

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
TOWN HALL
APRIL 28, 2009
TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.

The Board of Aldermen held a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 28, 2009. Members present were Mayor Gavin Brown, Aldermen Gary Caldwell, Libba Feichter, J. Wells Greeley and LeRoy Roberson. Also present were Town Manager A. Lee Galloway, Town Clerk Phyllis McClure, Attorney Woodrow Griffin and Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of April 14, 2009

Alderman Caldwell moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter to approve the minutes of the April 14, 2009 meeting as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Regulations

At the meeting of April 14, 2009, the Board discussed the proposed rules and regulations pertaining to the Green Hill Cemetery. These had previously been discussed at the Board's Annual Retreat in January, with a copy of the revisions provided to the Board. With the addition of Alderman Greeley, and in view of his experience in dealing with a number of public, private and church cemeteries, he was asked for recommendations that would improve the proposed ordinance. He made several suggestions and those were incorporated into the revised document.

There was discussion regarding **Section 18-18 Placing articles on lots generally**. Some items were specifically prohibited, including toys, shells, glass vases, fruit jars, pickle jars, etc., if they interfered with routine cemetery maintenance. One suggestion was that specific items not be mentioned, but to include that items may be removed without notice by town employees if the items interfere with routine cemetery maintenance. Some items can cause injury and damage because of broken pieces of metal or glass.

In **Section 18-3 Scheduling of interments**, committal services may be held any day except New Years Day, Easter Sunday, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Alderman Greeley suggested that letters be mailed to funeral homes informing them of this change.

Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova said she could review Section 18-18 further and draft some additional variations for the board to consider at a later meeting. Board Members agreed that cemetery regulations are sensitive and changes should be made in a manner that is sensitive to the feelings of those who have lost loved ones.

Reappointment of Members of the Board of Adjustment

Several terms on the Board of Adjustment will expire on May 31, 2009.

Mr. Ken Stahl serves as an In-Town, Alternate Member. He has served on this board for many years and been faithful in his service. He has indicated that he would like to continue service on this Board.

Mr. Neil Ensley (County Appointment) serves as a Regular Member from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction. He has served for only a few years but has been faithful in his service and would like to continue on this Board. Since he is a member from the ETJ, his appointment must be recommended to the County Commissioners for their approval.

Mr. Boyd Medford (County Appointment) serves as an Alternate Member from the ETJ. He has served for a number of years and has been faithful in his service, and he would like to continue serving on this Board. Since he is a member from the ETJ, his appointment must be recommended to the County Commissioners for their approval.

Alderman Feichter said she recently spoke with an individual serving on the Board of Adjustment. She said the citizens serving on the various boards and commissions take their job sincerely, sometimes agonizing over the decisions they make. They aren't told often enough how much they are appreciated and that they do a wonderful job.

Alderman Feichter moved, seconded by Alderman Greeley, to reappoint Ken Stahl and recommend to the Haywood County Commissioners that Neil Ensley and Boyd Medford be reappointed to three year terms, to expire May 31, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

Reappointment of Members of the Planning Board

Several terms on the Planning Board will expire on May 31, 2009.

Mr. Lee Bouknight lives inside the Town of Waynesville and served on the Planning Board for many years. He has been faithful in his service and indicated a desire to continue on this Board.

Mr. Dan Wright lives inside the Town of Waynesville and served on the Planning Board for several years. He has been faithful in his service and indicated a desire to continue on this Board.

Mr. Jim Francis (County Appointment) lives in the ETJ area of Waynesville. He returned to the Planning Board a few years ago to fill a vacancy, but he has a number of years of previous service on this board. He has been a good member and expressed a desire to continue to serve on this Board. Since he is a member from the ETJ, his appointment must be recommended to the County Commissioners for their approval.

Mr. Gary Sorrells (County Appointment) lives in the ETJ area of Waynesville and has served on the Planning Board for approximately eight years. He has been a good and faithful member and indicated a desire to continue service on this Board. Since he is a member from the ETJ, his appointment must be recommended to the County Commissioners for their approval.

Alderman Greeley moved, seconded by Alderman Feichter, to reappoint Lee Bouknight and Dan Wright and to recommend to the Haywood County Commissioners the reappointment of Jim Francis and Gary Sorrells. All terms will expire on May 31, 2009. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolution Opposing Senate Bill 1004 and House Bill 1252 - Level Playing Field Act

Manager Galloway explained that the proposed legislation sets up roadblocks for municipalities regarding high-speed broadband services. Representative Phil Haire has worked hard to try to keep this bill out and allow local governments to participate in this area. Laurinburg and Wilson are two communities that have become involved in offering broadband and there are possibilities for other communities as well. It may not be available unless local governments take the initiative. Mayor Brown said if this was passed years ago, Waynesville would not have its own electric system. The bill may not be bad twenty years from now but for now we want to make sure we are going in the right direction since this is a new area.

Alderman Roberson moved, seconded by Alderman Caldwell, to adopt a resolution regarding the Level Playing Field Act. The motion carried unanimously. (Res. No. 8-09)

Report by Manager Galloway

Manager Galloway said he has been working on the budget for Fiscal Year 2009-2010 and town staff is in the process of gathering information. The budget will be presented to the Board on May 12 and budget meetings will be scheduled after that time.

Manager Galloway said he and Finance Director Eddie Caldwell met with Progress Energy Representatives Linda Mann and Jay Learner and NOVA Energy Consultant Kevin O'Donnell. The contract negotiated between the Town of Waynesville and Progress Energy approximately two years ago will be effective January 1, 2010 until December 31, 2015. There are several changes that will need to be included in the contract before it is presented to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. A revised contract or just the changes will need to be presented to the Board. It was felt that a revised contract should be reviewed since Aldermen Greeley and Roberson were not involved with the review and approval of the contract. The rate that was negotiated two years ago will result in about a 5.47% increase and will remain the same for the period of the contract.

A new bill adopted by the General Assembly in 2007 on renewable energy resources requires that Progress Energy and other energy companies get 12 ½% of their energy by renewable sources by 2021. They are also authorized to charge people a fee for these renewables (REPS). They will calculate what percentage Waynesville is of their total load and Waynesville will have to pay that percentage portion beginning in December. Duke filed for an amendment to make this more equitable and Kevin O'Donnell is hoping that the Utilities Commission will make a decision about this by the Fall. Mayor Brown said he did not have a problem with looking at the contract as a whole, rather than just the changes. He added that this may be beneficial for all board members to be familiar with the entire contract document.

Town Hall Day is next week, May 6, 2009. Board members and Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova will travel to Raleigh to attend.

Alderman Feichter asked about the GPS system for garbage trucks. Assistant Town Manager Melnikova said there are a few quirks to be resolved in the system, but overall the system is working very well and is still in the testing phase.

Mayor Brown said he met with Mountain Housing in Asheville and visited two of their facilities. They have invested a lot of time and effort in the Richland Hills project to be built at Howell and Assembly Streets. They are on a deadline to have the project presented to the NC Housing Finance Authority by May 8 and the project is too far along to make any changes. The only way the project will work financially is as a three-story project because of the credits for this project. The developer felt very good about getting this project approved for financing and expects construction to begin in November or December 2009 and completion within one year. The developer acknowledged that they probably did not do as much in public relations regarding the project as they should have. Mayor Brown said the Town of Waynesville needs to make sure that their notification system not only meets but exceeds State Law in order to make sure that the citizens know what is going on. He asked that town staff come up with suggestions for signage and other methods of notification to inform the public of things going on early in the process. Alderman Feichter pointed out that notifying the public of this process does not change what is reviewed and actions that the Planning Board and Board of Adjustment take.

Mayor Brown suggested that board members take turns attending meetings of Waynesville's various boards and commissions and become familiar with items being reviewed at their meetings.

Ron Reid, a member of the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority, distributed information, including a breakdown of the 1% and 3% funding requests for events in Waynesville last year and other information related to Waynesville.

Manager Galloway said town staff is working on developing a method to include cardboard in the blue bag truck. Haywood County recently informed Waynesville that cardboard cannot be included in the residential garbage. Alderman Roberson said the residential cardboard will need to be broken down. Alderman Feichter said the City of Raleigh requires that yard trimmings be a certain size and bundled together. Cities can make whatever requirements they want regarding items to be picked up. She added that she preferred recycle bins rather than blue bags. Each blue bag has to be broken open and items have to be sorted, which is a very time consuming method for personnel. Alderman Greeley suggested that information regarding garbage and recycling be included in the next newsletter.

Three students from Western Carolina University attended the meeting to observe. Mayor Brown said at the last meeting the room was filled and tonight there are very few people attending. He said Waynesville's meetings vary and items on the agenda determine the number of people attending and community interest.

Adjournment

With no further business, Alderman Greeley moved, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Phyllis R. McClure
Town Clerk

Gavin A. Brown
Mayor