

### **Citizen Issue Forum Meeting – January 24, 2023**

Mayor Charles Kemp hosted a Quarterly Issue Forum meeting on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fairmont-South Robeson Heritage Center. Mayor Charles Kemp, Commissioners Clarence McNeill, Jr., and J.J. McCree were present. Commissioners Terry Evans, Heather Seibles, Melvin Ellison, and Jan Tedder-Rogers were absent. Town staff present were Town Manager Jerome Chestnut, Town Clerk Jenny Larson, Police Chief Jon Edwards, and Public Works Director Ronnie Seals. Two citizens were also in attendance, Doreen McNeill, and Pam Smith.

Mayor Kemp called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Town Manager Jerome Chestnut presented updates on the following topics:

Crime: Crime is trending down. The town has hired three new police officers and purchased three 2022 Ford F150 trucks to help increase patrols.

Animal Control: There has been an increase in complaints about animals running loose and chasing people. The town plans to work with the county on animal control.

Code Enforcement: An updated code enforcement ordinance that complies with North Carolina Chapter 160D will be presented to the board in February with final approval in March. Code enforcement will begin with the focus being on downtown and the avenues coming into town.

Flooding/Drainage: The town received four bids for canal debris removal as part of the StRAP grant. The board will approve the lowest bidder that meets all requirements at the February board meeting with work to start March 1. Phase 1 of the project will start downstream and then move upstream. The town is also working on a stormwater grant application.

The forum adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

---

Jennifer H. Larson  
Town Clerk