

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR SESSION MEETING
MARCH 12, 2013**

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held its regular meeting on Tuesday March 12, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. in the board room of Town Hall, 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, NC.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Gavin Brown
Alderman Gary Caldwell
Alderman Julia Freeman
Alderman Wells Greeley
Alderman LeRoy Roberson

The following staff members were present:

Marcy Onieal, Town Manager
Woodrow Griffin, Town Attorney
Alison Melnikova, Assistant Town Manager/Deputy Clerk
Eddie Ward, Administrative Assistant
Julie Grasty, Purchasing Manager

Representing the media:

Mary Ann Enloe, The Mountaineer
WLOS-TV13

1. Welcome /Calendar/Announcements

Mayor Brown welcomed everyone and asked Manager Onieal about upcoming events. She reminded everyone about NCLM Town Hall Day and discussed driving arrangements for Board Members attending. Also, Manager Onieal said VC3, our IT consultants, were having an open house in their main network server facility in Columbia if anyone was interested in attending. Mayor Brown mentioned the Smoky Mountain 9-Ball shootout benefit for ARC at the Haywood County Fairgrounds and also the working dinner with Duke Energy Officials tentatively scheduled for the last of April.

2. Minutes of February 26, 2013

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greeley, to approve the minutes of February 26, 2013 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Waynesville and the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization (FBRMPO)

Manager Onieal introduced Lyuba Zuyeva, Transportation Planner with FBRMPO and asked her to explain the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Waynesville and FBRMPO. Ms Zuyeva said the Town of Waynesville is considered part of the FBRMPO for the purpose of regional cooperation, coordination, planning and funding of North Carolina Department of Transportation projects. This agreement includes several municipalities and counties. The Memorandum of Understanding revisions have been triggered by the 2010 census data which expanded the Asheville metropolitan area to include rural parts of Transylvania, Madison, and Buncombe counties. Because of this expansion, the voting structure had to be amended to accommodate new municipal members. In addition, the revised agreement includes updated language to reflect changes in references to federal legislation and nomenclature. The mayor or his designee (Alderman LeRoy Roberson) will continue to represent the Town on the MPO Board, while the Town Manager or her designee (Development Services Director Paul Benson) will continue to represent the Town's interests on the Technical Coordinating Committee. The FBRMPO has helped the Town of Waynesville with planning studies such as the South Main Planning Study, the future North Main Planning Study, and the Haywood County Bicycle Plan.

Alderman Roberson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greeley, to approve the revised Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Waynesville and the French Broad River Metropolitan Planning Organization as presented, and to authorize the mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the Town of Waynesville. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Award of Bid – Skate Park Grading and Construction

Manager Onieal recommended that the board table this item of business until the next meeting because of concerns pertaining to ambiguous wording in the Request for Proposals, which may have been interpreted to limit acceptable bidders solely to licensed contractors with building contractor classification, which was not the town's intent. Due to the short turnaround time between the bid opening on May 7 and this meeting, staff would like time to more carefully review the bids that were received before recommending an award. With the consensus of the Board, Mayor Brown tabled the item until the next regular meeting on March 26, 2013.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Lake Junaluska Merger Update

Manager Onieal said this is an historic evening because on March 8, 2013, after nearly two years of study, public input, and recommendations by various advisory bodies, the Board of Directors of Lake Junaluska Assembly formally voted to actively pursue annexation of Lake Junaluska by the Town of Waynesville effective August 31, 2013. She introduced Lake Junaluska Assembly Executive Director, Jack Ewing, to present the results of the public opinion surveys sent to Lake Junaluska property owners, and a summary of action taken by the Lake Junaluska Board of Directors.

Mr. Ewing said 811 surveys were sent to property owners and 492 had been returned with a response percentage of 60.7%, which is far above the minimum percentage necessary to be considered statistically significant. The final summary of the surveys included 65% of respondents in support of pursuing annexation with the Town of Waynesville. This report of the survey was followed on March 8, 2013 with a formal vote of the Board of Directors to request that General Assembly extend the

corporate limits of The Town of Waynesville to include all of Lake Junaluska and to seek the support of the Town of Waynesville Board of Aldermen in this request for annexation.

Mayor Brown said this has been a community decision of Lake Junaluska and there is a lot of history and future being created with this decision.

Alderman Roberson stated he has been impressed with the procedures, organization, and information from the Board of Directors of Lake Junaluska. The meetings have been very open and handled very well on the part of both officials at Lake Junaluska, as well as the Town Manager and her staff.

Alderman Greeley said the Town of Waynesville Board has been ready to make a decision in favor of annexation at an earlier date, but was glad they waited until the survey results had been recorded to make a formal decision. The public has weighed in overwhelmingly with their responses to the annexation and he feels annexation will be good for both communities.

Alderman Caldwell said a lot of time and effort has been put into this merger effort, and he is very excited about the future and welcomes Lake Junaluska into the Town of Waynesville.

Alderman Freeman said she felt the process had been thorough, and very impressive.

Manager Onieal wanted everyone to know that the Town of Waynesville Board discussed the proposed merger during eight separate regular meetings and during a daylong workshop, all of which were open to public comment, and held two formal public hearings on annexation during February. She felt the public input process had been very deliberate, thorough, and transparent, and that the Junaluska staff and Municipal Task Force had been very good to work with and very welcoming of Town input throughout the process. Senator Davis and Representative Queen have been very engaged in the process of annexation as well, and intend to introduce the draft local bill in both the Senate and the House on March 13, 2013.

A motion was made by Alderman Caldwell, seconded by Alderman Greeley, to adopt Resolution R-02-13 supporting the request by the LJA Board of Directors that the NC General Assembly authorize the extension of the corporate limits of the Town of Waynesville to include the 1200+ acre tract of land in Haywood County, more commonly known as Lake Junaluska Assembly, effective August 31, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

Alderman Greeley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to go to County Commissioners, municipalities, and other appropriate entities, such as the Economic Development Commission and Haywood County Chamber of Commerce, to seek their support of the Waynesville-Junaluska annexation and their assistance in encouraging the General Assembly to adopt local legislation, as referenced in Resolution R-06-13, extending the corporate limits of the Town of Waynesville to include the 1200+ acre tract of land in Haywood County, more commonly known as Lake Junaluska Assembly, effective August 31, 2013. The motion passed unanimously.

D. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

Manager Onieal said the Town owns 4 outlying residential properties, two at the watershed, one at the wastewater treatment plant, and one at Recreation Park, which traditionally have been rented by town staff for purposes of providing 24-hour security and emergency operational support. Two of these properties are now vacant and have deteriorated over an extended period of time so as not to be appropriate for continued residential use, without extensive maintenance. Manager Onieal indicated she will be working with staff on a recommendation for use and/or disposition of those properties, but that they will not continue to be used by staff for housing.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

No communications from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at this time.

F. CALL ON THE AUDIENCE

Mr. Bill King, 322 Littleton Road, Lake Junaluska, NC, asked to make comments concerning the annexation. Mr. King stated he felt that if the leaders of the Town of Waynesville and residents of Lake Junaluska keep the concept of being separate yet part of the same greater whole in mind, everyone can go forward together in a meaningful way and each will benefit. He looks forward to the new relationship of Lake Junaluska and Town of Waynesville with confidence.

Mr. Richard Heinkle of Heinkle Construction Company, Asheville, NC stated he was one of the bidders on the Skate Park. Attorney Griffin will be in contact with Mr. Heinkle concerning the bid.

G. ADJOURN

With no further business, Alderman Greeley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

ATTEST

Gavin A Brown, Mayor

Marcia D Onieal, Town Manager

Alison Melnikova, Deputy Clerk

Prepared by:

Eddie Ward, Administrative Assistant