

# TOWN OF WEAVERVILLE

## TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes

The regular meeting of the Town Council for the Town of Weaverville was held on July 18, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at 30 South Main Street.

Present: Mayor Al Root, Vice Mayor Dottie Sherrill, Council Members Walt Currie, Doug Dearth, Doug Jackson and Gene Knoefel. Attorney Patsy Brison, Town Manager Michael Boaz, Town employees Jeff Hooper, Greg Stephens, Andy Mace, Tony Laughter, Debbie Bruce, Jim McMillan and Shelby Shields.

Visitors: Bill Boughton, Lou Accornero, M/M John Penley, Susan Ballard, Don Clay and several other citizens of the community.

#### **Approval of Agenda:**

The motion was made, seconded and approved to add as item # 5.5 a presentation from the Reems Creek Golf Home Owners Association and in Closed Session the addition of a report on two matters of litigation, the McAlister and Reems Creek Village matters.

#### **Public Commit:**

Lou Accornero, Highland Point Drive - Thanked the Council for all the hard work that they do. Bill Boughton, North Buncombe Kiwanis Club - on Behalf of the Club, thanked the Council for allowing them to return the Firecracker 5K run to downtown Weaverville. There were 322 runners and over \$8,000 was raised for scholarships. Mr. Boughton also thanked the Fire, Police and Public Works for their outstanding assistance to the race.

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

The motion was made by Vice Mayor Sherrill and seconded by Council Member Knoefel to approved the minutes with the additional language to the Closed Session. The motion was unanimously approved.

#### **Honors and Awards:**

Mr. Boaz recognized Debbie Bruce, Tax Collector, as the Employee Excellence Award recipient for her outstanding job on collecting taxes for FY 2010-2011. The year end tax collection rate is 99.8%. Mayor Root presented Ms. Bruce with a plaque of appreciation.

Mayor Root recognized Susan Ballard who has served on the Zoning Board of Adjustment for twelve years, several of those years as Chair of the Board. Mayor Root presented Ms. Ballard with a framed Resolution Honoring the Service to the Town and a plaque of appreciation from the Town. The motion was made by Council Member Doug Dearth to adopt the Resolution Honoring the Service of Susan Ballard to the Town. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jackson and unanimously approved.

**Presentation from the Reems Creek Home Owners Association:**

Mr. Don Clay, President of the Reems Creek HOA, stated that their Board understands that there is a capital line item of \$200,000 in the FY 2011-2012 budget to re-pave High Bluff Drive. The Board offered a deviation from the Town's plan for paving High Bluff. Mr. Clay stated that the poorest road condition is on High Meadow Cove Drive and is approximately 240 feet long where it branches off High Meadow Drive. The proposal to Council is to re-pave this section of road rather than the last 240 feet of High Bluff Drive, near the water reservoir. Mr. Clay presented Council with photos and asked that authorities from Public Works look at the recommended changes to verify the Home Owners Association concerns.

Mayor Root asked Mr. Boaz to confirm his understanding that when the time comes to bid out this project, High Meadow Cove will be bid out as well. Mr. Boaz stated that the engineers are currently designing and plan to take bids on High Meadow Drive, High Meadow Cove and High Bluff to be brought back to Council for further consideration. Mr. Boaz stated that he had told the engineer that the re-paving of these streets should be done before winter.

**Water Rate Ordinance Approval:**

Mr. Boaz stated that this ordinance will put a 2% water rate increase into effect which was included as part of the Budget adopted at last month's meeting. The motion was made to adopt the Water Rate Ordinance by Council Member Knoefel, seconded by Council Member Dearth and unanimously approved.

**Landon Ridge Re-subdivision Preliminary and Final Plat Approval:**

Mr. Boaz stated that the Planning and Zoning Board has recommended approval of the preliminary and final plat for the Landon Ridge Subdivision located off Stoney Knob Road. This is a small two lot re-subdivision. The owners have built a duplex on .87 acres and wish to subdivide it from the remaining 5.94 acres for mortgage purposes. There is no public water, sewer or streets included on the property. The motion was made by Council Member Dearth to approve the Landon Ridge Subdivision as presented. The motion was seconded by Council Member Knoefel and unanimously approved.

**Manager's Report:**

Mr. Boaz reported that he has asked Tony Laughter to serve as Interim Public Works Director until a permanent replacement is named.

The Highland Street sidewalk project from Church Street to Salem Road is basically completed. McGill and Associates has been asked to begin the design work on the paving projects that were included in this year's budget and Phase 2 of the Highland Street sidewalk project from Salem Road to Lake Louise.

The two fire trucks that were declared surplus at the June meeting have been sold. The 1988 Fire truck sold for \$3,525 and the 1993 sold for \$4,525.

The NC DOT has Weaver Blvd on their schedule to be resurfaced next year, depending on available funding.

Mr. Boaz reported that the Main Street Nature Park Steering Committee would like to apply for a grant from the NC Forest Service. The grant would be used to develop a plan for the eradication of invasive exotic plants in Town, conduct an educational program regarding this plan and implement part of this plan in a public space, likely in the MSNP. This is an 80/20 grant with the Town being responsible for the 20% match. The max of the grant is \$25,000, therefore the max for the Town would be \$5,000, but this can be provided by in-kind contributions including volunteer labor. Mr. Boaz does not believe that the Town will have any money in this project other than some staff time for administering the grant which will count the match. The motion was made by Councilman Jackson for Mr. Boaz to proceed with applying for the 80/20 grant from the NC Forest Service. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dearth and unanimously approved.

**Department Reports:**

Police Department - Chief Greg Stephens gave the report for the Police Department. Mayor Root recognized Officer Andy Mace and presented him with a Certificate from the NC Department of Justice, NC Standards Training Commission for 720 hours of law enforcement specific training, noting 9 years of experience and Associate Degree in Law Enforcement.

Fire Department - Chief Jeff Hooper reported the activities of the Fire Department.

Public Works Department - Tony Laughter gave the report for the Public Works Department.

Zoning Department - Shelby Shields reported the activities in the Zoning Department.

Tax Department - Mr. Boaz gave the June 30, 2011 tax report.

Mayor Root noted that Council Member Knoefel will be the new representative for the Town to the Land of Sky Regional Council.

The motion was made by Council Member Knoefel to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. Sec. 143-318.11(c) and, also(a)(2)to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award; and (a)(3) to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body; and, also to consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial actions, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure, and pursuant to subsection (c) those two judicial proceedings are Town of Weaverville vs McAllister and Town of Weaverville vs Rabbit Ridge. The motion was seconded Council Member Dearth and unanimously approved.

The motion to return to regular session was made by Vice Mayor Sherrill, seconded by Council Member Knoefel and unanimously approved.

There was a discussion about the water tank at the top of Courseview Drive.

There being no further business, the motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn.

