



# ***TOWN OF VANCEBORO***

## **BOARD OF ALDERMAN MEETING**

*Held their regular monthly meeting on  
January 6, 2025 at 7:00 PM  
in the Jimmie L. Morris Boardroom*

- I. Call to order by **Mayor Chad Braxton**.
- II. Roll call **Those Present: Mayor Chad Braxton, Alderman Steve Belrose, Alderman Thad Jones, Alderman Hud Jordan, Alderman Russell Ipock and Alderman Todd McMillen.**
- III. Invocation by **Alderman Belrose**.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance.
- V. Approval of minutes from last meeting. **Alderman Ipock made a motion to approve minutes as corrected. Motion was seconded by Alderman Belrose and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VI. Approval of Cash Receipts and Disbursements. **Alderman Jones made a motion to pay bills. Motion was seconded by Alderman Jordan and carried. Vote 5-0.**
- VII. Public Comment. **Andrew Black of 805 College Street stated that the peddler's license needs to be checked on a regular basis beside Kite's Supermarket in the open field.**
- VIII. Police Report was presented by Chief Keys. **We had several B&Es during the month of December. We are encouraging business owners to regularly inspect their surveillance system. If they do not have one, they may want to consider installing cameras. I also suggest that the Town updates our current system and install more cameras throughout Town. One of the B&Es in Town involved juveniles. Beginning January 1<sup>st</sup>, there has been a change to juvenile laws in NC. The law mandates that 16- and 17-year-olds charged with a Class A – E felonies are automatically transferred to adult court. The Town of Vanceboro and Vanceboro Police Department has renewed its SRO contract with the Board of Education for 2025. VBO PD had 2127 calls for service in 2024, compared to 2023 we had 1284**

calls for service. This is a 65% increase in calls. There are changes in the training hours for BLET, instruction hours increased from 640 hours to 868 hours. There are concerns that this will lower class sizes.

- IX. Mayor's Reports. Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Birthdays this month include Public Works Supervisor Vernon Edwards. I spoke to our Town attorney, Scott Davis, regarding roosters being a nuisance in Town. He stated that we could enforce a violation based on our nuisance ordinance for noise of animals. Our hearts and prayers go out to the family of Faye Smith and Jerry Phillips. Jerry was very involved in our community, serving in the Boy Scouts, Ruritan Club, Rotary Club, VFW and church. We received the first half of our Powell Bill money for the streets, we receive around \$39,000 a year for our streets. The Town Hall will be closed on January 20<sup>th</sup> in observance of the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday. The next Board of Alderman meeting will be February 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Board of Alderman will have a planning meeting on January 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Recycling pickup will be on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Trash cans should be placed by the road the day before pickup and then brought back to the house within 24 hours of pickup. We will have our preconstruction meeting with USG regarding our water meters on January 21. The edging and curbing of the sidewalks have been completed throughout Town. Limbs have been cleaned up and carried away from the permitted site at the WWTP. Ditch work throughout Town is about 60% complete at this time. The Town Clerk will schedule an Ethics training course for the new board over the next month. Public Service Announcement – Do not place mail in the outside box at the Post Office here in Vanceboro. One of our local churches and myself fell victim to someone stealing our mail and whitewashing the checks. Please be sure to carry all outgoing mail inside to avoid this scam. Tree lighting was a great success this year and was well attended. The seeds for the giant miscanthus plants were planted out at the permit site for the limbs. Thank you to Alderman Belrose for overseeing this project and for keeping the plants at the spotlight updated and looking good for the Town. We plan to tour the Water plant and Wastewater plant sometime around March. Town Christmas decorations and the tree will be taken down this Friday. We will look at repainting the Town Hall on the next budget. Tree trimming in Town will begin in the first week in February by Duke Energy. The Board of Alderman needs to be thinking about the open vacancies on the Planning/Zoning Board, and who they would like to nominate to fill those positions. My wife and I attended the Craven County Sheriff's Office Open house. The drainage pipe between the park and the Christian Help Center should be fixed soon. I'd like to send a thank you card to John Gray for all of years helping out the Town as our electrician. He has been a great asset to the Town, and we wish him the best in his retirement. R. Brown Electric will be taking over as our electrician. We currently have 12 homes in our area for sale.

X. Alderman Reports.

Alderman Jordan thanked Chief Keys for helping his wife to get her keys out of the car. He stated that the passing of Jerry Phillips is a great loss to the Town. He was

my scout leader as a young boy and served as bookkeeper and secretary for the Rotary Club. He will be greatly missed.

Alderman Belrose attended the CRSWMA oyster roast that they held. He enjoys serving on that Board for the Town. The Town may want to look at treating the wood fence around the park so that it will last longer.

Alderman Ipock stated that he found out that the electronic device for a dog is not legally a leash. We may want to revisit the leash law in the future. I look forward to working with the Board in 2025.

Alderman Jones met the new couple that lives on the corner of Mill and Fowle. She appreciated the coverage that the Police Department provides throughout the Town.


Alderman McMillen stated that treating the fence at the park is a great idea. He also stated that we should clear out some of the brush and limbs on the Christian Help Center side of the fence also. The drainage tile should be completed soon between the park and the Christian Help Center. The Vanceboro Christian Help Center is doing an awesome job. A lot of money has been donated to help with the new storage building which it makes easier for pallets to be stored. We would be better prepared in case of disasters. The Christian Help Center will be resubmitting our lease agreement to the Town of Vanceboro for approval soon. The Town needs to clean out the old jail on the premises, then we could possibly have it open for any person wanting to see it. This is part of the history of Vanceboro.

The Public Works Supervisor, Vernon Edwards stated that the repairs at the lift station would begin on January 20<sup>th</sup> and should be completed by January 24<sup>th</sup>.

XI. There being no further business we dismissed at 7:52 p.m.

I hereby certify that the above is true and accurate record of said minutes.

  
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CHAD E. BRAXTON  
MAYOR

  
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BEVERLY W. DRAKE  
TOWN CLERK