

*Town of Bethlehem*  
*Council meeting*  
*Sept.11, 2023*

Present: Mayor Sandy McNab; Councilmen, Ashlie Franklin, Eric Dailey (by phone), Doug Koestel, Tommy Buchanan and Scott Morgan; Clerk, Kathy Bridges; Attorney Brian Dempsey

Visitors: Clay McDaniel, Sharon and Jerry Johnson and Christopher Lelle

The meeting opened at 7 p.m. with the public hearing on the updated UDC (Unified Development Codes). there were no questions or comments, so the Mayor closed the public hearing and opened the regular meeting.

The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the August minutes, both the regular minutes and the executive session minutes which are a public record. Doug Koestel made the motion to approve both, Scott Morgan seconded, and Ashlie Franklin and Eric Dailey voted yes. Tommy Buchanan abstained from voting.

Attorney Brian Dempsey said the updated UDC was largely adapting Barrow County standards. He explained we needed a 35-day extension of the existing moratorium since his associate (Thomas Mitchell), who was working on the updates, had had eye surgery.

Ashlie Franklin made the motion to approve the resolution to extend the zoning moratorium and Eric Dailey seconded the motion. Scott Morgan and Doug Koestel voted yes, and Tommy Buchanan voted no.

Attorney Dempsey explained that council compensation had several conditions which must be followed. He said a pay increase must be advertised for 3 weeks and could only be raised after the new council was sworn in. An increase would go into effect in 2025.

The Mayor said that he had spoken with Tim McElhannon who was scheduled to do the work on the Computer Store (which is owned by the city). The work should begin later this week or next, he said. He also said he had contacted Baldwin Paving about the roadwork and agreed to try and obtain other bidders. The roadwork would be on Harrison Mill, David Avenue by the hatchery and Manger Avenue behind the fire station.

At 7:35 Eric Dailey made the motion to adjourn, and the meeting ended.