

## **Taylortown Council Meeting**

Taylortown Town Hall  
January 14, 2025  
5:00 p.m. Closed Session  
6:00 p.m. Open Session

### **Agenda**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Agenda**
- IV. Minutes**
- V. Closed Session**
- VI. Return to Open Session**
- VII. Closed Session Report**
- VIII. Public Comment**
  
- IX. Staff Reports – Town Administrator, Carolyn Cole**
  - 1. Council and Staff work session**
    - a. Public Works and Utilities
    - b. Finance
    - c. Planning and Zoning
    - d. Public Safety
  
- X. Announcements**

Next Town Council Meeting January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  
- XI. Adjournment**

## **Taylortown**

Town Council Meeting  
Tuesday, January 14, 2025  
Town Hall  
5:10 p.m. Closed Session  
6:00 p.m. Open Session

### **I. Call to Order**

This meeting of the Taylortown Council is now called to order.

### **II. Roll Call**

Please call the roll.

Mayor Gaddy

~~Mayor Pro Tem Moody~~

Councilwoman Cotton

Councilwoman Parker

~~Councilman Taylor~~

**Mayor Pro Tem Moody joins via phone call at 5:30.**

### **III. Approval of Agenda**

The agenda for this January 14th, 2025 Town Council meeting was  
posted at Town Hall and on the town's website.

You can also find the agenda in the holder on the back wall.

Council, I seek a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion: So moved.

**Councilwoman Parker**

Second:

## **Councilwoman Cotton**

I have a motion and a second.

Are there any questions? Discussion?

If there are no questions or discussion, Councilmembers, please vote by saying yes or no.

Please call the vote.

Mayor Gaddy

~~Mayor Pro Tem Moody~~

Councilwoman Cotton

Councilwoman Parker

~~Councilman Taylor~~

**Everyone present voted in the affirmative.**

The motion passed. The agenda is approved.

## **IV. Closed Session**

I seek a motion to go into closed session for a recap on our outstanding legal matters and personnel.

Motion: I move that we go into go into closed session.

**Councilwoman Cotton**

Second:

**Councilwoman Parker**

I have a motion and second.

Are there any questions or discussion?

No questions or discussion.

Please call the vote.

Mayor Gaddy  
~~Mayor Pro Tem Moody~~  
Councilwoman Cotton  
Councilwoman Parker  
~~Councilman Taylor~~

**Everyone present voted in the affirmative.**

The motion passed. We are now in closed session.

**V. Return to Open Session:**

I seek a motion to return to open session.

Motion: I move that we return to open session.

**Councilwoman Cotton**

Second:

**Councilwoman Parker**

I have a motion and second.

Any questions? Any discussion?

No questions, no discussion.

Please call the vote.

Mayor Gaddy  
Mayor Pro Tem Moody – on the phone  
Councilwoman Cotton  
Councilwoman Parker  
~~Councilman Taylor – absent~~

**All present voted in the affirmative.**

The motion passed.

This January 14<sup>th</sup> Taylortown Council meeting is now back in

Open Session.

Good evening.

Thank you all for taking time out of your busy schedule to join us in person and online.

We thank you for caring about Taylortown.

Our ancestors have entrusted us with an important and valuable legacy.

Future generations are counting on us to deliver it to them better than

we found it. Let's keep showing up.  
Please join us in a moment of silence.

## **VI. Closed Session Report**

We opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. and went into closed session to recap some outstanding legal matters.

There is nothing for us to bring out of closed session for a discussion or vote in Open Session.

## **VII. Public Comment**

The floor is now open for public comment. Please come to the podium and speak directly into the microphone. Limit your comments to 3 minutes, please.

**Aaron McLaughlin: States he has seen no progress in Taylortown in the current administration. Inquires of the salary of council members and the context for changes in personnel.**

**Debbie Currier:** States that questions are not being answered.

**William Green:** Asked for the meaning of transparency coming from the council.

**Marcella Alston:** Inquires as to our “laws”. States that she has not received FOIA documents from a previous request. Inquires as to where Town job openings can be found.

**Sam Portnoy:** Spoke on behalf of First Baptist Church of Pinehurst. Announces his church is giving Easter boxes for those in need and inquires whether that is a need for Taylortown. Requests need to be made at least 60 days prior, if you would like to move forward, make a request.

**Adam Cheatam Sr.:** Renovations for the school, trash pick up/dump status. Making the dump more accessible, fixing the pool before the Summer.

Let’s now move into our work session with the staff and council. This is not a public hearing, please refrain from commenting or interrupting from the floor. I will now hand it over to our Town Administrator.

## **VIII. Staff Reports – Town Administrator – Carolyn Cole**

### **Administration Response:**

#### **FOIA Request:**

- Ms. Alston received an email from the acting Town Clerk with instructions on how to complete and submit a FOIA request to the town (see [taylortownnc.gov](http://taylortownnc.gov) under FOIA REQUESTS).

#### **Laws and Job Postings:**

- See NC G.S. 160A regarding law governing cities and municipalities.
- Per NCLM HR training, local government is NOT obligated to post job openings. Please see Coates’ Canons NC Local Government Law. This was brought to public attention by Councilwoman Cotton at the Town Council Meeting on October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. At this same meeting, Councilwoman Cotton announced to everyone in attendance, online and

**virtually, that if anyone with HR experience was interested in our HR position, to please contact Town Hall.**

**Budget Requests and Inquires of Salaries:**

- **Please see [taylortownnc.gov](http://taylortownnc.gov) under Our departments > Finance Department > Budget 2024-2025.**

**Renovations, Dump, and Pool:**

- **Addressed below as topics in the Council and Staff Work Session.**

**Requests for Easter boxes:**

- **Coordinating with Akeila Winder for how to gauge community interests and responding to Mr. Portnoy's offer in a timely manner.**

**Council and Staff Work Session:**

**1) Public Works and Utilities**

Recap of previous issues on billing and water pressure.

Fees that are being brought to council:

- We are looking at commercial water billing rates before we look at residential rates.
- Water tap prices: Ours are higher than Moore County because we are smaller
  - o \$1,576 difference between us and Moore County
- Connection Fees
- Sewer Line Connection fee: \$1,200
- Sewer Line Tap: \$3,500 from 4 – 8 inches
  - o Mr. Price suggests we are missing the tap fee.

**Storm Water and Storm Drains:**

Sanitation:

- Proposed to go from dumpster to curb-side
- Council will need to decide on how to bill for curbside

- People who already have curbside will need to go municipal—private contracted curbside is on an individual basis; Councilwoman Cotton raises concerns over those already using private curbside

Responding to Mr. Cheatam about the pool regarding maintenance and opening the pool for the summer.

#### **Roads:**

- Mr. Price compiled list of roads that need repair/cleaning (attached).
- Consider the large trucks (dumpster trucks, gravel, etc.) that tear up the roads. Consider placing a sign to prevent the trucks from entering residential roads, the size of the trucks, and how that will effect curbside trash.
- Discussion about speed bumps on Walker st.

**Councilwoman Cotton: Makes a motion to authorize us to get a contract from Republic and bring it to council.**

**Second: Councilwoman Parker**

**Everyone present voted in the affirmative.**

#### **Discussion of equal/non-selective billing:**

- a) Darnell Price- Public Works and Utilities Director**
- b) Policy Recommendations**

Town Administrator states that the council should first look into fees on commercial water and sewer before considering changes to residential billing.

#### **2) Finance**

- a) Calvin Blanton**

Revenue and income statements from July 2022 to the present are collected and now in review.



### **3) Planning and Zoning**

Planning Board is in place.

Major projects planned for Taylortown that Council was not made aware of. We issued Stop Work Orders for these projects.

- 14 cottages to be built
- Hotel expansion project
- We invited one of the owners to come in for a preliminary conversation for factual information on what the project actually is.
- Another hotel showed us their project as well. These owners were under the impression that Taylortown did not have a sewer system and that they were under the authority of a private sewer system from a private citizen.
  - o Look into budget to see if we can bring someone on board to work with council and staff regarding these projects.
- We do not have records on who received the tap fees, or development fees, for these projects that council was not aware of.
- Ideas for Academy Heights have come up
  - o We want to bring someone to the table so Taylortown can preserve history as well as making an economy for itself

### **4) Public Safety**

#### **a) Acting Chief Brandon Phillips**

We are working on bringing on a chief, we have two screenings so far.

Mayor Gaddy asked about 35 mph signs on Main St and where there are traffic signs. Work has been scheduled, and is a combination of work between PWU and Public Safety.

### **1. Planning Department**

**The Planning Board will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 15th.**

**Ronda Brady**

**Garry Brown**

**Jeffrey Moody**

**Connie Pearson**

**Lottie Mason**

## **2. Cultural & Leisure Services Department – Akeila Winder**

- **Potential MLK celebration upcoming—will update the Town.**
- **Southern Pines is holding multiple MLK Day events Saturday through Monday.**

**That concludes our staff report.**

### **IX. Announcements**

**The next Town Council Meeting will take place January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

**Councilmembers, do you have any announcements?**

**Cotton: Thanks the staff for their work.**

### **X. Adjournment**

**I seek a motion to adjourn.**

Motion: I move that we adjourn.

**Councilwoman Cotton**

Second:

**Councilwoman Parker**

**I have a motion and second.**

**Are there any questions or discussion?**

**If there are no questions or discussion, please call the vote.**

**Mayor Gaddy**

**Mayor Pro Tem Moody**

**Councilwoman Cotton  
Councilwoman Parker  
Councilman Taylor**

**Motion passed. This meeting of the Taylortown Council is adjourned.**