

Town of Talking Rock Monthly Meeting Minutes

June 3rd, 2026

Mayor James Bryant called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

I. Attendance

Board:

Mark McDonnell

James Bryant

Jason Little

Lynda Cagle

Darlene O'Connell

Tony Hawf

City Manager/Clerk: Amanda Buntin

Others in attendance:

Mari Livsey, Jene Bryant, Jim Bauman

II. Call Meeting to Order:

III. Pledge of Allegiance:

IV. Announcements: Mayor Bryant announced that the third annual Bronco Stampede event will take place the following week, with the launch party scheduled for Friday evening at Appalachian Gun and Pawn. Mayor Bryant also recognized the significant growth of the event over the years and expressed appreciation for the time and effort the town has dedicated to organizing it.

V. Approval May 2026 Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Tony Hawf, seconded by Lynda Cagle to approve the May 2026 meeting minutes. All voted unanimously in favor.

VI. Approval of May 2026 Financial Reports: A motion was made by Darlene O'Connell to approve the May 2026 Financial Reports, seconded by Jason Little. All voted unanimously in favor.

VII. Summary of Maintenance: Jim Baumann announced that the new dog waste stations have been put up in the park, with bags for dog walkers to use. He also stated that he's been getting the park and surrounding area ready for the Bronco event coming up the following Saturday.

VIII. Old Business:

A. **Bronco Stampede Event-** The event and the different vendors that had signed up were discussed. The Friday launch event at Appalachian Gun & Pawn was announced.

B. **Vote on Historic Schoolhouse:** The council decided to table the vote until the necessary revisions regarding the schoolhouse project could be reviewed. Tony Hawf raised several questions concerning the electrical work and other items included in the quote received by the town. The council agreed to postpone the matter until it could obtain a clearer understanding of the items omitted from the quote and secure a more accurate estimate.

IX. New Business:

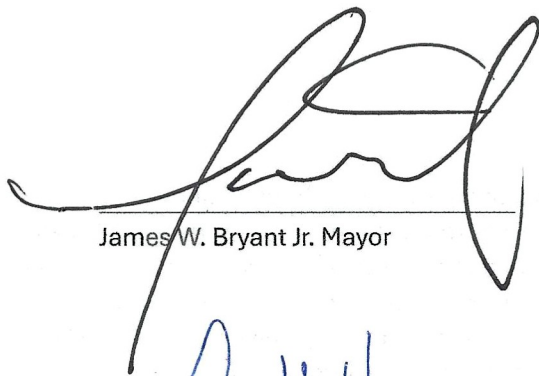
A. **Introduction of New Town Inspector:** Mayor Bryant announced that the Town had decided to hire a new inspector to do building/code inspections for Talking Rock. His name is Scott Turner from Palmer CCI. Mr. Turner introduced himself to the council and everyone welcomed him to the town and to the team.

B. **Discussion Only: Modernization of Town Business License Application and Category Options:** The city manager requested that the mayor and council review the memorandum she prepared comparing the business license procedures of

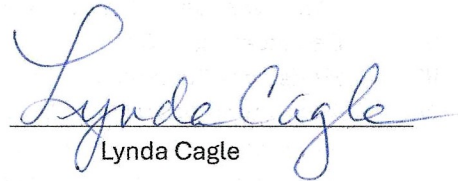
surrounding cities and towns with the current process used by Talking Rock. She further advised that updating the process could help address any perceived biases and improve administrative efficiency. The mayor and council agreed to consider revisions to the town's business license application and categories in order to better streamline the process and align it more closely with the practices currently used by surrounding municipalities.

- X. **Adjourn:** A motion was made by Tony Hawf to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Jason Little at 7:17pm. All voted unanimously in favor.

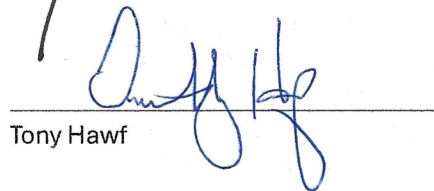
The next regular council meeting will be July 9th, 2026, at 7pm with the working group session beginning the same day at 5:30pm.



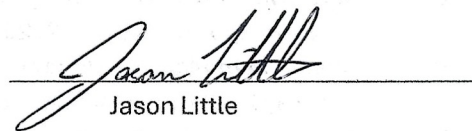
James W. Bryant Jr. Mayor



Lynda Cagle



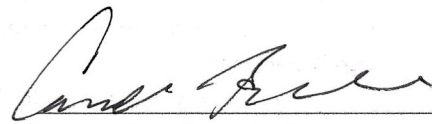
Tony Hawf



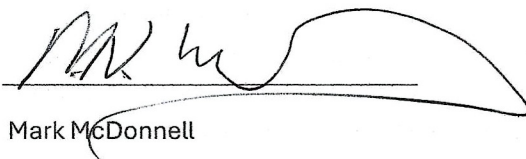
Jason Little



Darlene O'Connell



Assisted by: Amanda Buntin



Mark McDonnell