

TOWN OF ELIZABETHTOWN

Evening Meeting

May 5, 2025

The Elizabethtown Town Council met for its regular meeting on Monday, May 5, 2025, in the Council Chamber at 7:00 pm. Those present were Mayor Sylvia Campbell, Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, Council Members Ricky Leinwand, Paula Greene, Rich Glenn, Bobby Kinlaw, Town Manager Dane Rideout and Town Attorney Goldston Womble. Department Heads in attendance included Assistant Town Manager Pat DeVane, Town Clerk Juanita Hester, Police Chief Mark McMichael and Public Works & Engineering Services Director Stephen Duffy. Absent: Council Member Herman Lewis, Fire Chief Hollis Freeman, Finance Director Sharon Penny and Planning Director Rusty Worley. No members from the Press attended the meeting.

Item #1.1: Opening and Call to Order

Mayor Sylvia Campbell opened the meeting and called to order. Mayor Sylvia Campbell then called upon Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd to give the invocation.

Item #2.1: Recognition at Noon Meeting – East Bladen Girls' Basketball Team

This agenda item was presented at Noon.

Item #3.1: Special Recognition – Mr. Charles DeVane

Mayor Campbell noted that Mr. DeVane has been with the Elizabethtown ABC Board for 28 years. He is a friend and she is grateful for him. Mayor Campbell also noted that he will be leaving big shoes to fill. Mr. DeVane noted that it is a pleasure and he appreciates the Town. The business is changing, customers want flavored and refrigerated drinks so please support the new store in expanding and remodeling. Mayor Campbell presented Mr. DeVane with a plaque.

Item #4.1: Approve Consent Agenda Items

Upon a motion by Mayor Pro Tem Rufus Lloyd, seconded by Council Member Ricky Leinwand, the Board unanimously approved the following Consent Items. A. Proposed Agenda, B. February 25, 2025 Budget Retreat Closed Session Meeting Minutes C. April 7, 2025 Noon Meeting Minutes, D. April 7, 2025 7 p.m. Meeting Minutes E. April 7, 2025 Closed Session Minutes, F. Monthly Financial Report, G. Grant Project Budget Amendment #111-01.

Item #5.1: Public Hearing: 2018 CDBG-NR Program – Grant #18-D-3095

Mayor Campbell opened the public hearing and called upon Town Manager Dane Rideout to present. Mr. Rideout noted that the Town is seeking additional funding for cost overruns for the Vulcanair Facility. The additional funding requested is \$1,200,000 and \$1,500,000. There is a tariff increase.

Since no one signed up to speak, Mayor Campbell then closed the public hearing.

Item #6.1: Proclamation – To Recognize National Police Week – May 11-17, 2025

Mayor Sylvia Campbell noted that the Police Officers do a great job and she is thankful for what they do. Council Member Robert Kinlaw, seconded by Council Member Paula Greene, moved to approve Proclamation – To Recognize National Police Week - May 11-17, 2025 (Unanimous). Copy attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item #7.1: FY 2025-2026 Proposed Budget for General Fund and Water Fund

Town Manager Dane Rideout thanked Council Members Paula Greene, Rich Glenn and Robert Kinlaw for serving on the budget committee. The budget will increase 11.5%, 3% cost of living increase, health and retirement increase 6.5%, police 5.5%, 3% increase in water and sewer, no solid waste increase and no tax increase. The Town is partnering with the UNC School of Government to evaluate our water and wastewater rate structure.

Item #7.2: Town Manager Update

- Town Manager noted that the hydrant has been installed on Biggs Street.
- Town Manager noted that the Community Center Project is on schedule.
- Town Manager noted construction has started with Vulcanair.

Item #8.1: 2018 Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization Budget Amendment No. 1 – Grant #18-D-3095

Council Member Rich Glenn, seconded by Council Member Bobby Kinlaw, moved to approve 2018 Community Development Block Grant – Neighborhood Revitalization Budget Amendment No. 1- Grant #18-D-3095 (Unanimous). Copy attached and incorporated herein by reference.

Item #9 .1: “Briefly”

Town Manager Dane Rideout briefed on the following:

- Take a look at the Department Head Updates – great information.
- Town offices closed in observance of Memorial Day May 26, 2025.
- White Lake Water Festival May 17th at 10:00 a.m.
- Kids Appreciation Day May 10, 2025 from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Peace Officers Memorial Service May 12, 2025 8:00 am at 299 Smith Circle.

Item #10:1: Open Forum

- Ms. Vickie Gillespie at 302 Martin Street noted that on Martin Luther King sidewalk there is an overhang the trees need trimming.
- Ms. Gillespie also noted that she has been trying for 5 years to Annex in the City limits. She cannot rent her rental property because of the high-water bills. She has been working with Mrs. Hester and talked with Mr. DeVane. She wants to know what she can do; can she annex by satellite?
- Ms. Penny Johnson noted that there is a chemical wave in the air. The Pentagon and FBI are aware of it. It is harmful, comes from the ground and its air borne.

With no further business to conduct, Council Member Paula Greene, seconded by Council Member Ricky Leinwand, moved to recess the meeting until May 15, 2025 at noon (Unanimous).

Sylvia Campbell, Mayor