



**MINUTES
WATAUGA CITY COUNCIL AND WEDC
JOINT WORKSHOP MEETING
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER,
7105 WHITLEY ROAD,
MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025
5:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Arthur Miner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting convened with the following members present:

Arthur L. Miner
Cris Blackburn
Pat Shelbourne
Lovie Downey
Andrew Neal
Malissa Minucci
Mark Taylor
Jan Hill

Mayor
Mayor Pro Tem/Council Member Place 2
Council Member Place 1
Council Member Place 3
Council Member Place 4
Council Member Place 5 (Absent W/Notice)
Council Member Place 6
Council Member Place 7

and

WEDC Members

Calvin Lewis
Stephen Welch
Brian Downey
Macy Forrester

Director, Place 2
Director/Vice President, Place 5
Director/Secretary, Place 6
Director Place 7

Staff

Sandra Gibson
Linda Proskey
David Berman
Timothy Hamilton
Lorenza Zavala

City Manager
City Secretary
City Attorney
Director of Parks and Community Services
Economic Development Coordinator

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Miner made an announcement that Commissioner Gary Fickes passed away.

Public Comments/Public Testimony

There were no requests to speak

PRESENTATIONS

1. Presentation of the Capp Smith Park Food Truck Master Plan

Timothy Hamilton, Director of Parks and Community Services, recognized Dunaway and Associates for their efforts and acknowledged Anita Beard for leading the project. Ms. Beard presented the Capp Smith Park Food Truck Master Plan, noting its focus on the south end of the park near the splash pad and playground.

The plan includes expanded parking with 39–40 additional spaces, possible landscape enhancements to the monument sign, a multi-purpose food truck area, pedestrian spaces with seating and shade, an artificial turf area with a small stage, a possible art opportunity, and a comfort station with restrooms and storage. Improvements also include surfacing upgrades and additional tree plantings.

Ms. Beard explained that the project would be completed in two phases: Phase One for the comfort station and parking improvements (\$1.3 million) and Phase Two for pedestrian amenities, the food truck area, turf, and stage (just under \$1 million). The total cost is estimated at \$2.7–2.8 million, with a 20% contingency.

Council and the WEDC board discussed the Capp Smith Park Food Truck Master Plan. Members noted that the project should create opportunities for community events beyond Watauga Fest and emphasized the importance of landscaping, parking improvements, and utilities for food trucks. The stage will be intended for small performances and not to compete with the amphitheater, while the comfort station is considered necessary due to the distance from the playground and splash pad to restrooms. The plan also includes opportunities for public art, which could be incorporated through an Art in the Park project or other design features.

Concerns were raised about parking, security, sanitation, and potential noise from food trucks using generators, with recommendations to provide power and cameras. Mayor Miner noted that he received public feedback from seven citizens, which included five supported a swimming pool as an alternative and another about taxes. Mayor Miner clarified that the project will be funded through WEDC sales tax. The WEDC reached consensus to move the plan forward for council action.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Approved: this 25 day of August, 2025

Signed: this 26 day of August, 2025

APPROVED:

/s/ Arthur L. Miner
Arthur L. Miner, Mayor

ATTEST: [Signature]
/s/ Linda Proskey
Linda Proskey, City Secretary

