- 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm. Mayor James W. Dunn, Sr. was present along with the following Commissioners: Neal Nichols, Dawn E. Hobson, Larry W. Adams, and Edward G. Venable. Wanda S. Johnson was unable to attend.
- 2. The December 11, 2023 minutes were approved as written.
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Ben Peacock stated that March 5, 2024 is when the primary election is for North Carolina. Voter ID is required in order to vote. The deadline to register for the Primary is February 9, 2025. Voters in Yadkin County are now back in the 10<sup>th</sup> US Congressional District. The NC statehouse district remains 77 and the NC state senate district remains 36. US Congresswomen Virginia Fox will represent the people of Yadkin County until a new 10<sup>th</sup> US Congressional district representative takes office in 2025.
- 4. Commissioner Venable made a motion to approve the Eligible Use Policy for the Expenditures of ARP Funds. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
- 5. Commissioner Nichols approved the Grant Project Ordinance for ARP Funds. Commissioner Venable seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
- 6. Susan Venable from the planning board reported that in February the planning board will be working on sign ordinances. They were not able to find anyone to be on the serve on the East Bend Strategic Economic Development Committee. Mayor Dunn said that one person turned in four names to him. That was helpful.
- 7. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to sale the old outbuilding located at the East Bend Sewer Plant to Gavin Brannon as is for the purchase price of \$1.00. Mr. Brannon will be responsible for moving the building. Commissioner Hobson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
- 8. A decision will not be made by the Commissioners about the fine for weeds at East Bend Shop Rite until the property is cleared of all salvage trucks and trailers.
- 9. Mayor Dunn and Gavin Brannon met with DEQ on December 12, 2023 at town hall and the sewer plant to go over our sewer needs. Randy Welch from SERCAP is working to see if he can get us a new sewer plant at no cost to the town. Commissioner Nichols is getting some No Trespassing signs to

- post at the sewer plant.
- 10. Mayor Dunn has been checking the emergency lights at town hall for a few months. Starting in February Gavin Brannon will do the monthly 30 second test of each emergency light and document the results. Once a year there is a 90-minute test to be done or put in new batteries. Mr. Brannon is going to look into cost of purchasing new batteries and the cost of purchasing new LED lights with batteries.
- 11.Fred Zeidner at 4941 Shady Grove Church Road had a water leak and his bill was \$610.99. He paid \$110.99 and Mark Goins owns the property and is going to pay the rest. He asks for additional time to pay. The board is giving him six months to pay in full without interest as they have done for others. All other water bills in the six months will be due as usual.
- 12. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the Annual Software Support Agreement with Citi-Pak that provides coverage that begins May 1, 2025 to April 30, 2026 for Administration. The cost will be \$5,642.00. Commissioner Adams seconded. The motion passed 4-0.
- 13. Commissioner Adams made a motion to approve the Annual Software Support Agreement with RMS & DSN that provides coverage that begins November 24, 2024 and ends November 24, 2025 for the Police Department. The cost will be \$2,485.00. Commissioner Nichols seconded. The motion carried 4-0.
- 14. Chief Shore said everything was quiet in town. He is still looking for another officer. Family Dollar/Dollar Tree was broken into, and he is looking into some leads on that.
- 15. Mayor Dunn asked about document retention and where the board minutes were stored. They are all in the vault. None have been destroyed.
- 16. Mayor Dunn said that he would sign check every two weeks instead of every week unless it was an emergency. He said that sometimes he had to come to sign checks two or three or more times a week and his time could be put to better use. This takes away from Civic/Community/Educational, Personal and Household Responsibilities. Commissioner Adams said that the board made the decision when to sign checks. The board decided that checks would be signed every week to avoid any late fees. Mayor Dunn ask Mayor Pro-Tem Hobson if she could help sign the checks. She said she would do that.
- 17. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to approve the bills and any that come in until the next meeting. Commissioner Hobson seconded. The

## motion carried 4-0.

18. Commissioner Nichols made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Hobson seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

Date

James W. Dunn, Sr. Mayor

Vickie J. Matthews Town Clerk/Administrator