

MINUTES
Archdale City Council
Pre-Agenda Session
Tuesday, December 16, 2025

Members Present: Lewis Dorsett, Mayor; Kelly Grooms, Mayor Pro Tem; Council Members: Roger Blackwell, John Glass, Trey Gray, Larry Warlick, and William Wood.

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Matthew Christian, City Manager; Elizabeth Koonce, City Attorney; David Jones, Police Chief; Jason Miller, Planning Director; Matthew Wells, Planning Administrator; John Harrison, IT Director; Travis Snider, MPO; Amy Myers, City Clerk.

Media Present: None.

Mayor Dorsett asked if there were any additions, deletions, or changes to the agenda or any committee reports.

Mayor Dorsett reported the City of Archdale hosted the Randolph County Economic Development Board meeting this morning at City Hall. He also highlighted recent meetings including the Randolph County Mayor/Manager meeting at the Randolph County Agriculture Center and the Piedmont Triad Water Authority Board meeting.

Mayor Dorsett reported he attended the Whataburger grand opening and encouraged residents to visit the new restaurant.

Manager Christian stated planning has begun for the America 250 celebrations in Randolph County to coincide with the July 4th holiday.

Mayor Dorsett reviewed the agenda and noted items to be discussed, including Item 6 and the potential re-opening of a public hearing. Councilman Blackwell stated he was in favor of re-opening the public hearing to allow interested individuals to speak. Councilman Gray stated that he was open to re-opening the public hearing or moving to vote.

Mayor Dorsett reminded those in attendance to sign in if planning to speak during the public comment portion of the meeting.

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Media Present: None.

Item 1. Call to Order.

Mayor Dorsett called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone, and asked the Police Chief to see that their attendance was registered.

Item 2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilman Warlick gave the invocation and Mayor Pro Tem Grooms led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3. Council Action to Accept or Amend the Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Grooms made a motion to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blackwell and was approved unanimously.

Item 4. Consideration of Consent Agenda: These items are considered routine, non-controversial, and are considered and approved by a single motion and vote.

- A. Approval of the Minutes of November 25, 2025 City Council Meeting.
- B. Approval of 2026 City Council Meeting Dates.
- C. Approval of Amendment to Contract to Audit Accounts.
- D. Resolution in Support of Great Trails State Grant Contract Award.

Mayor Pro Tem Grooms made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Blackwell and was approved unanimously.

Item 5. Construction Update: Richland Creek & Weant Rd. Sewer Upgrades.

Manager Matthew Christian shared a quick overview of both projects and introduced Andy Larrick with Hazen & Sawyer and Matt Jones with Garney Construction. Mr. Larrick presented a review of the sewer engineering upgrades for the Richland Creek and Weant Road projects. Mr. Jones shared a brief construction pricing estimate update.

Item 6. Old Business: Code of Ordinances Text Amendment (Chapter 5, Article 4).

Mayor Dorsett stated due to additional requests to speak, a determination has been made to re-open the public hearing on the matter.

Mayor Dorsett re-opened the public hearing and asked if anyone would like to speak in favor.

Walter Davis, 114 Lakeside Drive, addressed Council. Mr. Davis reported Archdale and Randolph County has an epidemic of feral cats. He further reported the animals are inhumanely treated; being fed with no veterinary care and allowed to roam. Mr. Davis shared a neighbor has populated his street with as many cats as possible. He also shared he and his wife have trapped and transported many cats to the Randolph County Animal Shelter. Mr. Davis stated Archdale needs a strong ordinance to control the feral cat population.

Reginia Gardner, 3309 Longview Drive, addressed Council. Ms. Gardner reported she represents a Feral Cat Assistance Program which is a trap neuter return program located in Guilford County. She reported the organization actively advocates for free roaming cats, caretakers and property owners with nuisance issues. Ms. Gardner requested Council consider extending a decision regarding the ordinance to allow time to prepare a formal proposal for consideration.

Glenda Frazier, 612 Liberty Road, addressed Council. Ms. Frazier stated she is in favor of protecting the feral cat population and supports the Feral Cat Assistance Program. She requested Council look at costs and fines as a way to support a program to protect cats.

Dru Hill, 4110 Wood Avenue, addressed Council. Mr. Hill stated the only change to this ordinance is the definition of owner or caretaker. He also stated when someone feeds feral cats like their own pets, then they become the owners of those cats. Mr. Hill reported the TNR Program (Trap Neuter Release) does not protect his property.

With no further discussion, Councilman Blackwell made a motion to approve the Code of Ordinances Text Amendment (Chapter 5, Article 4). The motion was seconded by Councilman Glass.

Councilman Wood stated the Feral Cat Assistance Program has worked in neighborhoods in Archdale and he believes they have been successful in reducing the feral cat colonies. He further stated he would like to see a quarterly spay/neuter clinic available in Archdale. Councilman Wood asked Police Chief David Jones if any decision tonight would affect the Feral Cat Assistance Program's ability to continue working within neighborhoods. Chief Jones responded he is unfamiliar with this particular group, but Archdale Police Department will work with anyone trying to make the situation better for the citizens of Archdale.

Mayor Dorsett asked for roll-call vote:

Yea

**Mayor Pro Tem Grooms
Councilman Blackwell
Councilman Gray
Councilman Glass
Councilman Warlick**

Nay

Councilman Wood

Motion passed 5-1.

Item 7. Manager Updates.

City Manager Christian thanked staff and community partners for their participation in the Community Christmas and the Christmas Parade. He reported Aldridge Park is under construction and a notice of award has been finalized for construction of the Veterans Memorial. He also reported City Hall closures for Christmas and the New Year holidays will be Wednesday-Friday, December 24th-26th, 2025 and Thursday, January 1st, 2026.

Item 8. Public Comment:

Members of the public may address City Council on matters not listed on the agenda. Speakers must sign up with the City Clerk before the meeting, state their name and address, and limit comments to three minutes.

Mayor Dorsett explained procedure for public comment.

Amy Myers, City Clerk advised one (1) online comment was received on December 16th from Michael Mattocks, 4118 Huff Road, Archdale. (Exhibit A).

Megan McGrath, 3718 Spring Street, addressed Council. Ms. McGrath stated she has returned to address the animal ordinance and emphasized the need for a comprehensive review. She noted at a recent meeting it was stated the ordinance has served Archdale residents well since the 1970s. Ms. McGrath asserted that the livestock and fowl restrictions from that era were influenced by class-based attitudes that associated keeping chickens with lower-income or impoverished families. She further stated that this reasoning forms the foundation of the rules being enforced today, and in 2025 the City should not rely on assumptions or stereotypes from 50 years ago to determine what residents may or may not do on their property. Ms. McGrath added that if the ordinance had truly served the community well, it would not continue to be raised by unrelated individuals, and she concluded that the current ordinance does not reflect the needs of a growing and changing Archdale. (Exhibit B)

Michael Mattocks, 4118 Huff Road, addressed Council. Mr. Mattocks stated he is attending the meeting to discuss owning backyard chickens due to the cost of eggs and would like for Council to consider changing the ordinance.

Item 9. Additional Items.

Councilman Larry Warlick addressed Council and announced his retirement effective December 31, 2025. Councilman Warlick thanked fellow Councilmembers, City staff and Citizens of Archdale for allowing him to serve the City.

Mayor Dorsett stated it is a sad day for Council and the City.

Councilman Blackwell thanked Councilman Warlick for his service.

Mayor Dorsett wished Council, City staff and Archdale citizens a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Item 10. Adjournment.

Mayor Pro Tem Grooms made a motion to adjourn the December 16, 2025 City Council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Glass and was approved unanimously.

ATTEST:

Lewis W. Dorsett, Mayor

Amy H. Myers, City Clerk

From: noreply@civicplus.com
To: [Public Comments](#); [Planning](#)
Subject: Online Form Submittal: Public Comment Form
Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025 4:12:21 PM

Public Comment Form

Details

The City Council of Archdale holds its regularly scheduled meetings on the 4th Tuesday of each month, unless otherwise stated. The "Public Comment" portion of the meeting is reserved for notices, petitions, and comments from the public on items that are not on the meeting agenda. The following form may be used to provide comments to be made available for City Council Members prior to the forthcoming Council Meeting. Alternatively, citizens may submit their spoken comments in-person during the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

(Section Break)

Instructions

Submitted Public Comments must include your first name, last name, and address. Comments must be submitted by 12:00pm on the day of the meeting. Comments should be directed to the Council in its entirety and written in a succinct manner. Comments shall be made in a courteous and respectful manner or risk not being submitted into the record. *PLEASE BE AWARE THAT COMMENTS MEETING THESE REQUIREMENTS WILL BE SUBMITTED INTO THE RECORD AS WRITTEN*

First Name	Michael
Last Name	Mattocks
Address	4118 Huff Road
City	27263
State	NC
Zip Code	27263
Comment Form	I would like to propose to allow chickens in the city of Archdale. Maybe 2 hens as a starting point. With the price of eggs rising, this could provide some fiscal relief to the working family in the c city. All neighboring townships and cities allow them. Thank you.

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

Megan McGrath 3718 Spring street

Good evening Mayor, Council Members, and City Staff.

I'm here again to address the animal and fowl ordinance and why it deserves a full, honest, and modern review.

At a recent meeting, it was stated that the ordinance has "served us well" since the 70's. But when we look at why it was written, that claim becomes difficult to support. The livestock and fowl restrictions of that era were shaped by attitudes that associated keeping chickens with "lower class" or "poor" families. Something viewed as undesirable unless it occurred on a commercial farm. This class-based reasoning is the foundation of the rule still being enforced today. In 2025, we should not be relying on the assumptions or stereotypes of 50 years ago to decide what residents can and cannot do on their own property.

We also continue to hear that those asking for change are the minority. If that is the position of the Council, then there should be a clear and fair standard for determining what the majority actually wants. When I asked whether I should continue gathering signatures for the petition, I was discouraged from doing so. You cannot discourage residents from collecting measurable feedback and then use the absence of that feedback as justification to maintain the status quo.

This issue is not new. Different residents over many years have brought this exact concern to you. If an ordinance truly "served us well," it would not keep resurfacing from unrelated people. The repetition alone shows that this rule no longer reflects the needs of a growing and changing Archdale.

I also want to address the claim that both sides of this discussion have been respectful. I respectfully disagree. I heard from a reputable source that a resident opposing any changes had to be talked out of dumping out manure at a meeting. On social media, multiple residents have been openly disrespectful, inappropriate, and immature when discussing this topic. That is not the respectful dialogue the Mayor suggested.

Another important point came up at the November meeting and is being discussed again tonight. The motion to redefine the section related to stray and feral cats. This puts spotlight on yet another outdated and ineffective part of this ordinance. Which shows that the ordinance as a whole needs a complete, modern review.

Finally, relying on the age of this ordinance as proof that it "works" is not a valid measure. Archdale today is not Archdale of the 70's. Our residents, our neighborhoods, and our

Expectations have all evolved. An ordinance rooted in outdated reasoning should not be protected simply because it has existed for decades.

I am not asking for automatic approval. I am asking for fairness, transparency, and a genuine willingness to review this ordinance as a whole, based on current realities, not old assumptions and unverified claims about a majority that has never been measured.

I hope this Council evaluates this ordinance through the lens of today's Archdale, not the imitations or stereotypes of the past.

Thank you