

## Town of Talking Rock Monthly Meeting Minutes

August 7, 2025

Mayor James Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

### I. Attendance

Board:

James Bryant

Tony Hawf

Caleb Gay

Lynda Cagle

Jason Little

Darlene O'Connell

Town Clerk: Amanda Buntin

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey, Jene Bryant, Jim Baumann, Judson Bourke, Dusty Eaton

### I. Pledge of Allegiance

- II. **Mayor Announcements:** Mayor Bryant announced that the town has established a working group which meets at 5:30pm preceding the regular council session. All residents are invited to attend. During this meeting, the council reviews the agenda and addresses any queries regarding upcoming items. The session provides valuable information, and public participation is encouraged.

- III. **Approval of June and July 2025 Financial Reports:** A motion was made by Tony Hawf, seconded by Darlene O'Connell to approve the June and July financial reports. All voted unanimously in favor.

- IV. **Summary of Maintenance:** James Baumann reported replacing a deteriorated wooden arm on a park bench. The lawn mower tire was repaired using the town-purchased jack, resulting in cost savings for the town. New automatic air fresheners were installed in both restrooms at the park pavilion. Holes in the back parking area were filled with surplus dirt provided to the town. Fallen tree limbs around the pavilion, as well as a tree near the dumpsters, were promptly addressed. Additionally, linear poles were installed at the park gate to improve visibility, following several incidents of the gate being struck.

### V. Old Business:

- A. The millage rate will be used as the roll-back rate for HB 581 and HB 92
- B. Discussed the propane tank by the schoolhouse and where the best place for it would be.
- C. Billboard was approved for the Town of Talking Rock

### VI. New Business:

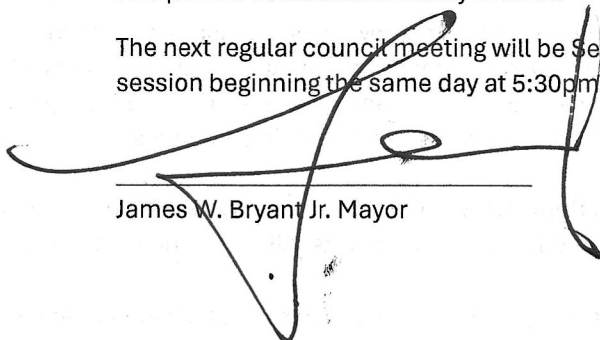
- A. **Vote on a quote to fix the park pavilion drainage system and clean out the gutters:** It was decided during the working group that Phoenix Landscaping LLC would be the best quote for the park issues. A motion was made by Caleb Gay for Phoenix Landscaping LLC and was seconded by Darlene O'Connell. All voted unanimously in favor.
- B. **Vote on a quote for a new underground propane tank:** The working group discussed and determined that the town would select Appalachian Propane for the purchase and delivery of the tank, and Blossman Gas for installation services. Jason Little moved to accept the

quotes from Appalachian Propane and Blossman Gas, with Lynda Cagle providing the second. The motion carried unanimously.

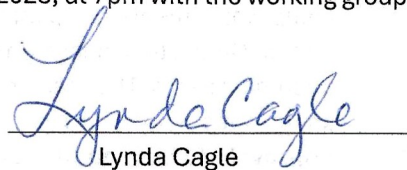
- C. **Consideration and Approval of Walnut Avenue Survey Quote:** The working group evaluated available options and determined that Meridian Survey Co. would be the most suitable candidate to conduct the survey for the town. Darlene O'Connell moved to accept the quote from Meridian Survey Co., with a second by Jason Little. The motion was unanimously approved.
- D. **Crosswalk Update:** GDOT has informed the town that the submitted map should exclude sidewalks adjacent to the railroad as well as any streetlights in that area. Implementation of sidewalks near the railroad requires a permit from the railroad company, while installation of streetlights necessitates a separate permit from GDOT. As such, proceeding solely with the crosswalk at this stage is recommended, allowing for sidewalk and streetlight installations to be addressed in future phases.
- E. **Consideration of New Franchise Fee Agreement Between Talking Rock and Community Television Company:** Jason Little moved to approve entering into a new contract with Community Television Company regarding franchise fees. The motion was seconded by Darlene O'Connell and unanimously approved by all members present.

- VII. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Tony Hawf to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lynda Cagle at 7:28pm. All voted unanimously in favor.

The next regular council meeting will be September 4, 2025, at 7pm with the working group session beginning the same day at 5:30pm.



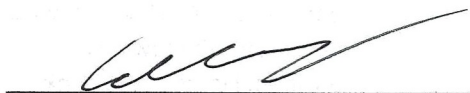
James W. Bryant Jr. Mayor



Lynda Cagle



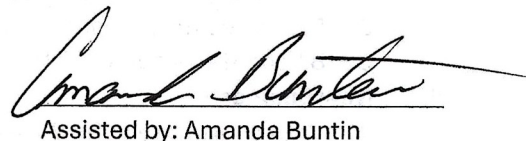
Tony Hawf



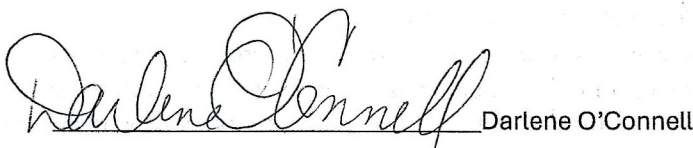
Caleb Gay



Jason Little



Assisted by: Amanda Buntin



Darlene O'Connell