

SPECIAL MEETING  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE  
MAY 21, 2007  
MONDAY, 5:00 P.M.

The Board of Aldermen held a special meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 21, 2007. Board Members present were Mayor Henry Foy, Aldermen Libba Feichter, Gary Caldwell, Kenneth Moore and Gavin Brown. Also present was Town Manager Lee Galloway, Finance Director Eddie Caldwell and Assistant to the Town Manager, Alison Melnikova.

Mayor Foy called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and advised that the purpose was to continue discussions on the proposed 2007-2008 Town Budget. He called upon Town Manager Galloway to begin the session.

Galloway noted that at the previous meeting, the review of the entire proposed 2007-2008 fiscal year budget had been completed and all agreed that some time was needed to digest the document and consider any questions. There was also the issue of the donations to various non-profit organizations which is normally prepared by Alderman Gary Caldwell.

Alderman Caldwell presented each Board member with a list of the proposed distribution of the \$140,000 available for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. After review of the list, it was recommended that the donation to HART be reduced from \$5,000 to \$4,500 and that the donation to REACH be increased from \$6,000 to \$6,500. With this change, the Board gave their consent to the proposed distribution list.

Mayor Foy noted that in 2008, Haywood County would be celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He advised that the County Commissioners have appointed various committees to work on the celebration, and that each town will be conducting specific events in their communities. He indicated that there could be a need for some funding from the Town in support of some as yet unnamed bicentennial events in Waynesville. Board members indicated that once there was a plan in place, they would certainly consider any funding requests for a local committee.

Alderman Brown mentioned the excess revenue that had been collected by the Town during the 2006-2007 fiscal year. He noted that he was satisfied with the situation if the rest of the Board members were also comfortable. Other Board members offered favorable comments, expressing concerns as to what might lie ahead for the Town with all the projects on tap and so many unknown expenses on the horizon.

Alderman Feichter pointed out the large expense being made for the maintenance, repair, replacement and rehabilitation of the water and sewer lines. She asked about the real impact these expenditures would make upon the system. Town Manager Galloway commended the Board for making the commitment to expend so much more money on infrastructure improvements than has been done in the past. At the same time, Galloway said that realistically, the present Board and the ones that sit in the next term or the next several terms would not address all the problems with the water and sewer infrastructure. He reminded the Board that the Asset Management Plan spoke of a \$31 million dollar need over the next twenty years for both water and sewer lines and treatment plants. The capital funding proposed in the 2007-2008 budget, while significantly higher, would only replace 1.42 miles of the 100 miles of water lines and .87 miles of the 80 miles of sewer lines the Town owns. It is a step in the right direction, but future Boards will have to take many more steps and make much greater commitments to adequately address the situation.

Alderman Moore asked about ways to help the lower paid employees, and all Board members and senior staff are sympathetic with this issue. The Town Manager and Finance Director explained that if a special increase were granted the lowest paid employees, it would impact the Town's entire Pay and Classification Plan. Galloway attempted to convey the impacts, pointing out that if only the lower paid employees are increased, some beginners could end up making more than employees with two and three year's experience. The Town Manager indicated that the Finance Director and he would continue to evaluate the situation to see if there might be some way to boost the employees who make the least while being fair to other employees.

Mayor Foy asked about the next steps in the budget process. The Town Manager advised that the public hearing on the budget was scheduled for the Board meeting of June 12, 2007. The Finance Director reported that the public hearing had been advertised and that a copy of the budget was available in the lobby of Town Hall for the review of the public. Galloway and Caldwell indicated that to their knowledge, no one had come by Town Hall to review the document.

Board members thanked the Town Manager and Finance Director for their work in preparing the document.

There being no further business, on a motion by Alderman Brown, seconded by Alderman Caldwell and passed unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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A. Lee Galloway  
Town Manager

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Henry B. Foy  
Mayor