

REGULAR MEETING
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN HALL – 9 SOUTH MAIN STREET
JANUARY 8, 2013
TUESDAY – 7:00 P.M.

The Board of Aldermen of the Town of Waynesville held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2013. Members present were Mayor Gavin Brown, Aldermen Gary Caldwell, Julia Freeman, J. Wells Greeley and LeRoy Roberson. Also present were Town Manager Marcy Onieal, Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova, Town Clerk Phyllis McClure and Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Welcome/Calendar/Announcements – Mayor Gavin Brown

Manager ONieal informed the Board that a walking tour of the Old Hospital is scheduled with Haywood County Manager Marty Stamey and School of Government Consultants on Thursday, January 10. On Tuesday, January 15 the Haywood County Chamber of Commerce will sponsor the Elected Officials Reception at the Laurel Ridge Country Club. Town offices will be closed for the Martin Luther King Holiday on January 21. Mayor Brown plans to attend the Prayer Breakfast for this event. The Clean Community Awards Luncheon will be held on February 13 at the Waynesville Inn & Spa. The NCLM Advocacy Goals Conference will be held in Raleigh on January 23 and 24. Town Manager Marcy Onieal, Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova and Mayor Gavin Brown plan to attend.

Approval of Minutes of December 11, 2012

Mayor Brown requested that the word “implemented” be changed to “authorized” on page 4 regarding electric rates.

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Alderman Greeley to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2012, as corrected. The motion carried unanimously.

Smoky Mountain Regional Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan

The Haywood County Emergency Management Office has coordinated a county-wide update to the regional All Hazards Mitigation Plan, which incorporates the five westernmost counties of the state and the Qualla Boundary of Eastern Band of Cherokee Nation. The Town of

Waynesville falls under the Haywood County portion of the plan, in which each jurisdiction has its own mitigation goals, objectives, policies and programs. Over the last year and a half town staff has worked with county staff to update the Town's portion of the plan. FEMA has determined the Smoky Mountain Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan is compliant with federal standards. Public input, as required by FEMA, was sought through surveys and a series of public meetings beginning in November of 2011 and concluding in May 2012, and it is documented in the plan. In order for FEMA to issue formal approval of the plan, and for the Town to be eligible for future FEMA funding, the Town must have adopted this plan prior to any claim being filed with FEMA.

Greg Shuping, Haywood County Emergency Coordinator planned to attend the meeting to discuss the plan, but was unable to attend. Manager Marcy Onieal said that Town Staff, including Fire Chief Joey Webb and Police Chief Bill Hollingsed, has been working on this document for the last one and one half years. The content provides some demographics and creates a plan for mitigating those hazards. Public hearings have been held and the final result is this plan which consists of more than 700 pages. The plan has already been approved by FEMA and will need to be approved by the Board of Aldermen at this point. The local emergency planning committee meets monthly. It was mentioned that although issues do not arise very often, we do have vehicles carrying hazardous substances traveling through this area. The comforting thing is that we do prepare ourselves for hazards. During the last major snowstorm Waynesville received more than \$90,000, which included \$50,000 for debris removal. Assistant Manager Alison Melnikova said this is a large document and Haywood County is covered broadly, but there is still a lot of planning that Waynesville will need to do on its level to have a specific plan in place.

Alderman Greeley moved, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to adopt the Smoky Mountain Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. The motion carried unanimously. (Res. No. 1-13)

N.C. League of Municipalities Municipal Advocacy Goals Conference 2013 – Review & Discussion of Goals Appointment of Voting Representative

Every two years, the N. C. League of Municipalities holds a municipal advocacy goals conference to provide the opportunity for the League's member jurisdictions to thoroughly debate legislative issues important to municipalities across the state, and set advocacy priorities. In preparation for the conference, NCLM legislative advocacy committees have been meeting for the past year to develop goals and legislative positions pertaining to the following general areas: Environment & Natural Resources, General Government & Public Safety, General Government & Public Safety, Infrastructure/Utilities/Land Use/Planning, Tax & Finance and Transportation.

A list of 57 advocacy goal proposals recommended by the NCLM Board of Directors for consideration by the membership was presented to the Board of Aldermen. This list will need to be voted on at the goals conference on January 24. These series of votes will result in 30 priority legislative goals on behalf of NC cities and towns for the next biennium (2013 long session and 2014 short session of the General Assembly).

Alderman Greeley moved, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to appoint Town Manager Marcy ONeal as voting delegate and Assistant Town Manager as Alternate Voting Delegate to the NCLM Municipal Advocacy Goals Conference on January 24, 2013. The motion carried unanimously.

Manager Onieal said Alderman Caldwell has already shared his concerns with her. Alderman Caldwell said he has concerns with funding reductions for ARC and sweepstakes issues. Mayor Brown said one of his personal concerns is that the State of NC keeps taking things that towns are trying to run locally. He is concerned that they could one day come in and take over the Town's water system. He feels that if Waynesville manages their systems well they should not have this worry. A good example is the City of Asheville and their water system. In the eastern part of NC they worry about their water a lot and rightfully so. Mayor Brown added that it is also important that Waynesville makes sure to share its water appropriately. Within the next two weeks Board Members were asked to review and let Manager Onieal know their concerns and priorities. Alderman Caldwell expressed concern with the dangers of mopeds, golf carts and wheel chairs on the roadways.

Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova serves on the Planning and Environmental Committee, which consists of about 30 members, including NCLM staff and elected officials and this committee has goals in that area. She said the League has listed those goals as either supporting or seeking. If chosen as seeking, the League will try to draft some legislation. Mayor Brown said there are approximately 57 goals listed by the League. Some of those goals may be nonpersonal and Board Members may not be a strong feeling about others one way or another.

Mayor Brown said the Board's obligation is to take care of the Town of Waynesville. Manager Onieal has attended this conference several times. She said occasionally you will find a city or town that is opposed to some of the goals listed.

The Board will review the goal list and send the information to Manager Onieal.

Lake Junaluska – Waynesville Merger Update/Call for Public Hearing

The McGill Municipal Consolidation study for Lake Junaluska & the Town of Waynesville is underway and preliminary findings should be available toward the end of January or beginning

of February 2013. In the meantime, the Lake Junaluska Municipal Study Task Force (MSTF) will meet jointly with the Lake Junaluska Assembly Property Owners Organization (LJAPOO) on Saturday, January 26 at 10:00 a.m. in the Harrell Auditorium to hear a report from the UNC School of Government staff on procedures and timelines related to both incorporation and merger (annexation). It is expected that the MSTF will vote following that meeting either to pursue special legislation during the 2013 session of the General Assembly or to hold off filing a bill, in favor of additional discussion and consideration of various options. In any case, the Town should know Junaluska's intentions by late January or early February. The various governing bodies of Junaluska have been meeting and communicating regularly with Junaluska residents, property owners and the general public for nearly one year on this topic, and while the Board of Aldermen has publicly discussed the proposed merger on multiple occasions over that same period, to date there has been no formal hearing on the topic within the Town of Waynesville. It was requested that a public hearing be set for Tuesday, February 12 at the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Lake Junaluska Representative Buddy Young said Planning Director Paul Benson attended and spoke at a recent Community Council Meeting. An announcement was made at the meeting that the Town of Waynesville will be calling for public hearings to receive public input.

Manager Onieal said there have been preliminary conversations with Representative Joe Sam Queen and Senator Jim Davis. Both are supportive and have agreed to submit a bill during the upcoming session. January 26 is the final joint meeting with both bodies of jurisdiction. Representative of school of government will be in attendance. It is anticipated that sometime after that meeting the task force will feel that its search mode is over. The Lake Junaluska Board of Directors meet in March and this group will have some final say whether this bill is introduced. They have had lots of public meetings. If public hearing is held on February 12 we should have some reasonable information from McGill by that time. Mayor Brown suggested that a public hearing be scheduled for February 12 in the evening and during the day the following week on February 22 at 11:00 a.m.

Alderman Greeley moved, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to call for public hearings to accept comment regarding the proposed consolidation of services and merger between the Lake Junaluska community and the Town of Waynesville, at the regular meeting on Tuesday, February 12 at 7:00 p.m. and a special meeting on Friday, February 22 at 11:00 a.m., or as soon thereafter as possible. The motion carried unanimously.

Communications From Staff

Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin – had no report at this time.

Town Manager Marcy Onieal

Sweepstakes Machine Update

Manager Onieal updated the Board on Sweepstakes Machines. All businesses inside the corporate limits with sweepstakes machines have shut down. There are machine manufacturers that have already come up with new machines that do not violate State Law. The law says that you can't have an entertaining display that also has a payout. One local group had machines and paid out with food rather than money. Waynesville will continue to accept business licenses for machines that do not have entertaining displays with a cash payout. An upcoming webinar is scheduled and a number of town staff will attend. Revenue and zoning issues still remain. Until this winds its way through the Court System no one really knows what is coming next. For many communities across the State it has become a very significant revenue stream. The amount Waynesville was receiving was equal to one cent on the tax rate. A group of people remain opposed to the machines because of moral issues and others that have no problem with gambling, but have a problem that this much revenue is being funneled through towns and not the State.

Mayor Brown feels that the sweepstakes machine industry will work back through this process. Manager Onieal said the machine manufacturers just want to place machines wherever they can. You have local businesses that have these machines. The reason these were legal is they were selling internet and telephone time. This is an interesting issue.

Project Updates

Skate Park – Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova spoke with Stewart Engineering and they hope to send the project out for bid in February and award the bid in early March. It is hoped that construction will begin soon after with project completion in early June 2013. The project is coming together.

The restroom project at Parks and Recreation has been delayed primarily with the design. Manager Onieal said town staff has dealt with the local architects on this project and they are almost finished with their completed work which is anticipated very soon. The final construction drawings should be ready by the end of January.

The North Main Street/Walnut Street corridor study should be completed at the end of January.

Work at Water Treatment Plant went very well.

GroWNC Steering Committee Appointment – Manager Onieal was asked to serve on the GroWNC Steering Committee, a regional planning effort bringing support to this entire region.

Town Clerk Position – Manager Onieal said more than 60 applications were received for the town clerk position. Those have now been narrowed down to about 12 and telephone interviews will be scheduled within the next week. The field of candidates will again be narrowed and on site interviews and assessments will be scheduled. Manager Onieal explained that the interview process will include using the next Board Meeting for the finalists to take minutes as part of their assessment since one of the important parts of the clerk’s job is to take minutes and understand what is going on. Applications for this position have also been reviewed by administrative staff. Manager Onieal will be conducting telephone interviews and several assessment exercises will be scheduled. The town clerk is hired by the Town Manager, however, Manager Onieal welcomed input from the Board. Mayor Brown said he would strongly suggest that the town manager hire the town clerk, since this a position filled by the town manager. The Board of Aldermen only appoints two positions, that of the town manager and the town attorney.

It Assessment – Manager Marcy Onieal said VC3 is in the process of completing their work and should submit their report to Waynesville within one to two weeks. The report will be presented to the Board of Aldermen for their review at the second meeting in January or first meeting in February.

Adjournment

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Mayor Brown to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Phyllis R. McClure
Town Clerk

Gavin A. Brown
Mayor