

**BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Special Meeting**  
**Organizational Meeting - Thursday, December 2, 2021**

On Thursday, December 2, 2021, the Burnsville Town Council with Mayor Theresa Coletta, members Bunnie McIntosh, Judy Buchanan, Denise Collier, Mayor-Elect Russell Fox, and Councilor-elect Bill Wheeler present, held a special meeting at the Burnsville Town Center. Councilor-elect Randy Ollis was absent. Also in attendance were Town staff members Heather Hockaday, Niles Howell, Shane Dale, Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Chad Fox, and Corbin Cooper; and visitors Jamie McMahan, Danny McIntosh, Jody Higgins among others. Mayor Coletta, who presided, called the special meeting to order at 5pm and stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct an organizational meeting to organize the Town Council subsequent to the municipality's recent election. The meeting was streamed live for the public on the Burnsville Town Center's YouTube Channel.

**Adoption of Agenda** - Mayor-elect Russell Fox moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried.

**Recognition of Outgoing** - Town Manager Heather Hockaday read a proclamation honoring outgoing Councilor Bunnie McIntosh. Mrs. McIntosh recommended that all who are willing, participate in public service, as it is an education and an honor.

Mrs. Hockaday then read a proclamation honoring outgoing Mayor Theresa Coletta. The proclamation highlighted the accomplishments and many contributions of the first woman mayor of the Town of Burnsville. Mayor Coletta said that the Town was being left in good hands.

**Oath of Office** - Honorable Gary Gavenus, Resident Superior Court Judge for the 24th Judicial district, administered oaths of office to Mayor-elect T. Russell Fox and Councilor-elect William (Bill) Wheeler. After being sworn in, the new Mayor Russell Fox and Councilor Bill Wheeler were seated with Councilors Judy Buchanan and Denise Collier.

**Election of Mayor pro tempore** - Mayor Russell Fox moved to appoint Judy Buchanan as mayor pro tempore. Councilor Bill Wheeler seconded and the motion carried.

**Confirmation of Regular Meeting Schedule** - It was confirmed that the current schedule for regular meetings, held the first Thursday of each month in the Burnsville Town Center at 6pm, would be adhered to. Councilor Judy Buchanan moved to approve the schedule. Councilor Denise Collier seconded the motion, which carried.

**Recess and Reception** – Bill Wheeler made a motion to recess the meeting in order to hold a reception for the newly-elected officials. Judy Buchanan seconded and the motion carried.

**Adjourn** - After the reception and with there being no further business, Judy Buchanan moved to adjourn the organizational meeting at 5:59pm. Bill Wheeler seconded the motion, meeting adjourned.

  
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J. Chad Fox, Town Clerk



  
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T. Russell Fox, Mayor



**TOWN OF BURNSVILLE  
PROCLAMATION  
HONORING MAYOR THERESA COLETTA**

**WHEREAS**, on December 1, 2013 Theresa Coletta , a lifelong resident of the Town of Burnsville, former Director of the Avery, Mitchell, Yancey Regional Library System, and daughter of former Alderman P.C. Coletta was sworn in as the first woman Mayor of the Town of Burnsville; and

**WHEREAS**, over the next 8 years Mayor Coletta brought her passion for community service to the Town of Burnsville, its staff, citizens and businesses; and

**WHEREAS**, in her role as Mayor she led the Town through an era of change and progress. Among her many contributions, Mayor Coletta prioritized updates to key organizational policies and procedures thereby improving the efficiency and function of the Town. She championed the Town's Main Street businesses through her support for the Business Builders Breakfast program, numerous merchant led Downtown events, the Summer Evenings on the Square musical series and in countless personal interactions with business owners to listen and learn of their needs and concerns in the business-community. She lent her drive and constant support to the Burnsville Volunteer Fire Department to see the new Burnsville Fire Station completed. Mayor Coletta realized the importance of infrastructure to the survival and economic growth of the Town. Early in her tenure she partnered with High Country Council of Governments to secure millions of dollars of federal grant funding and no interest state loans and grants to make much needed improvements to the Town's sewer and water systems. She represented the Town on the Executive Committee of the High Country Council of Governments and the local Travel and Tourism Committee. She was a strong proponent of moving the Town to a Manager-Council form of management which she saw as a step toward stable and steady Town operations for the future. She took special pride in the maintenance of our beautiful Town Square especially during the Christmas holiday season and the annual lighting of the Christmas tree by local school children; and

**WHEREAS**, in all her official actions, Mayor Coletta expressed her passion and belief in the past, present and future of her "home town" a place she would put above all others-The Town of Burnsville.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Burnsville Town Council does hereby express sincere appreciation and gratitude to Mayor Theresa Coletta for her service as the first woman Mayor of Burnsville, North Carolina from December 1, 2013 to December 2, 2021.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Mayor Pro Tempore has set her hand and caused the seal of the Town of Burnsville, North Carolina to be affixed, this the 2nd day of December, 2021.

TOWN SEAL:



  
Judy Buchanan, Mayor Pro Tempore



## Town of Burnsville

### Proclamation

### Honoring Hellen "Bunnie" McIntosh

**WHEREAS**, on November 28, 2017 Helen "Bunnie" McIntosh, a lifelong resident of Yancey County and veteran educator in our local schools was sworn in as a member of the Burnsville Town Council; and

**WHEREAS**, during the following 4 years Councilor McIntosh spent many hours attending to her duties as Town Councilor. Attending meetings, asking questions and thoroughly engaging in discussions with citizens and staff about how to make Burnsville a better place to live and work. She was supportive of many Town infrastructure projects, the building of the new Burnsville Fire Department and important policy updates that will improve the Town and its organizational function for years to come; and

**WHEREAS**, Small business entrepreneurs hold a special place in Councilor McIntosh's heart as her family was a pillar in the Main Street business community for generations. As a Councilor she enthusiastically promoted the needs of the small business owners in the Town; and

**WHEREAS**, In August of 2018 Councilor McIntosh was appointed by North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper to serve on the NC Code Officials Qualification Board which has the primary duty of certifying Code Enforcement Officials (CEOs) in North Carolina. No city, county, or state agency inspector may enforce the State Building Code without being certified by the Qualification Board. The 20 member Board is composed of engineers, contractors, inspectors, architects, educators, and city, county, and state officials. She served as a representative for communities with populations of under 5000 until June 30, 2021 and traveled to Raleigh for full board meetings; and

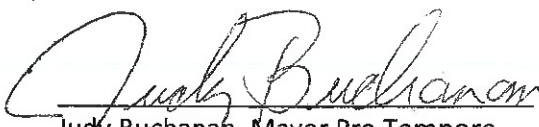
**WHEREAS**, the Town of Burnsville recognizes Councilor Bunnie McIntosh for her leadership, wisdom, insight, curiosity and unfailing service to the residents and businesses of the Burnsville, North Carolina.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Burnsville Town Council does hereby express sincere appreciation and gratitude to Helen "Bunnie" McIntosh for her service as Town Councilor from November 28, 2017 to December 2, 2021.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Mayor Pro Tempore has set her hand and caused the seal of the Town of Burnsville, North Carolina to be affixed, this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2021.

TOWN SEAL:



  
Judy Buchanan, Mayor Pro Tempore