

REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
JUNE 13, 2000
TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.
TOWN HALL

The Board of Aldermen held a regular meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 2000. Members present were Mayor Henry Foy, Aldermen Gavin Brown, Gary Caldwell, Libba Feichter and Kenneth Moore. Also present were Town Manager A. Lee Galloway, Town Clerk Phyllis McClure and Acting Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin. Mayor Foy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of May 23, 2000

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter, to approve the minutes of the May 23, 2000 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Hearing Fiscal Year 2000 - 2001 Budget

Under State Law, the Board is required to hold an advertised hearing to give the public an opportunity to comment on the budget document that has been proposed for the next fiscal year. Acting Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin opened the public hearing. The following persons spoke:

Ron Fleenor, 31 Suyeta Park Drive, commended the Board on the fine job they have done on the budget this year. Mr. Fleenor said that he attended the Board's Budget Workshops and the Town still has a long way to go with projects such as replacement of equipment at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, replacement of sewer lines and water lines, computers for Police vehicles, etc. Mr. Fleenor said that he supported the proposed five-cent tax increase.

Mib Medford, 99 Pisgah Drive, said that she has observed many Town Boards through the past years, and she was very impressed with the current Board. Ms. Medford said that she would like to see money in the budget to give areas such as Hazelwood, Frog Level and West Waynesville a lift, along with several neighborhoods which need improvements.

Philan Medford, 99 Pisgah Drive, asked that the Board try to address planning issues associated with Smart Growth on a small scale beginning this year.

Attorney Griffin closed the public hearing. No action was taken. This item will be placed on the agenda of the June 27, 2000 meeting.

Report by Alderman Brown Regarding Property Located at South Main Street/Hyatt Creek Road Intersection

Alderman Brown said that Ms. Welch and her daughters have agreed to sign their ownership of the property over to the Town, giving the Town 50% ownership of the property. The Board of Aldermen will then need to deal with the other 50% owners. Hopefully this will help to resolve the complaints received by the Town regarding the signs which are located at this intersection in West Waynesville.

Resolution to Approve the Haywood County Solid Waste Three Year Update

Under State Law, local governments are required to have a Solid Waste Plan, and the law allows units of government to act independently or in conjunction with one another. It was decided in the initial stages that Waynesville would work with Haywood County, and other municipal governments in the county have done the same.

The plan is designed for ten years; however, it is required that there be a review and updates to the plan every three years. During the past several months, this has been underway, and Public Works Director Fred Baker has participated in the discussions. The Revised Solid Waste Plan for Haywood County for the three-year update was reviewed by the Board Members, along with a resolution.

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter, to adopt the Resolution to approve the Haywood County Solid Waste Three Year Update. The motion carried unanimously. (Res. No. 7A-2000)

Annual Approval of List of Firemen

Each year, the Fire Chief must submit a roster of both the paid and volunteer firefighters who have fulfilled the requirements to maintain their coverage under the special State retirement system for firefighters. In order to be eligible, the firefighter must complete a certain number of hours training each year. Fire Chief Bill Fowler has reviewed this list and ascertained that all who are listed meet the requirements to maintain their certification. It is recommended that the roster be approved.

Alderman Moore moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter, to approve the list of firemen as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Request for Street Closings

Virginia Avenue

The Hazelwood Baptist Church is planning a major evangelistic event called Jubilee 2000. They have requested that one lane of Virginia Avenue be closed, making it a one-way street each evening during the services from June 19 - 24, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The church plans to have members posted at the ends of the street to assure that vehicles are only traveling and parking in one direction. Alderman Feichter suggested that some type of sign be posted to inform drivers of the street closing. Town Manager Galloway said that emergency personnel will be notified of street closings.

Glendale Drive

The neighborhood of Auburn Park is planning a July 4 celebration. Mr. Don Eudy, on behalf of the neighborhood, has requested that one block of Glendale Drive (from its intersection with Springdale Drive to Auburn Park Drive) be closed July 4 from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Police Chief Hollingsed has reviewed this request and the Police Department has no objections to the closing of the portion of Glendale Drive as requested.

Alderman Brown moved, seconded by Alderman Moore, to approve the street closing requests as submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

Minor Subdivision Plat - William Conard - Oakdale Road

Mr. William Conard owns a 2.038 acre tract of land on Oakdale Road along Powell Branch. The property is zoned R-4, Medium Density Residential, and Mr. Conard wishes to divide the tract into four (4) lots. The lots meet or exceed Town standards, and town staff recommends the approval of the subdivision plat.

Alderman Moore moved, seconded by Alderman Caldwell, to approve the minor subdivision plat as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

Mini Park - Comments by Roscoe Wells

Roscoe Wells, 220 Ridge Road, asked to speak regarding the mini park located at the intersection of Main Street and Depot Street. Mr. Wells offered “blood, sweat and tears” to help in cleaning up the mini park. Mr. Wells said that he would like to get volunteers from the skateboard group to help also. Mr. Wells said at this time he was not asking the Town to provide monies to improve the park, he would just like to see it cleaned up, stabilized and used more by the public. Mr. Wells complimented and commended the Board for the proposed five-cent tax increase. He pointed out that this was necessary, and for those Towns remaining in denial and failing to plan for necessary increases, problems will arise or become worse.

Town Manager Galloway said that Waynesville’s horticulturist, Ms. Manning, approached him with a plan that she is proposing as a “temporary fix” for the mini park. Manager Galloway suggested that Mr. Wells and Mr. Fleenor meet with Ms. Manning to try to develop some cooperative measures.

Update on Recreation Center by Manager Galloway

Manager Galloway reported that earlier on June 13, Mayor Foy signed a contract with Hayes & Lunsford Electrical Contractors, to complete the electrical work on the new Recreation Center. They have agreed to complete the work at a total cost of \$147,000. This will not create any additional costs to the Town, because the bonding company is putting up an additional \$70,000 to make the project work. Hayes & Lunsford has begun to arrange for the bonding, etc., which they need to begin this work and they have agreed to work expeditiously to finish the project. They have given a 120

day time period in which to complete the project by October 15, adding that they will try to finish by September 15.

Manager Galloway suggested that when this process is finished, the Board may want to consider writing a letter to the Insurance Commissioner asking that the Insurance Commission take a serious look at the bonding company representing Elcon. The contract with Elcon was terminated on February 23, 2000.

Continuation of Budget Workshop

The Board took a five minute break before continuing their workshop on the budget. Manager Galloway said that he recently attended a Manager's Conference, and in talking with Ellis Hankins with the N.C. League of Municipalities, Mr. Hankins agreed that the Town should be careful about transferring funds from the Electric Department to the General Fund, and that reducing the amount to be transferred was a smart move by the Town, especially with the possibility of electric deregulation.

Manager Galloway said that the health insurance rates are not increasing as much as anticipated. Manager Galloway distributed a proposed list of contributions totaling \$55,500. He said that this amount was equal to one cent on the tax rate. Alderman Brown pointed out that Waynesville is the only governmental agency contributing to the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce. Manager Galloway explained that the Town began contributing to the Chamber in 1996 or 1997.

Alderman Brown said that he has only received neutral or positive comments about the proposed budget. Mayor Foy said that he has only heard one negative comment about the budget. Alderman Brown said that he would like to see the separate funds pay for themselves. Town Manager Galloway said that the Town has a healthy fund balance that can be used for emergencies, legal issues, needed purchases, etc. Alderman Brown said that he would like to see the Town be more aggressive in tax collections.

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Alderman Moore, to accept the proposal submitted regarding contributions in the amount of \$55,500. The motion carried unanimously.

Status of Boyd Avenue Bridge

Mayor Foy asked Town Manager Galloway about the status of the Boyd Avenue Bridge. Manager Galloway said that he understood that this project still needed approval from Washington since 80% of the money for this project is Federal money.

Status of Mining Property at Watershed

Manager Galloway said that the Town is having a new appraisal done on the tract of Haywood Lumber and that there had been an appraiser sent by the attorney for the owner on the site last week.

Status of Wilma Crisp Lane Property at Watershed

Manager Galloway said that the survey on this property is scheduled to begin this week. When the surveyors entered the property, one of the owners of the property asked them to leave. Attorney Bonfoey has since been in contact with Attorney Randy Seago and informed him that proper service has been met and the Town did have the right to enter the property.

Status of Knollwood Drive Water Line

Manager Galloway said that the Town has been experiencing water problems during the past couple of weeks. At the time that the Town installed the water storage tank above K Mart, it was not anticipated that the water demand would grow so quickly. When this began to happen, it was decided that a water line would need to be extended from Knollwood Drive to the water tank to provide more water. There were some property owners along this line who would not provide the necessary right-of-ways for this line to be installed. In order to obtain the needed right-of-ways it may become necessary for the Town to condemn this property. Several things have happened, creating even a greater demand on the system. Lake Junaluska Assembly put a 75,000 gallon water tank out of service without informing the Town. In order to help provide more water to the storage tank a check valve has been ordered and will be installed soon. The Board of Aldermen have all received complaints regarding low water pressure and no water over the past few days.

Interviews for Land Use Plan Consultant

Mayor Foy suggested that the interviews for a Land Use Plan Consultant be conducted over a two-day period, possibly for two hours each. It was the consensus of the Board to conduct the interviews on Tuesday, June 27 and Wednesday, June 28 from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Planning and Zoning Manager John Swift will schedule the interviews.

Adjournment

With no further business, Alderman Brown moved, seconded by Alderman Moore, to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Phyllis R. McClure
Town Clerk

Henry B. Foy
Mayor