



301 W. Main St.  
Town Hall  
Carrboro, NC 27510

## **Town of Carrboro**

### **Meeting Minutes**

### **Town Council**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2019**

**7:00 PM**

**Council Chambers - Room 110**

**Present:** Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Council Member Barbara Foushee, Council Member Jacquelyn Gist, Council Member Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Council Member Susan Romaine, Council Member Damon Seils, Council Member Sammy Slade

**Also Present:** David Andrews, Town Manager; Cathy Dorando, Town Clerk; Chris Milner, Deputy Clerk, Nick Herman, Town Attorney

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#### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE 2019-2021 TOWN COUNCIL**

*For historical information, this is the first meeting of the newly minted "Town Council" as adopted by a resolution on 11-19-2019 by the Board of Aldermen.*

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#### **SWEARING-IN OF COUNCIL MEMBER SUSAN ROMAINE**

Council Member Romaine was issued the Oath of Office by Mayor Lydia Lavelle.

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#### **SWEARING-IN OF COUNCIL MEMBER SAMMY SLADE**

Council Member Slade was issued the Oath of Office by Town Clerk Cathy Dorando.

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#### **SWEARING-IN OF COUNCIL MEMBER DAMON SEILS**

Council Member Damon Seils was issued the Oath of Office by County Commissioner Mark Dorosin.

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#### **SWEARING-IN OF MAYOR LYDIA LAVELLE**

Mayor Lydia Lavelle was issued the Oath of Office by N.C. Court of Appeals Judge Chris Brook.

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## **A POEM BY THE TOWN’S POET LAUREATE**

Fred Joiner, the Town’s Poet Laureate, read a poem by Shaymus Hainey called “Digging.”

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## **A RESOLUTION THANKING OUTGOING ALDERMAN BETHANY CHANEY**

**A motion was made by Council Member Seils, seconded by Council Member Gist, that the following resolution be approved:**

### **A RESOLUTION HONORING ALDERMAN BETHANY CHANEY**

WHEREAS, Bethany Chaney served as an alderman of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, for five and a half years, having been elected in 2014 and reelected in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Bethany represented the Board on the Chapel Hill Public Transit Committee, the Community Home Trust Board of Directors, the Orange County Local Government Affordable Housing Collaborative, and the Triangle J Council of Governments Board of Delegates; and was the Board’s liaison to the Town’s Affordable Housing Task Force, Northern Transition Area Advisory Committee, and Transportation Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, through her service on the Triangle J Board of Delegates, Bethany was a supporter of and champion for regional collaboration and solutions, and she distinguished herself as a leader at Triangle J, including serving as an officer on the Board of Delegates; and

WHEREAS, Bethany’s deep knowledge and understanding of housing policy and financing were invaluable in shaping the Town’s Affordable Housing Goals and Strategies, establishing the Town’s Affordable Housing Special Revenue Fund, and guiding the Board’s discussions and decision making on affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, before her election to the Board, Bethany served as the chair of the Planning Board and initiated a series of community-oriented programming in observance of National Community Planning Month to educate Carrboro residents about the importance of planning and planners and to engage residents in planning for a safer, healthier, more equitable community; and

WHEREAS, with her analytical, pragmatic approach to problem solving, Bethany brought focus and clarity to complex issues before the Board; she was an independent thinker and truth teller; she regularly reminded Carrboro residents of our responsibility to address disparate social, educational, and economic outcomes for people of color in our community; and she set an example through her humility, compassion, humor, and appreciation of the absurd; and

WHEREAS, Bethany is a strong voice for considering the needs of young people and for including youth in the decision-making process; and she is a proud and loving aunt to Jackson and Ada, two young Carrboro residents; and

WHEREAS, Bethany is an alumna of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a die-hard fan of Tar Heel basketball, her fanaticism rivaled perhaps only by her insistence on brevity in resolutions of the Board;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council hereby expresses its deepest gratitude to Bethany Chaney for her service to the people of Carrboro, and wishes her success, fulfillment, and happiness in the professional and personal opportunities that await her.

**This, the 3rd of December, 2019.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

**Ayes: Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Council Member Barbara Foushee, Council Member Jacquelyn Gist, Council Member Randee Haven-O'Donnell, Council Member Susan Romaine, Council Member Damon Seils, and Council Member Sammy Slade**

Bethany Chaney made outgoing remarks and thanked the Town Council for the resolution.

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**APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GIST, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER HAVEN-O'DONNELL, TO APPOINT COUNCIL MEMBER BARBARA FOUSHEE TO THE MAYOR PRO-TEMPORE POSITION. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL**

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**APPROVAL OF ABSTRACT OF VOTES CAST AT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2019 ELECTION**

The purpose of this item was for the Mayor and Town Council to consider approval of the Abstract of Votes Cast at the November 5, 2019 Election.

**A motion was made by Council Member Seils, seconded by Council Member Foushee, that the following resolution be approved:**

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ABSTRACT OF VOTES CAST  
AT THE NOVEMBER 5, 2019 ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CARRBORO TOWN COUNCIL:

Section 1. The Abstract of Votes Cast at the November 5, 2019 Election is hereby approved as follows:

TOWN OF CARRBORO MAYOR	Damon Seils (Write-In)	26	19	7	0	0
	Lydia E. Lavelle	3,327	2,111	1,186	24	6
	Geoff Gisler (Write-In)	8	5	3	0	0
	Jacque Gist (Write-In)	8	3	5	0	0
TOWN OF CARRBORO BOARD OF ALDERMEN	Matthew P. Clements	286	196	87	2	1
	Steve Friedman	1,298	860	431	6	1
	Matt Neal	234	159	74	0	1
	Susan S. Romaine	3,099	1,951	1,123	23	2
	Damon Seils	2,950	1,856	1,071	20	3
	Sammy Slade	2,495	1,587	887	18	3

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

**This, the 3rd of December, 2019.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Mayor Lydia Lavelle, Council Member Barbara Foushee, Council Member Jacquelyn Gist, Council Member Randee Haven-O’Donnell, Council Member Susan Romaine, Council Member Damon Seils, and Council Member Sammy Slade

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**ADOPTION OF 2020 MEETING CALENDAR**

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER SEILS, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER FOUSHEE, TO ADOPT THE 2020 MEETING CALENDAR AS PRESENTED IN THE AGENDA PACKET. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

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**TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HAVEN-O’DONNELL, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER FOUSHEE, THAT THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT BE APPROVED. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL

**2020-21 - COUNCIL LIAISON COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Committee Assignments	Member(s) Assigned
AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION LIAISON*	Seils
APPEARANCE COMMISSION LIAISON*	Gist
ARTS COMMITTEE LIAISON*	Gist
BD OF ADJ LIAISON (meets as needed,~ 4-5 times a year)	Seils
CHAPEL HILL TRANSIT PARTNERS COMMITTEE*	Seils, Haven-O’Donnell
CHATHAM-ORANGE WORK GROUP	Seils
COMMUNITY HOME TRUST*	Foushee
COMPLETE COUNT COMMITTEE	Foushee, Seils (alt)
ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION LIAISON*	Foushee, Haven-O’Donnell
ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY BOARD LIAISON*	Slade, Haven-O-Donnell
FAMILY SUCCESS ALLIANCE (meets quarterly)	Slade
GREENWAYS COMMISSION*	Haven-O’Donnell, Seils
LOCAL GOVT AFFORDABLE HOUSING COLLABORATIVE	Romaine
HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION LIAISON	Gist
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PARKS WORK GROUP	Romaine
NORTHERN TRANSITION AREA ADV COMMITTEE LIAISON*	Romaine
ORANGE COUNTY CLIMATE COUNCIL	Slade
ORANGE COUNTY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL	Slade
ORG CO PRT TO END HOMELESSNESS LEADERSHIP TEAM	Foushee
ORANGE COUNTY VISITORS BUREAU BD OF DIRECTORS*	Lavelle
PLANNING BOARD LIAISON*	Romaine
RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION LIAISON*	Gist
SOLID WASTE ADVISORY GROUP	Lavelle, Haven-O’Donnell
STORMWATER ADV COMM LIAISON	Gist
TJCOG*	Haven-O’Donnell
TRANSIT PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE	Foushee
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD LIAISON*	Foushee
TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP (MPO-TAC)*	Seils, Lavelle (alt)

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**POEM BY MAYOR LAVELLE**

Mayor Lavelle read the following poem to end the meeting:

**The Council**

For years we went as Aldermen  
And others did the same,  
"It's quaint" – "it's cute" – "it's us," we said,  
We don't need to re-name.

But "Alderman" means "elder man,"  
An antiquated name  
For folks who work to represent  
Everyone the same.

So recent years had made us think ...  
Had time come to make change?  
And so we thought and talked of this,  
Although it still seemed strange.

But here we are, this Tuesday night,  
The third day of December,  
And when I speak of others now,  
I'll need to call them Member.

We're Council now, a new motif,  
A fresh description hence,  
And so, my friends, let's bask in it,  
It really does make sense.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER GIST, SECONDED BY COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAINE, TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE ALL**

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**Town Clerk**

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**Mayor**