

REGULAR MEETING  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE  
NOVEMBER 9, 2004  
TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.  
TOWN HALL

The Board of Aldermen held its regular meeting on Tuesday, November 9, 2004. Members present were Mayor Henry Foy, Aldermen Gavin Brown, Gary Caldwell, Libba Feichter, and Kenneth Moore. Also present were Town Manager A. Lee Galloway, Deputy Town Clerk Freida Rhinehart and Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin. Mayor Foy called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of October 12, 2004 and October 28, 2004

Alderman Feichter moved, seconded by Alderman Brown, to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2004 and the October 28, 2004 meetings as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Deputy Clerk's Report on Annexation Petition - Remsen - 1.2388 Acres on Skyline Drive

At the meeting of October 28, the Board received a petition from Roger and Kathleen Remsen for the annexation of their property, a 1.2388 acre lot on Skyline Drive in the upper part of Eagle Nest. The Remsens wish to build a home there. The water line is inside the existing corporate limits but on the opposite side of the street from their property. They wish to connect to the water line and become a part of the town. Mr. and Ms. Remsen understand that there is not adequate water pressure on the line near them to provide sufficient water pressure. They acknowledge in the letter submitted with the petition that it will be necessary for them to install a bladder tank and pump in their home to achieve the desired pressure levels. If the Board accepts the petition, it would be a contiguous annexation.

Deputy Clerk Freida Rhinehart has investigated the sufficiency of the petition and found that it meets the requirements of annexation under the laws of North Carolina. If the Board wishes to continue with this process, the next step would be to adopt a resolution setting a date for a public hearing on the annexation of this property into town. As there is no particular rush on this annexation, the hearing could be advertised for the next meeting on November 23 or the following meeting on December 14.

Alderman Brown moved, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to set the public hearing for this annexation for November 23, 2004. The motion carried unanimously. (Res. No. 18-04)

Request for Funding - Fire Safety House

In both the 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 fiscal years, the Town made application for a grant which would allow the purchase of a Fire Safety House. Unfortunately, in both years, we were unsuccessful in a grant award.

Fire Chief Bill Fowler and Ms. Marcia Tate, representing the Haywood County Health Department, approached the Waynesville Kiwanis Club about the possibility of a community grant to assist with the purchase of the Fire Safety House. Assisting youth is one of the major focuses of the Kiwanis. This club made a \$20,000 donation in 2002 toward the community built playground at the Vance Street Park.

The Kiwanis viewed the proposal favorably and awarded a \$20,000 grant toward the cost of the Fire Safety House. Now it is up to the community to provide the rest of the \$40,000 cost of the unit. Ms. Tate has been working on additional funding, and some other fire departments have made donations toward the balance. A number of the departments experienced extraordinary costs associated with the September floods which struck our county and some have been unable to assist with the funding for the unit. Of the \$20,000 needed, only \$2,600 has been contributed, so there is a need for approximately \$17,400.

In the 2003-2004 fiscal year, the Town Board approved a budget of \$828,460 for the Waynesville Fire Department. Fire Chief Bill Fowler has never been one to spend everything that is budgeted just because it was allocated, and at the end of the past fiscal year, he underspent his budget by \$88,043.95, slightly more than 10 ½%.

With this in mind, Finance Director Eddie Caldwell and Town Manager Lee Galloway have consulted with Chief Fowler and Ms. Tate and have recommended that the Board approve an allocation of \$17,400 for the balance of the local share on this Fire Safety House.

If the Board sees fit to grant this request, when the unit is received, it will be housed at the Waynesville Fire Department, and they will be responsible for the maintenance and care of the house. The Town will work with the Health Department and other fire departments in the county to transport the Fire Safety House to schools or other events in their communities for exhibition and training of young people.

Fire Chief Bill Fowler explained what a valuable learning tool the Fire Safety House is. It teaches children how to react during fire by teaching them how to crawl through smoke, check to see if doors are hot and to call 911 for help.

Alderman Feichter asked at what age children can begin using the Fire Safety House. Chief Fowler replied that they would be willing to work with day care centers as well as school age children. Alderman Feichter added that she is glad that our firefighters are willing to take on this responsibility.

Alderman Moore pointed out that Chief Fowler had saved the taxpayers money in the past and that he thought the Fire Safety House is a good idea.

Alderman Brown inquired about the use of the house in other communities and if it could be used in other counties in the area. He is in favor of sharing the house with others outside Haywood County.

Marcia Tate stated that the Fire Chief's Council recommends that the goal for the use of the house is to reach 5,000 children annually.

Manager Galloway pointed out that there are only two paid departments in the county. All others

are volunteer and that most of these were affected by the recent flooding.

A six-minute video presentation was made to Board members. Chief Fowler explained that 8-10 children go through the house at one time. Updates to the equipment can be purchased regularly and a license plate and insurance will need to be purchased for the house. Other features of the house include a generator, awning and a television monitor to see how the children do. Chief Fowler has a 3/4 ton pickup truck available to pull the house.

Alderman Moore moved, seconded by Alderman Brown, to approve the provision of the \$17,400 matching funds for purchase of the Fire Safety House. The motion carried unanimously.

Members of the Board expressed their appreciation to the Kiwanis Club, Marcia Tate and Chief Fowler for all their fine efforts in obtaining the funding for the Fire Safety House. Chief Fowler, in turn, thanked the Board of Aldermen for providing the matching funds.

#### Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant for Survey of Watershed

During the negotiations with the Clean Water Management Trust Fund on the conservation easement on the Allens Creek Watershed, it was discovered that there was not an up-to-date survey of the entire watershed area. When the Town purchased the three privately held tracts comprising 690 acres on the eastern side of the watershed, surveys were done on each of the three tracts; however, the remaining watershed, with an estimated total of over 6,000 acres, needed to be surveyed.

The Clean Water Management Trust Fund offered to pay one half of the cost on this survey. Originally, the estimated cost was going to be close to \$70,000; however, the CWMTF made the suggestion that for the boundary with the National Park Service (Blue Ridge Parkway), that the Town simply use the survey data of the parkway. This allowed the surveyor to eliminate surveying the approximate 6.5 mile border between the Town and the National Park Service property, and the surveyor reduced the cost down to just under \$50,000. The Board of Directors of the Clean Water Management Trust Fund then offered the Town Grant No. 2003D-010 in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 as one-half of the cost of the survey. A copy of the grant document was reviewed by Board members prior to the meeting.

Over the past several weeks, Town Manager Galloway has had several conversations with Jackson County resident James Randall Davenport who is providing the survey work on the watershed. It is Mr. Davenport's hope to deliver the completed survey by the middle of this month. Once that is received, we will be able to complete the description of the property included in each of the two conservation easements.

It is recommended that the Board should accept the offer of the grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund and authorize Mayor Foy to sign on behalf of the Town of Waynesville.

Aldermen Moore asked about any obligations the Town might have as a result of being awarded this grant. Manager Galloway replied that we must have an easement agreement with either the Conservation Trust for North Carolina or the Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy. We can choose which one and will probably go with Southern Appalachian.

Alderman Brown moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter to accept the offer of the grant. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Board Meeting of December 28, 2004

The second, regularly scheduled meeting for the Town Board for the month of December, 2004, will fall on Tuesday, December 28. It has been the custom of the Town Board to cancel this meeting since it typically falls close to Christmas Day, and there is normally very little in the way of items for the agenda at that time of the year.

Town Manager Galloway recommended to the Board that it cancel the regularly scheduled meeting of December 28. Should some item of pressing business arise and it cannot be delayed until the meeting of January 11, 2005, we may discuss calling a special meeting with Mayor Foy.

Alderman Moore moved, seconded by Alderman Caldwell, to cancel the Board Meeting of December 28, 2004. The motion carried unanimously.

#### Folkmoot Representatives

Linda Manes, George Escaravage, Sue Swanger, and Jackie Bolden represented Folkmoot to thank the Town for their support this past year. They reported that the Folkmoot Center has been used as a shelter during the recent flooding and now is being used by Central Haywood High School to conduct classes until their building in Clyde is repaired. Seventy-two students attend class there.

The Board of Aldermen expressed their appreciation to Folkmoot personnel for extending these services to the community.

#### Reminders from Town Manager Galloway

Manager Galloway reminded that Board members that the first report is back on the facilities study and that there will be a special workshop meeting Thursday, November 12, 2004 at 4:00 p.m. to review the report.

He also said that there will be a Region A meeting on Monday, November 22. Board members interested in attending should meet at Town Hall by 5:30 to travel together.

#### Possibility of Obtaining Fingerprinting Equipment for the Police Department

Mayor Foy reported that it was discovered over the weekend that a house had been broken into here in Town. The Mayor explained that there is a great deal of time involved in submitting fingerprints to the SBI in Raleigh and getting the results back. It is even more time consuming to get DNA results. The Police Chief will most likely be submitting a request for next year's budget to purchase some equipment for the Town.

#### Defibrillator for the Recreation Center

Alderman Moore stated that he understood that there is a doctor in the county that is interested in having a defibrillator available at the Recreation Center.

Town Manager Galloway replied that it will be up to the Department Head to present a request for this equipment.

#### Tree in Stream on Welch Street

Alderman Caldwell pointed out that there is a tree still in the stream that runs beside Welch Street. He has received complaints from residents since they are concerned about the potential for flooding upstream due to this tree. It was the consensus of the Board that the property owner needs to be contacted to remove the tree from the stream.

#### Adjournment

With no further business, Alderman Brown moved, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

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Freida F. Rhinehart  
Deputy Town Clerk

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Henry B. Foy  
Mayor