



The Daffodil Town

**Minutes of Special Called Meeting  
Public Hearing  
June 28, 2024**

The Board of Aldermen/Alderwomen for the Town of Fremont, NC, held a Special Called Meeting at 10:00 a.m. on June 28, 2024. **Present were:**

Eddie Yelverton, **Mayor**  
Leroy Ruffin, **Mayor Pro tem**  
Oscar Mooring, **Alderman**  
Joyce M. Artis, **Alderwoman**  
Tim Howell, **Alderman**  
Annie Lewis, **Alderwoman**  
Wayne Jackson, **Alderman**

**Town Administrator** Jonathan Allen, **Finance Officer** Shannon Daly, and **Town Clerk** Junnie Williams were also in attendance.

**Quorum Present: Yes**

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Eddie Yelverton called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. **Mayor Pro tem Leroy Ruffin** gave the Invocation. **Alderman Oscar Mooring** led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

## Approval of the Agenda:

\*Mayor Eddie Yelverton requested a motion to approve the amended Agenda. **Alderman Oscar Mooring** made the motion. **Alderwoman Annie Lewis** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

## Public Hearing: Budget Fiscal Year 24-25

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen informed the Town Board members and all in attendance of the 17% sewer rate increase. Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated that based on this year's budget, the Town Board members decided to include a 25% increase in the sewer to outside town citizens of Fremont and Businesses. It will also include Eureka, the Schools, and outside areas. The amendment to the Fire Department Budget also has been adjusted to reflect the 0.07 cents tax. Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked if anyone would like to make a Public Comment on behalf of the Budget Fiscal Year 2024-2025. The **Public Comments Section** is now open. Please state your name and the address of your residence.

- 1.) **Beatrice Jones**, of 108 W. Wayne Street, Fremont NC, 27830, stated that she did not quite understand what the total increase would be to the citizens of Fremont. Ms. Beatrice Jones stated her calculations totaled a 25.5% increase, but now she has heard a different figure from the Town Administrator, Jonathan Allen. Ms. Beatrice Jones stated she would like to know the overall cost per resident.
- 2.) **Keith Spivey**, 509 W. Memorial Church Road, Fremont, NC. 27830, asked how much of the Budget for Fiscal Year 24-25 has been centered upon the possibility of a \$750,000 tax being calculated based upon the NC State Auditor's Office of Raleigh, NC, which the Town has received from the \$253,000 in compensation not reported to the IRS, and the payroll taxes, which is about \$500,000 not reported to the IRS.
- 3.) **Ralph Wilkins**, of 203 N. Dock Street, Fremont, NC. 27830, stated that he was on a fixed income. Mr. Wilkins stated an additional payment of \$50 toward his utility bill would be hard for him to pay.

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen spoke to each person regarding their public comments for the Budget Fiscal Year 24-25.

Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked if there were any other public comments. There were none. The public comments section is now closed.

**Action:**

**1.) Budget Amendment BA-11-2024 – Finance Officer Shannon Daly**

Finance Officer Shannon Daly stated that another Sewer Bill has to be paid for this fiscal year 2023-2024, and therefore, monies had to be located to pay the bill. Mrs. Daly also informed the Board that the only other Budget Amendment the Town will have for this Budget Year 23-24 is for the Auditor Dana Layne.

\*Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked for a motion to approve the Budget Amendment BA-11-2024. **Alderman Wayne Jackson** made the motion. **Alderman Annie Lewis** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

**2.) July 4th, 2024 Holiday Follow-up – Town Administrator Jonathan Allen**

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated he spoke with the Town's Attorney, Brian Pridgen, and the NC Department of Labor. He stated that they both agreed that the town could allow the staff to work on the 4th of July Holiday without having to pay time and a half, and off the 5th of July as the observed Holiday.

\*Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked if we have a motion to change the work schedule for the Town of Fremont to work a half day on Thursday, July 4, 2024, and off July 5, 2024, as the Holiday. **Alderman Tim Howell** made the motion. **Alderman Oscar Mooring** seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

**3.) Approval of Budget Fiscal Year 24-25 – Town Administrator Jonathan Allen**

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated to the Town Board that the budget was included in their packet. He informed the Board that he and the Finance Officer, Shannon Daly, went over the Budget for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and stated the budget was balanced. He asked the Town Board for approval of the budget.

\*Alderwoman Joyce Artis asked Mayor Eddie Yelverton if it would be okay to go into a Closed Session for about 10 minutes before we approved the Budget for Fiscal Year 24-25.

**4.) Contract to Repair Town Hall – Town Administrator Jonathan Allen**

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated that approval is needed to be made by the Town Board to contract Ernest Glass Company to repair the damage to the Town Hall. Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated we have a pass-through cost, has been included in this Budget Year 24-25.

\*Alderwoman Joyce Artis stated that she would like to make a motion that we accept the contract to repair the side of the Town Hall Building for \$32,060. Alderman Wayne Jackson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.

**Discussion:**

**1.) Power Station Coming Back Online, June 29, 2024 – Town Administrator Jonathan Allen**

Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated on June 29, 2024, at 11:59 p.m., the Power Station would be down for at least an hour and 45 minutes and will be restored on June 30, 2024 at 1:30 a.m. Town Administrator Jonathan Allen stated Mrs. Vanessa had sent out notices,

and that flyers are posted on the front door of Town Hall and the Town website.

## 2.) Micro Managing – Mayor Pro tem Leroy Ruffin

Mayor Pro tem Leroy Ruffin asked the Town Board whenever they had extra time to stop in Town Hall for about 15 minutes to see and learn what each employee was doing within their job assignment(s).

\*Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked for a motion to go into a **Closed Session** for about 10 minutes to discuss Personnel. **Alderswoman Joyce Artis** made the motion. **Alderswoman Annie Lewis** seconded the motion. The **motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.**

Mayor Eddie Yelverton stated we are now back in **Open Session.**

**Mayor Eddie Yelverton** stated that we need a motion to approve the Final Budget for Fiscal Year 24-25.

\***Alderswoman Joyce Artis** made the motion for the approval of the Budget for Fiscal Year 24-25. She stated that the reason for the increase is we are losing approximately **\$75,000** in revenue from the Fremont Elementary School, and we had several agencies that increased their rates on the Town of Fremont. She also stated that the date in the Administrator Message to the Board, Staff, and Citizens, needed to change from 20234 – 20245 to 2024-2025 Budget. **Alderman Wayne Jackson** seconded the motion.

Mayor Eddie Yelverton asked if there was any other discussion on the budget.

\***Alderswoman Joyce Artis** stated the rate increase for the inside citizens is **19.5%**, with an additional **\$1.00** raise for the garbage. The outside citizens will be a **25%** for the sewer rate increase. The **motion passed unanimously with a 6-0 vote.**

**\*Mayor Eddie Yelverton** asked for a motion to adjourn. **Alderwoman Annie Lewis** made the motion. **Alderman Oscar Mooring** seconded the motion. The **motion passed unanimously** with a **6-0 vote**. Meeting adjourned.

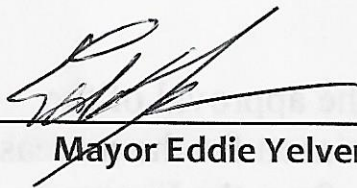
The meeting ended at 11:00 a.m.

**Encouraging Words:**

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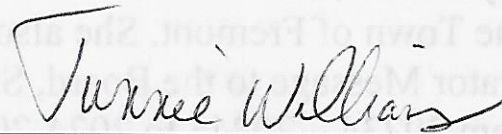
**“Thank you is the best prayer that anyone could say.”**

**~ Alice Walker**



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**Mayor Eddie Yelverton**



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**Junnie Williams, Town Clerk**