system fails.

**Clerk's Report** Karen Price reported that four water meters were cut-off for non-payment. She reported that a business license was approved for Salty Dog Grooming and that one zoning application was approved for the construction of a garage.

**Council Comment Period** Council Member Andrews stated that Halloween is coming and she would like to somehow revive interest in it.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

---

David C. Watkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Karen K. Price, Clerk of Council