

TOWN OF COATS
Board of Commissioners
Thursday, July 10, 2025

The Town of Coats Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Commissioners' Meeting Room at Coats Town Hall.

Members Present:

Mayor Chris Coats
Mayor Pro Tem Marc Powell
Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert
Commissioner Shirley Allen
Commissioner Monique Warren-Clegg

Staff Present:

Barbara Hollerand, Town Manager
Connie Lassiter, Finance Director/Town Clerk
Ken Storicks, Police Chief
Wesley Blount, Public Works Director

Members Absent:

Commissioner Jerry Beasley

Others Present:

Alton Bain, Town Attorney

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Mayor Chris Coats called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Chris Coats delivered the invocation and led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Coats called for a motion to approve agenda.

RESOLVED, to approve the agenda.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro Tem Marc Powell

SECOND BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen

APPROVED: Unanimously Approved

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – June 12, 2025
2. Approval of Attorney Bill – Services Rendered June 1-30, 2025
3. Request Approval of Contract for Engineering Services with Meyers Engineering, PLLC
4. Request Approval of Powell Bill Map Update
5. Request Approval of Purchase of John Deere Compact Excavator and Trailer from James River Equipment in the amount of \$76,725.55
6. Request for Budget Amendment 2026-1 for 25% allocation of Town Manager Salary from Water Fund

RESOLVED, to approve Consent Agenda.
MOTION BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen
SECOND BY: Commissioner Monique Warren-Clegg
APPROVED: Unanimously Approved

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lila Lanier, 144 N McLean St, Coats NC, expressed concern with the grass on Gale Spears Drive and in right of ways in her neighborhood. She mentioned coming across the Powell Bill and said no streets had been paved or worked on in her neighborhood since she'd lived in Coats. She also expressed dissatisfaction with being told that concerned citizens should go to the Town Manager first, as citizens voted Commissioners in and not the Town Manager.

Gale Spears, 120 Gale Spears Dr, Coats NC, questioned the cut-off process and asked if there was anything specifically mentioned for handicapped or disabled people in the Ordinances. She asked when employees started writing their own job descriptions. She asked why the consent agenda was not on the screen for everyone to see.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Updated Comprehensive Land Use Plan

A. Introduction and Presentation

Chair of the Planning Board, Hazel Stephenson, gave background on the process behind the Land Use Plan stressing that the Planning Board worked hard on receiving input from the public through surveys and Open House style meetings. She explained that the Town was mandated by law to have a Land Use Plan and that the one in place was older. She stated that the Planning Board members voted unanimously to recommend adoption of the final draft of the Coats Future Land Use Plan at their June 5 meeting.

Harrison Wenchell with KCI & Associates presented the highlights from the final draft Comprehensive Land Use Plan.

B. Public Hearing

Andy Cole, 1420 Abattoir Rd, Coats NC, spoke positively of the Land Use Plan and was pleased with the process noting that it enabled him to feel involved in planning for the future.

Gale Spears, 120 Gale Spears Dr, Coats NC suggested having a contact person for different areas as not everyone can access a phone or computer. She also said that she hoped water would not be directed to a community.

C. Consideration of Adoption of Updated Comprehensive Land Use Plan

RESOLVED, to adopt the Comprehensive Land Use Plan.
MOTION BY: Mayor Pro Tem Marc Powell
SECOND BY: Commissioner Shirley Allen
APPROVED: Unanimously Approved

MANAGER UPDATE

Town Manager Barbara Hollerand communicated that there would be an Economic Development visioning event on July 31st from 6:00pm to 8:00pm as a follow up from 2019.

Ms. Hollerand gave the following updates:

- SRO position was vacant and if not filled when school starts the officer on duty would periodically check in throughout the school day
- Body cameras had been distributed and were in use
- New Parks and Recreation Director would be starting July 21

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert addressed some of the public comments and noted that he was available to talk with citizens, but the best process was to go directly to the Town Manager with concerns; and if the issue was not resolved, then Commissioners would step in. He said he would check in with the Town Manager next month regarding cut-offs and the consent agenda.

Commissioner Monique Warren-Clegg mentioned Gale Spears Drive and the park were issues she wanted to look into.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Chris Coats called for a motion to adjourn.

RESOLVED, to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION BY: Mayor Pro Tem Marc Powell

SECOND BY: Commissioner Kelvin Gilbert

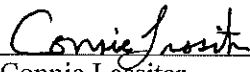
APPROVED: Unanimously Approved

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

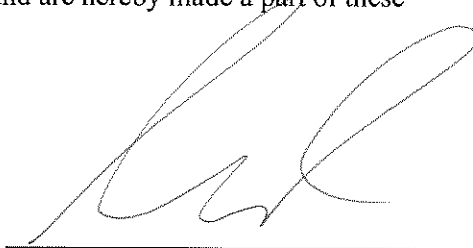
The attached documents of reference are incorporated herewith and are hereby made a part of these minutes.

Minutes prepared by Deputy Clerk Mikayla Johnson.

ATTEST:



Connie Lassiter
Finance Director/Town Clerk



Chris Coats
Mayor