

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
(REGULAR MEETING RESCHEDULED FROM 7:00 PM TO 5:30 PM)
MARCH 26, 2013**

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held its regular meeting on Tuesday March 26, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. in the board room of Town Hall, 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, NC. The meeting was rescheduled from the regularly scheduled time of 7:00 p.m. in order to accommodate both Board Members and staff who had to travel to Raleigh, NC the same evening in order to attend the NC League of Municipalities Town Hall Day at General Assembly beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, March 28, 2013.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with the following members present:

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

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

It was noted that Alderman LeRoy Roberson was absent from the meeting due to an unexpected health emergency experienced by a family member.

1. Welcome /Calendar/Announcements

Mayor Brown welcomed everyone and asked Manager Onieal about upcoming events. She said there were several important additions to the calendar, including Town Hall Day, the annual mulch sale on April 4 -6 and Apr 11- 13, the Civilian Police Academy at the Waynesville Police Department April 4 – May 23, Rules of Procedure Seminar for Elected Officials to be held in Asheville, and the working dinner with Duke Energy officials scheduled for April 30.

2. Minutes of March 12, 2013

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman, to approve the minutes of March 12, 2013 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

B. NEW BUSINESS

3. Award of Contract – 2013 Public Art Project “Wildflowers of the Smokies”

- Jan Griffin, Chair, Waynesville Public Art Commission

Manager Onieal introduced Ms. Jan Griffin, Chairman for Waynesville Public Art Commission, to present the award of contract for 2013 Public Art Project “Wildflowers of the Smokies” to artist Grace Cathey. Ms. Griffin said at the March 14 meeting of the Art Commission, Grace Cathey’s submission received the highest score from the panel. Ms. Cathey’s piece fit the commission’s desire to showcase the diversity of wildflowers found in the Great Smokies National Park. David Blevins presented a half scale version of the “Ladyslipper” wildflower art work that is scheduled for installation in September 2013 on the south side of the minipark at the corner of Depot and Main Streets. The permanent version will be sixteen feet by four feet consisting of three different panels. Mayor Brown said the selected artist will receive \$12,500 for the project, which is included in the budget for the Public Art Commission. He noted that the artist’s commission will be raised entirely through private donations and that the Town’s contribution is only in-kind administrative and technical support. Because the art will be displayed on Town property, the Town will be in charge of approving the selection and supervising cleaning of the wall and placement of the artwork.

Ms. Griffin said the Public Art Commission is charged with raising all the funds for the purchase of public art, and announced a fundraising event to include a live and silent auction scheduled for June 27, 2013 at HART Theater. In 2013 the Commission has raised \$3570.00 from the sale of its successful cookbook.

Ms. Griffin said that Commission member Ed Kelley resigned and that the Commission recommends he be replaced by Graphic Artist Micah McClure.

Alderman Greeley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Caldwell, to award a contract in the amount of \$12,500 to Waynesville artist Grace Cathey, for production of the 2013 Public Art Project “Wildflowers of the Smokies,” as recommended by the Waynesville Public Art Commission. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Award of Bid – Skate Park Grading & Construction

Assistant Town Manager Alison Melnikova said the bids for the site work were opened on March 7, 2013. Three bids were received, and because of a clerical error in the instructions to the bidders specifying General Contractors must have a license classification for building contractor, the bid was not awarded at the last Board Meeting. After consultation with Project Engineer John Jenkins, Purchasing Supervisor Julie Grasty, Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin, and consulting attorneys from the UNC-CH School of Government, it is the staff’s opinion that the inclusion of this phrase in the bid was a minor informality and had no bearing on the bids actually submitted, and that this requirement may be waived. The bid will be awarded to the low bidder which is WNC Paving. WNC Paving will be the General Contractor and Artisan Skate Parks, a specialty skate park construction firm, will serve as a subcontractor to WNC Paving.

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman, to waive the requirement outlined in the Notice to Bidders that “general contractors have a license classification of Building Contractor”; and to award the contract for grading and construction of the skate park to WNC Paving of Waynesville, NC, to the lowest responsive responsible bidder, in the amount of \$341,657.70. The motion passed unanimously.

C. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5. Request for Support of 2% Increase in Haywood County Occupancy Tax

Manager Onieal said that on Feb 26, 2013 the Board of Alderman adopted Resolution R-05-13 urging the General Assembly to pass local legislation allowing Haywood County to collect an additional 2% in occupancy taxes for the purpose of creating and administering a Tourism Product Development Fund. All Haywood County governments, with the exception of the Town of Maggie Valley, supported the original draft legislation. Due to a tight legislative deadline, the Tourism Development Authority amended the legislation in an effort to submit a bill that would gain Maggie Valley’s support without consulting the other boards, and in so doing lost the consensus it was trying to achieve. Due to lack of agreement within Haywood County, Senator Jim Davis withdrew his support for introducing the bill in the General Assembly. The Mayors of Canton, Maggie Valley, and the Chairman of the County Commissioners have drafted a third version of the legislation that does away with the proposed sunset clause in the legislation and more equitably distributes votes among the representative members of the proposed Product Development Committee as follows:

Maggie Valley	5
Waynesville	3
Lake Junaluska	1
Canton	1
Clyde	1
Haywood County	4
TOTAL	15 members

Manager Onieal reported that the Canton Board and Haywood County Board of Commissioners supported the revised draft of the bill unanimously. The Clyde Board of Aldermen have not yet met, but their individual support obtained via poll indicated that board would be in unanimously in favor, and Maggie Valley voted 3-1 in favor of supporting the revised legislative draft (with Alderman Phillip Wight opposed).

Alderman Greeley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman, to authorize the mayor to sign and submit a letter to our local delegation of General Assembly on behalf of the Town of Waynesville, supporting the revised draft of local legislation authorizing an increase in Haywood County Occupancy Tax from 4% to 6%, and providing for proportional representation on the TDA Product Development Committee, as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

D. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

6. Town Manager – Marcy Onieal

- Town Hall Day Legislative Topics

Manager Onieal stated the North Carolina Governor's budget has proposed withdrawing all support for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) for the next two years. This has been a very important source of funding for towns and municipalities across the state. The Town of Waynesville's new skate park has been funded in part by this fund. She then presented a resolution calling on the members of the General Assembly to maintain dedicated revenues generated by seventy five cents of the deed stamp tax for PARTF, which will be presented to legislators on Town Hall Day.

A motion was made by Alderman Caldwell, seconded by Alderman Freeman to adopt Resolution R-07-13 requesting that the North Carolina General Assembly maintain and support the current integrity and funding for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF). The motion passed unanimously.

- Junaluska – Waynesville Merger Update

Manager Onieal said the local bill for merger has been introduced in the House by Representative Joe Sam Queen and in the Senate by Senator Jim Davis, who is taking the lead in shepherding the bill through the Senate first. Mayor Brown, Manager Onieal and Lake Junaluska Executive Director Jack Ewing will attend the Senate State and Local Government Committee hearing of this bill on Tuesday, April 3, 2013. She said that there are many steps in the approval process before the bill becomes law, noting that if the bill receives favorable reading in the Senate Government Committee, the next step will be a referral to the Senate Finance Committee.

- Clean Community Coalition – Spring Clean-up Locations

The Clean Community Coalition has asked to inform everyone they will start their spring litter sweep on April 20 and they have asked for suggestions from the Town for locations for the volunteers to clean.

- Budget Workshop Scheduling

Budget workshops have not been scheduled as of yet because revenue estimates are expected to be late coming in from the state this year due to the high turnover in the General Assembly and the majority's focus on tax reform. In addition, the processes of merger with Lake Junaluska has also created considerable uncertainty on both the expense and revenue side. Manager Onieal said the budget workshops will be scheduled in late May and June.

- Appointments to Boards & Commissions

All boards and commissions will have terms expiring in June, so applications and nominations

will be accepted soon. Manager Onieal encouraged board members to begin recruiting candidates now, as all boards and commissions will have vacancies as of June 30, 2013.

- Easter Street Closing

There will be a short Good Friday walk along Main Street on Friday March 29, 2013 between the First Presbyterian Church and the First Methodist Church as part of Easter holiday observances.

- Non-profit Printer Donations

Manager Onieal announced the town has completed a move away from desktop printers to a managed printer/copier contract with Sharp Business Systems, which will provide far greater print capability in all departments at a lower overall cost to the town. As a result, approximately four dozen desktop printers and MFPs have been surplus, which have little to no fair market value. Despite having no resale value, either commercially or through GovDeals, many of the printers are still in working condition, and the manager would like to offer them as donation to other units of local government in Haywood County or to 501(c)3 non-profits serving citizens of Haywood County. Although the manager has the authority to declare as surplus and dispose of equipment and material valued under \$30,000, which has reached the end of its useful life, she felt it important to inform the board of her plans, since the Town has not heretofore undertaken disposition by donation. Hearing no objections to the proposed plan, the mayor declared that donation to other Haywood nonprofits as a means of disposal is acceptable to the Board and provides a useful second life to equipment that would have otherwise wound up in the landfill.

7. Town Attorney – Woodrow Griffin

No communications from Town Attorney Woodrow Griffin.

E. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

No communications from the Mayor and Board of Aldermen

F. CALL ON THE AUDIENCE

Ms Jean Parris, Canton, NC, Program Coordinator for Drugs in Our Midst, talked about a program being held at Haywood Community College on April 16, 2013, and invited the members of the Board and Town Manager to attend and bring others. There will be several speakers including Bill Hollingsed, Chief of Waynesville Police Department, Mark Mease, Haywood County Sheriff Department, and Greg Christopher, Sheriff of Haywood County. A personal testimony will be given by Richie Tannehill.

Ms. Parris has spoken to several organizations and leaders in the community for support in drug education, support for state legislation to control drugs, and support of law enforcement personnel in drug related issues. She asked Manager Onieal to relay to Town of Waynesville employees information about the upcoming program as well. Ms. Parris said she was grateful to be able to come before the leaders of the Town, and appreciated their support

G. ADJOURN

With no further business, Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Greeley, to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 p.m. The motion was approved unanimously.

ATTEST

Gavin A Brown, Mayor

Marcia D Onieal, Town Manager

Alison Melnikova, Deputy Clerk

Prepared by:

Eddie Ward, Administrative Assistant