

TOWN OF WEAVERVILLE

MINUTES

**Town Hall Council Chambers
30 South Main Street
Weaverville, NC 28787**

**June 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm
Town Council Special Called Meeting**

The Town Council for the Town of Weaverville held a special called meeting on June 17, 2024, at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, 30 South Main Street, Weaverville, NC.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Patrick Fitzsimmons, Vice-Mayor John Chase, Councilmembers Doug Jackson, Catherine Cordell, Michele Wood, Peter McGuire, and Dee Lawrence.

Staff members present: Town Clerk Tamara Mercer, Town Attorney Jennifer Jackson. Town Manager Coffey joined the meeting at the end.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 pm.

2. Closed Session

At 6:03 p.m. Councilmember Jackson moved to enter closed session as authorized by N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney under attorney-client privilege, and §143-318.11(a)(5) and to establish the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract, and to take action on a possible legal services agreement for the negotiation of the Town Manager employment agreement. The motion was approved unanimously (7-0) and Town Council entered closed session by excusing those in attendance, implementing a sound dampening device, and locking Council Chambers.

[CLOSED SESSION]

Councilmember Lawrence made a motion to exit closed at 6:43 p.m. and re-enter into open session. The motion was approved unanimously (7-0), and Town Council opened Council Chambers back up for open session.

3. Legal Services Agreements

Mayor Fitzsimmons brought in Attorney Root and Attorney Jackson at 6:44 p.m.

Attorney Root formally withdrew his offer of legal services and Town Council thanked him.

Vice Mayor Chase moved to engage John Henning and Campbell Shatley PLLC, as special legal counsel to represent Town Council in certain HR matters and the negotiations of the Town Manager employment agreement if he does not have any conflicts and is otherwise available. The motion was approved unanimously. 7-0. Attorney Jackson was asked to follow up by contacting the law firm regarding this engagement.

Town Council indicated a general consensus to contract with Attorney Jackson for any legal work that is necessary after July 1 at a rate of \$200 per hour with assignments as directed by the Mayor and Town Manager until there is an appointment of a new Town Attorney.

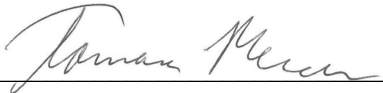
Mayor Fitzsimmons asked Attorney Jackson to see if Town Manager Coffey wished to join Town Council in open session.

Manager Coffey entered Council Chambers and the Mayor informed her of the action taken and that they were not going to use Attorney Root but would be engaging John Henning of Campbell Shatley, if he is available. Councilmember Jackson stated that the Town Manager would still be working under the current employment agreement and that they would be moving forward with the adoption of the annual budget at the June 18th Town Council Workshop.

4. Adjournment

There being no further business and without objection, Mayor Fitzsimmons adjourned the special called meeting at 6:59 p.m.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tamara Mercer", is written over a horizontal line.

Tamara Mercer, Town Clerk