

TOWN OF WALLACE
MONTHLY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
September 12, 2024
6:00 p.m.

The Wallace Town Council held its regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at the Town Hall.

The following Governing Body members were present:

Mayor Jason Wells
Council Member/ Mayor Pro-Tem Francisco Rivas-Diaz
Council Member Frank Brinkley
Council Member Jason Davis
Council Member Tasha Herring
Council Member Penny Thorne

The following Governing Body member was absent:
None

Also present were:

Rob Taylor, Town Manager	Anna H. Herring, Town Attorney
Jackie Nicholson, Town Clerk	Jennifer Raynor, Library Director (via Zoom)
Jimmy Crayton, Police Chief	Sherry Aramini
Brent Dean, Public Services Director	Marlane Carcopo (via Zoom)
Rod Fritz, Planning Director	Bobby Jones
Ben Jones, Airport Manager	Joseph Merritt
Taylor Johnson, Fire Chief (via Zoom)	Abby Cavanaugh, <i>Duplin Journal</i>

Mayor Jason Wells called the regular meeting to order with a quorum of the governing body members present and gave the invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Presentation – Public Services Update

Public Services Director Brent Dean reported on the different projects and the status of activities in his departments. Council asked him to look into a few things that need some attention.

Adoption of the Agenda

Mayor Wells asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Town Manager Rob Taylor said that the public hearing for Royal Farms rezoning and action on that item should be removed, the developer has requested the public hearing be postponed until the October meeting.

Council Member Frank Brinkley made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Penny Thorne and approved unanimously.

Public Comment Period

There were no comments.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Wells called for discussion of the minutes from the August 15, 2024 regular meeting. There being no additions or corrections, Council Member Penny Thorne made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Council Member Francisco Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Town Manager Taylor said there were no tax reports and asked for release of the following taxes:

Account #	Name	Year	Reason	Amount
10007041	Sudyan, Todd R	2024	Billed incorrectly	1,164.36
000000285	US Bank National Association	2024	Billed incorrectly	13.86
000000285	US Bank National Association	2024	Billed incorrectly	31.88
000000299	US Bank National Association	2024	Billed incorrectly	16.01

Council Member Tasha Herring made a motion to approve the releases that was seconded by Council Member Thorne and approved unanimously.

Old Business

Establish Public Hearin for Rezoning (Royal Farms)

Planning Director Rod Fritz stated that the developer requested the public hearing, which was scheduled for tonight, be rescheduled until the October meeting.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to establish a public hearing for Royal Farms rezoning on Thursday, October 10, 2024 after 6 pm at the Wallace Women's Club. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

New Business

Establish Public Hearing for Rezoning (Maple Street)

Planning Director Fritz asked the Council to establish a public hearing for a rezoning request for property located on Maple Street. Fritz added that the petition is requesting the property be rezoned from HB (highway business) to R-10 (residential, minimum lot size 10,000 sq.ft.).

Council Member Tasha Herring made a motion to establish a public hearing for a rezoning request on Thursday, October 10, 2024 after 6 pm at the Wallace Women's Club which was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

Direct the Clerk to Investigate the Sufficiency of a Petition for Annexation

Planning Director Fritz said a Petition for Annexation had been received for a 2.66 acre parcel of property in Pender County adjacent to property currently annexed and asked the Council to adopt a Resolution Directing The Clerk To Investigate A Petition Received Under G.S. 160A-31.

Council Member Thorne made a motion as such. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and approved by unanimous vote.

Financial Reports

Manager Taylor said that Sales Tax and Cash & Investments reports were in the packet.

Town Manager's Report

Manager Taylor reported briefly on the following projects:

- Darling sewer extension (formerly Valley Protein Project)
- Water wells – a few punch list items will allow the project to be closed out
- WWTP Dike – should go out to bid soon
- Grist Mill – additional funds for the floor
- Strap Grant (Nickelson Creek/Boney Mill) - preliminary planning started
- Public Safety Center – will present plans at October meeting

Manager Taylor reminded Council of the Latino Festival on Oct. 12 and said the Town would have a booth and Employee Appreciation Day is scheduled for Oct. 3.

Council Reports

Council Member Herring reminded everyone of Pet Day in the Park on Saturday and thanked the first responders for being prepared for the storm last month.

Council Member Thorne said the fence at Farrior Park looked really good and thanked all departments for what they do.

Council Member Rivas-Diaz invited all the Council Members to the Latino Festival and expressed his appreciation to Manager Taylor, Public Services Director Brent Dean and the Parks & Recreation Department for the help they have provided.

Closed Session

Mayor Wells called for a motion to go into closed session to discuss a personnel matter.

Council Member Brinkley made a motion to go into closed session (NCGS 143-318.11(a)(6) that was seconded by Council Member Rivas-Diaz and unanimously approved.

The Council heard a report regarding an employee.

Council Member Herring made a motion to end the closed session. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brinkley and approved unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss Council Member Herring made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Council Member Thorne and approved by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Wells, Mayor

Jacqueline Nicholson, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CLERK TO INVESTIGATE
A PETITION RECEIVED UNDER G.S. 160A-58.1
(Petition #AX -2024-01)

WHEREAS, a petition requesting annexation of an area described in said petition (Pender County PIN 3314-35-6827-0000, 2.66 acres) was received on July 25, 2024 by the Planning Department of the Town of Wallace; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-58.2 provides that the sufficiency of the petition shall be investigated by the Town Clerk of Wallace before further annexation proceedings may take place; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, deems it advisable to proceed in response to this request for annexation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Wallace, that:

The Town Clerk is hereby directed to investigate the sufficiency of the above-described petition and to certify as soon as possible to the Town Council the result of her investigation.

Jason Wells, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jacqueline Nicholson, Town Clerk