

**Special Meeting Minutes of the Town of Highlands Board of Commissioners  
Meeting of August 25, 2022, at the Highlands Community Building, 71  
Poplar Street, Highlands, North Carolina**

Town Board Present: Mayor Pro Tempore John Dotson, Commissioner Amy Patterson, Commissioner Eric Pierson, Commissioner Brian Stiehler, Commissioner Marc Hehn and Mayor Pat Taylor

Also Present: Town Manager Josh Ward, Town Attorney Jay Coward and his assistant Natasha Wilson, Police Chief Andrea Holland, Police Officer Leah McCall, Planning & Development Director Assistant Michael Mathis and Town Clerk Gibby Shaheen

**1. Meeting Called to Order**

Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 5:05pm.

**2. Public Hearing for Proposed Amendments to the Unified  
Development Ordinance Pertaining to Short Term Rentals**

**A. Open Public Hearing**

COMMISSIONER PATTERSON MADE A MOTION TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO SHORT TERM RENTALS AT 5:05PM, WHICH WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PIERSON AND THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.

**B. Public Comments**

There were comments made for and against short term rentals.

**LIST OF SPEAKERS FOR PUBLIC HEARING  
AMENDMENTS TO UDO  
REGARDING SHORT TERM RENTALS– 8/25/2022**

1. Derek Allen of Allen & Stahl, representative of Save Highlands spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
2. Cathy Henson - spoke in favor of the Amortization option
3. Mac McCarley of Parker and Coe, representative of Highlands Neighborhood Coalition spoke in favor of the Amortization option
4. Carol Gable spoke against Short-Term Rentals and asked for consideration of the citizen's rights
5. Michael Eady spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
6. Pat Allen spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
7. Ricky Siegel spoke in favor of the Amortization option
8. David Bee - spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
9. Jennifer Huff read Sara Benson's statement in favor of Short-Term Rentals
10. Sandy Carlton spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
11. Bill Rethorst spoke in favor of the Planning Board's option for Short-Term Rentals and to enforce the details
12. Kathy Smith spoke against Short-Term Rentals
13. Jeannie Chambers spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
14. Deborah Kirk spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
15. Dan Doherty spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
16. Frieda Bennett spoke against Short-Term Rentals
17. Laura Puckett spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
18. Julie Weller spoke in favor of Short-Term Rentals
19. Charles Nalbone spoke in favor of the Amortization option
20. Mike Huffer spoke against Short-Term Rentals

**C. Close Public Hearing**

COMMISSIONER HEHN MADE A MOTION TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO SHORT TERM RENTALS AT 6:34PM, WHICH WAS SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEMPORE DOTSON AND THE VOTE WAS UNANIMOUS.

Mayor Taylor announced a workshop on August 30, 2022, at 6:00pm at the Community Building.

**3. Adjournment**

AS THERE WERE NO FURTHER MATTERS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, MAYOR PRO TEMPORE DOTSON MOVED TO ADJOURN WHICH WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER PIERSON AND UPON A UNANIMOUS VOTE, THE TOWN BOARD ADJOURNED AT 6:36PM.

---

Patrick Taylor  
Mayor

---

Gilberta B. Shaheen  
Town Clerk