

**Minutes of the  
Mineral Springs Town Council  
Organizational Meeting / Regular Meeting  
December 9, 2021 – 7:30 p.m.**

The Town Council of the Town of Mineral Springs, North Carolina, met in Organizational Meeting and Regular Session at the Mineral Springs Town Hall located at 3506 Potter Road South, Mineral Springs, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 9, 2021.

**Present:** Mayor Frederick Becker III, Mayor Pro Tem Valerie Coffey, Councilwoman Janet Critz, Councilwoman Lundeen Cureton, Councilwoman Bettylyn Krafft, and Councilman Jim Muller.

**Absent:** Councilman Jerry Countryman.

**Staff Present:** Town Clerk/Zoning Administrator Vicky Brooks, Attorney Bobby Griffin, and Deputy Town Clerk Janet Ridings.

**Visitors:** None.

**1. Organizational Meeting**

**A.** Mayor Becker opened the Organizational Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**B.** Town Clerk Vicky Brooks read the municipal election results from November 2, 2021 as follows: Mayor: Frederick Becker III – 265 votes. Town Council: Nicholas Altherr – 37 votes; Jerry Countryman – 242 votes; Janet Critz – 196 votes; Chelsey Felts – 117 votes; Richard Helms – 123 votes; Bettylyn Kraft – 205 votes. Unexpired term on Town Council: Charles Bowden – 62 votes; Jim Muller – 243 votes.

Mayor Becker thanked Ms. Brooks and noted that she had confirmed Councilwomen Krafft and Critz, and Councilman Countryman were officially reelected, and that the new council member was Jim Muller who would be sworn in with the other two council members that were present; Councilman Countryman will be sworn in at a later time, because he has an excused absence.

**C.** Town Clerk Vicky Brooks administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Becker.

Mayor Becker administered the Oath of Office to Councilwoman Critz, Councilwoman Bettylyn Krafft and Councilman Jim Muller.

Mayor Becker congratulated the returning and new council members.

**D.** Mayor Becker explained the final step was to nominate and appoint the Mayor Pro Tempore and if the Mayor Pro Tempore was not present the Oath could be postponed.

Councilwoman Critz nominated Councilman Countryman, and noted he was the council member with the most votes, which has been used as the guideline [for selection of mayor pro tempore]. Councilwoman Critz added that wasn't an absolute, but Councilman Countryman and Councilwoman Cureton were the most senior councilmembers and Councilman Countryman would like to serve, which he verified last month.

Mayor Becker clarified that Councilman Countryman did not get the highest number of votes this year, it was Councilman Muller.

Councilwoman Critz responded she was considering just...

Mayor Becker responded, "just in the absolute, just to make sure for the record."

Councilwoman Critz commented Councilman Muller was new to this and would not want to fill those shoes.

Mayor Becker responded Councilman Muller probably would not, but he wanted to make sure that was clarified for the record.

Councilwoman Coffey motioned to close the nominations for mayor pro tempore and Councilwoman Cureton seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

Councilwoman Critz motioned to approve Councilman Countryman and Councilman Muller seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

Councilman Countryman will be sworn in for both of his offices when he returns.

## **2. Adjournment of the Organizational Meeting**

Mayor Becker closed the Organizational Meeting at 7:47 p.m.

## **3. Opening of the Regular Meeting**

With a quorum present at 7:47 p.m. on December 9, 2021, Mayor Frederick Becker called the Regular Town Council Meeting to order.

Councilwoman Critz delivered the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance.

## **4. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

## **5. Consent Agenda – Action Item**

Councilwoman Coffey motioned to approve the consent agenda containing the November 18, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes, the October 2021 Union County Tax Report, the October 2021 Finance Report, and the 2022 Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule and Councilwoman Krafft seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

## **6. Consideration of Appointing a Planning Board Member – Action Item**

Mayor Becker called Ms. Elizabeth Voigt up to the microphone to introduce herself.

Ms. Voigt introduced herself and stated she was a resident of Mineral Springs and had grown up here most of her life. Ms. Voigt and her husband have a two-year-old little boy. Ms. Voigt has been wanting to become more involved in the community and after the most recent election she was looking online and talking to a few of the council members when she realized there was an opening on the planning committee that she was interested in.

Mayor Becker thanked Ms. Voigt for applying and commented he loved her application; it sounded like it fits "Conservation by Design".

Councilwoman Critz stated she had known Ms. Voigt since she was a very little girl and was very excited after she got married and managed to buy and move back to Mineral Springs. "It's been our hearts' desire, our whole council that we get younger people involved in local government, because we are aging at the speed of light and so Ms. Voigt has had the opportunity to see a lot of change", Councilwoman Critz said. Councilwoman Critz mentioned that Ms. Voigt's mother and Councilwoman Krafft worked together with the annexation the town did. Councilwoman Critz thought Ms. Voigt was going to be a good addition and was thankful for her willingness to commit.

Councilwoman Critz motioned to accept Elizabeth Voigt's nomination to the planning board and Councilwoman Krafft seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

## 7. Staff Updates

There were no staff updates.

## 8. Other Business

Councilman Muller commented with the appointment of Ms. Voigt to the planning board and his swearing in tonight it officially puts him on three positions with the town, so he officially stepped down from the planning board.

Councilwoman Critz asked Councilman Muller if he were going to remain on the Board of Adjustment.

Councilman Muller responded he would remain on the Board of Adjustment.

Mayor Becker asked Ms. Brooks or Attorney Griffin if the town council had to accept Councilman Muller's resignation at some point, because the council would have to wait until next month to officially adopt the acceptance.

Attorney Griffin responded it was always good to do that; just vote to accept the resignation.

Mayor Becker commented he did not know if the council could do that tonight, because it was not on the agenda.

Attorney Griffin responded with 4/5ths of the majority the council could.

Mayor Becker asked the council first for a motion to amend the agenda to allow the addition of acceptance of Councilman Muller's planning board resignation.

Councilwoman Coffey motioned to amend the agenda to accept Councilman Muller's resignation from the planning board and Councilwoman Cureton seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

## 9. Acceptance of a Planning Board Member Resignation – Added Agenda Action Item

Councilwoman Krafft motioned to accept Councilman Muller's resignation from the planning board and Councilwoman Critz seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

Mayor Becker thanked Attorney Griffin for the advice. The council does not like to add things to the agenda if they require voting, but the amendment process can be done as a formality. Mayor Becker thanked Councilman Muller for his service to the planning board and the board of adjustment, which he is continuing to serve on.

## 10. Adjournment – Action Item

At 8:00 p.m. Councilwoman Coffey motioned to adjourn the meeting and Councilman Muller seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Ayes: Coffey, Critz, Cureton, Krafft, and Muller. Nays: None.

The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, December 13, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mineral Springs Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Vicky A. Brooks, CMC, NCCMC, Town Clerk



  
Frederick Becker III, Mayor