

Town of Talking Rock Monthly Meeting Minutes

February 5th, 2026

Mayor James Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

I. Attendance

Board:

James Bryant

Lynda Cagle

Jason Little

Darlene O'Connell

City Manager/Clerk: Amanda Buntin

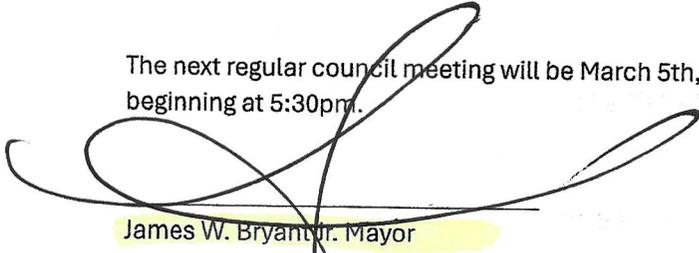
Others in attendance:

Jene Bryant, Dusty Eaton, Cara from the Pickens newspaper

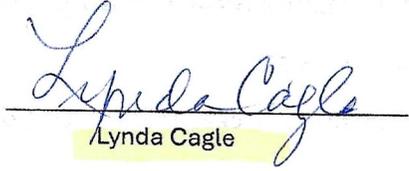
I. Pledge of Allegiance

- II. Mayor Announcements** Mayor Bryant announced that the January meeting was postponed until February, citing insufficient progress on current agenda items for discussion. An individual visited Blackwater Station to introduce a potential business in town, proposing the establishment of a dance hall with an application for alcohol, wine, and beer permits. The council and mayor raised several inquiries regarding parking, lighting, occupancy limits, and expressed concerns about alcohol service and noise levels. Mayor Bryant noted that the council requested her to consult with the county health department for guidance. Additionally, Mayor Bryant emphasized the importance of prioritizing citizens' safety and ensuring compliance with local businesses. The next major event will be the Easter celebration, scheduled for March 28th this year, following last year's low turnout attributed to overlapping events held by church groups and other organizations on the day before Easter.
- III. Approval of December 2025 Meeting Minutes:** A motion was made by Jason Little, seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the December Meeting Minutes. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay, and Tony Hawf who were not present.
- IV. Approval of December 2025 and January 2026 Financial Report:** A motion was made by Darlene O'Connell and seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the December and January Financial Report. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay, and Tony Hawf who were not present.
- V. Maintenance Report:** Jim Baumann was not in attendance due to being unwell. The city manager announced that the new Town Hall sign was put up this past month as well as the mayor sign on the Town Hall building. Mrs. Buntin also announced for the council to be ready for the upcoming electric bills for the park, due to cold weather the heat has been left on more than usual and the bill will be much higher.
- VI. New Business: Discussion of a Short-Term Rental Ordinance.** It was discussed this is a very necessary ordinance that the council needs to get everything together for an upcoming vote. Mrs. Buntin stated she would get everything in order and have a final draft to present at the next council meeting so a vote could take place hopefully in April 2026.
- VII. Adjourn:** A motion was made by Lynda Cagle to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Darlene O'Connell at 7:24pm. All voted unanimously in favor, except Caleb Gay, and Tony Hawf who were not present.

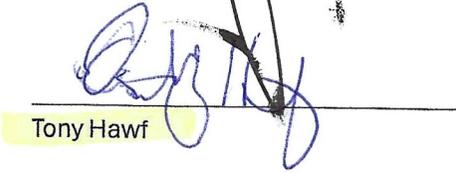
The next regular council meeting will be March 5th, 2025, at 7pm with the working group session beginning at 5:30pm.



James W. Bryant Jr. Mayor



Lynda Cagle

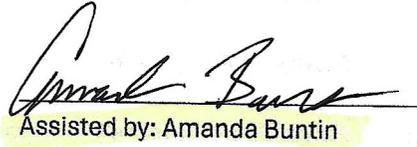


Tony Hawf

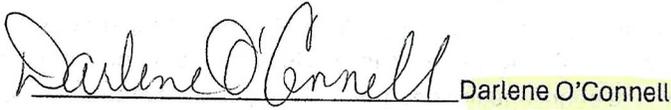
Caleb Gay



Jason Little



Assisted by: Amanda Buntin



Darlene O'Connell