

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
January 26, 2016

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 6:30 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 6:30 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Gavin Brown
Alderman Gary Caldwell
Alderman Jon Feichter
Alderman Julia Freeman
Alderman LeRoy Roberson

The following staff members were present:

Marcy Onieal, Town Manager
Woodrow Griffin, Town Attorney
Amie Owens, Town Clerk

The following media representatives were present:

Mary Ann Enloe, the Mountaineer
Becky Johnson, Smoky Mountain News

1. Welcome /Calendar/Announcements

Mayor Gavin Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and began the meeting by thanking the town staff for their diligence during the snow event and the clearing of the streets and sidewalks.

Mayor Brown noted that due to the set up of the board room, he announced the movement of the special called meeting on January 27th to the Municipal Building conference room at 2:00 p.m. Appropriate directional signage will be put in the Town Hall so that interested parties can come to the meeting.

Mayor Brown asked Manager Onieal to update regarding calendar events. Manager Onieal called attention to several upcoming events including:

- February 9 - Chamber of Commerce Governmental Relations Committee 2016 Legislative Agenda Workshop – 8:30 a.m. Mayor Brown will be attending.
- February 18 – Chamber of Commerce Elected Officials Reception – Wells Event Center 5:30 p.m. All elected officials are encouraged to attend.

Manager Onieal noted that the Downtown Waynesville Association events and street closures had been added to the calendar even though they had not been formally approved. She included a copy of all of the events in a separate document.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Feichter, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2016 regular meeting, the minutes of the January 12, 2016 closed session meeting, the minutes of the January 19, 2016 special called meeting and the January 19, 2016 closed session minutes of the special called meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. Reconsideration of request by Haywood Arts Regional Theater for Waiver of Tap Fees and Development permits and for in-kind contribution of materials and labor related to installation of water and electric service to theater expansion project

Mayor Brown asked that the item of unfinished business consideration of HART Theater's request for in-kind infrastructure work be discussed out of agenda order. It was previously #9 in the packet. Mayor Brown invited Pat Burgin to the podium to speak on behalf of HART. Mr. Burgin explained that back when the job was initially budgeted, it was discussed with Fred Baker and Lee Galloway and that they had agreed that the Town would pay for fire line/water line for sprinklers and electric services to the building as the Town had done for the original building. Since this was HART's understanding, there were never any funds allocated for this part of the project.

Mayor Brown noted that as an economic driver for the town, it would seem this would be a good investment and would be beneficial. Mr. Burgin explained that the electric lines would need to be single phase only which should reduce the amount requested. Manager Onieal explained that the approximate amount requested was \$26,500 including various fee waivers and in-kind services. She added that there were no funds available via the special appropriations, but questioned whether this could come from water or electric funds or economic development funds without having to do a budget amendment. Finance Director Eddie Caldwell confirmed that this would be possible.

Alderman Feichter asked if there was a break down of labor costs for this project. David Foster, Public Services Director noted that cost for labor and materials was approximately \$8,000 with roughly \$18,000 in capital outlay from the town. Alderman Caldwell added that HART brings in visitors who eat in the restaurants and stay in hotels. Alderman Freeman explained that her questions had been answered by Mr. Burgin. Mayor Brown asked Mr. Foster and his staff to work with Mr. Burgin on the requirements for the project.

Alderman Feichter made a motion, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to approve the request from HART to waive tap fees and development permits and provide in-kind materials and labor up to \$20,000 subject to design specifications being worked out with the Public Services staff. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Consideration of Candidates, Contractual Terms and Appointment of Interim Town Manager

Mayor Brown noted that he had talked with each board member regarding the appointment of an interim town manager. All agreed that both candidates were qualified and would serve the town well. Consensus was that Mike Morgan should be asked if he would like to serve as the interim town manager. Mayor Brown noted that there was a proposed contract included in the board packet and that the hourly rate would be \$60.00 (sixty) dollars per hour, with allocation of a town vehicle so long as he is employed with the town and his appointed time in service would not exceed a period of time allowed by the NC retirement system. Mayor Brown noted that at this time, Mr. Morgan would like to work Monday through Thursday each week. Mayor Brown asked if that was satisfactory with the board; all indicated this was acceptable.

Alderman Roberson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to appoint Michael Javen Morgan as the interim town manager, effective February 1, 2016, under terms of the contract to include the hourly rate, allocation of vehicle and time of service noted above. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Brown noted that there was one other issue that needed to be approved by the board related to Mr. Morgan's appointment and that was to provide him with the power to execute business matter and sign banking forms (i.e. checks) during his time as interim town manager.

Alderman Feichter made a motion, seconded by Alderman Roberson to approve and authorize Michael Javen Morgan to execute business and banking/checking matters effective February 1, 2016. The motion carried unanimously.

5. Follow up – Open Door Kitchen

Mayor Brown noted that he had followed up on the item that Jack Wadham had brought forth at the previous board meeting. The Mayor has talked with Perry Hines, Executive Director of the Open Door and noted that the Open Door has instituted guidelines for clients that may limit or terminate the ability to utilize the Open Door based on behavior. Mayor Brown added that he had talked with Police Chief Hollingsed who had attended the Frog Level Merchant's Association meeting and spoken with merchants about their concerns. Mr. Hines indicated that there had been mention of placement of a port-a-john, but that nothing had ever been implemented. The Mayor has been asked to be present at the next merchants meeting.

C. PRESENTATIONS

6. Haywood County Tourism Development Authority 1% Zip Code Sub Committee Report

Lynn Collins, Executive Director, Haywood County Tourism Development Authority (TDA) provided a fiscal year-end report and current year update. Ms. Collins explained that Haywood County collects a 4% occupancy on short term rentals under 90 days. Of the amount collected, 3% goes to the TDA for marketing and 1% goes to zip code area where funds were collected. Ms. Collins noted that there are 5 zip code areas in the county with Waynesville utilizing both 28785 & 28786.

Ms. Collins highlighted a listing of projects currently being funded by the Waynesville 1% funds. There is a sub-committee for each zip code and the members for Waynesville are appointed by this board every two years. The sub-committee reviews and makes recommendation for funding. Ms. Collins noted that the sub-committee spends a great deal of time giving consideration to the projects that will be funded. Some of the newer projects include the addition of the Smoky Mountain Aquatic Club Electronic Timing System. This will allow the club to host regional swim meets at the Waynesville Recreation Center.

Ms. Collins provided comparisons between actual and projected occupancy tax amounts. She noted that for 2014/2015, the 28785/28786 zip code was 4% better than projected and 8% better than the previous year. At the end of calendar year 2015, the Waynesville zip codes was 16% above projections thanks in part to the Cycle NC Mountains to Coast tour. Ms. Collins took the opportunity to again thank the town for hosting that event. She commented that she did anticipate that there will be a small hit due to the weather in December being clear and warmer, but that overall for all zip codes, they were currently running 12% ahead of projections.

Manager Onieal noted that some of the funds were being used for way-finding signage across all zip codes to allow for consistency throughout the county. Ms. Collins added that applications for 1% funds must be in by February 29, 2016. She provided an example of how Maggie Valley was using its funds to do cooperative marketing of the entire town rather than a single event or events. They have determined that marketing the destination rather than the festival is successful.

Mayor Brown inquired as to the group sales efforts and any notable successes. Ms. Collins explained that the Group Sales Representative with the TDA had been on staff since August and had booked several familiarization tours and had several groups and trade shows looking to book here in the coming year. The TDA fields inquiries and leads daily and hope to host 15 groups between May and November.

Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Collins for her report.

7. Request to consider a proposal to rename Pigeon Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard

Phillip Gibbs, representing various citizen constituencies and organizations, presented a proposal to rename Pigeon Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK, Jr.)Boulevard. He began by noting this is a proposal that will make some happy and some not so happy; any time we want to change something it is hard. This proposal was brought forth due to the fact the Annual MLK, Jr. Prayer Walk is from Main Street and goes down Pigeon Street which leads to the black community. Mr. Gibbs added that some think this name change would cause problems because the property value may drop or make taxes go down or up. He explained that we need change in Waynesville and could use a street in Waynesville dedicated as MLK Drive. Mr. Gibbs noted that there are 15 businesses, 1 church and 26 houses along the stretch of the road where a possible name change is being requested. To change a street name could help to change the ideology of Waynesville. Mr. Gibbs concluded by noting, in America, our diversity is our super power.

Mayor Brown inquired what other groups have been in discussion regarding this issue. Mr. Gibbs noted that at this point, just concerned citizens. Mayor Brown asked if any other streets have been considered. Alderman Feichter asked if Mr. Gibbs envisioned the name change starting at the intersection to Pigeon Street. Mr. Gibbs answered yes and would terminate at the Town Limit as it does

currently. Mayor Brown noted that he and Manager Onieal had spoken briefly about this proposal noting that at this point, there were no recommendations. There would need to be input from the County as well as the State as this was a State Road. Development Services Director Elizabeth Teague voiced that she would like the opportunity to study this proposal and work with Mr. Gibbs and citizens to get the conversation started. The Board agreed by consensus that Ms. Teague would bring back information to the board at a later date. Alderman Caldwell added that he felt it would be beneficial to do some type of survey of the businesses and homes on that stretch of street. Mayor Brown thanked Mr. Gibbs and Ms. Teague for their willingness to work on this project.

Myrtle Noland, 712 Pigeon Street, Waynesville asked the board not to change the name as there were currently no African Americans living on the street and there were other streets that could be used as MLK, Jr. Boulevard. The road has been Pigeon Street for as long as anyone can remember and it should remain as such.

Mack Noland, 712 Pigeon Street, Waynesville, also asked the board not to change the name as it had historical significance back to the 1800's. He noted that individuals who live on the street and pass their properties down to their children will have to update deeds and changing addresses usually carries a bit of a headache.

Mr. Gibbs returned to the podium and provided an example of a historic street in Chapel Hill, NC where the name had been changed, but the signage reflected the historical significance of the street and its former name.

An unidentified African American gentleman approached the podium and explained that it was true that you can go anywhere in the US there is an MLK, Jr. street at one point, the circle near the drive in theater was considered for such naming. He questioned, what does anyone have against the name?

Mayor Brown noted that this is a two-fold issue – how can this be done and if it is appropriate to do so. The mayor asked individuals to work with Ms. Teague so that she may ascertain what is involved related to 9-1-1, the county requirements and state roads. If appropriate, a public hearing will be held on this issue at which time everyone who wishes to speak may do so.

8. Fire Fighters Relief Fund Board Appointments – 2 vacancies/2 applicants

Mayor Brown noted that Mr. Noland who spoke earlier was a candidate for one of the two open positions on the Fire Fighters Relief Fund Board. Mayor Brown noted that the other candidate was Daniel Pottinger; applications for both were included in the board packets. Fire Chief Joey Webb explained that the vacancies were due to one death and one individual who had asked not to be reappointed.

There was no formal motion and second, but the board agreed by consensus to appoint Mack Noland and Daniel Pottinger to the Fire Fighters Relief Fund Board for a term of two-years ending January 1, 2018.

D. PUBLIC HEARING

9. Public Hearing to consider Ingle's Conditional District Master Plan Amendment Request related to wall signage in the Russ Avenue Regional Center Conditional District (RC-CD)

Ms. Teague explained that this was a public hearing for a conditional district master plan amendment requested by Preston Kendall with Ingle's. She noted that the signage plan was out of conformance and was not addressed in the original zoning text. Byron Hickox, Land Use Administrator, provided an illustration of the proposed sign plan explaining that it included 9 signs with overall square footage of 400 sq. ft. The maximum allowed is 1500 sq. ft. The restriction that has come into play was the number of signs rather than the total square footage. Ingle's and the Development Services staff tried various layouts to group the signs prior to suggesting this amendment. Such an amendment to the conditional district zoning requires action by both the Planning Board and by the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Hickox read the proposed wording for this amendment noting that it is site specific.

*d. **Signage.** The number of signs allowed to be attached to buildings exceeding 80,000 square feet may exceed three, but not more than 10, provided that the total surface area of signage is no more than 15% of the wall surface area to which the signs are attached.*

Mr. Hickox noted that many of the signs are not intended to be seen from Russ Avenue, but would direct pedestrians to the appropriate entrance to the building. He noted that this amendment had received unanimous approval by the Planning Board at their October 19, 2015 meeting.

Mayor Brown asked if this amendment would be something that should be taken back to the Planning Board for a full zoning change. Mr. Hickox noted that this had not come up before and that due to the size of the business unless there was another big box store, it would be irrelevant.

Preston Kendall, representing Ingle's Markets reiterated that the only sign that will be seen from Russ Avenue is the main Ingle's sign. All others will only be seen from the parking lot to give direction, showing where Starbucks is, the pharmacy drive through, etc. He noted that Ingle's is using under 4% of allowed signage with 9 signs. Mr. Hickox added that both staff and the Planning Board agree that this change falls within the spirit of the ordinance.

Town Attorney Woody Griffin opened the public hearing at 7:34 p.m. explaining that those who wish to speak about this subject raise their hand and be recognized. Speakers are asked to keep comments to three minutes or less. No one addressed the board

Attorney Griffin closed the public hearing at 7:35 p.m.

There were no additional questions or comments from the Board.

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Roberson to adopt the Conditional District Master Plan Amendment related to wall signage in the Russ Avenue Center Conditional District, as presented and as unanimously approved by the Planning Board. The motion carried unanimously.

E. NEW BUSINESS

10. Sponsorship of Haywood Waterways 4th Annual Polar Plunge on February 6, 2016

Manager Onieal noted that the Polar Plunge is on February 6, 2016 and that the team is seeking board sponsorship of a Waynesville team. The request is for \$500.00 which was the same as in previous years. This donation helps to support Haywood Waterways and Kids in the Creek program. Haywood Waterways is a partner with the town for stormwater permitting and helps with various other projects involving greenways and erosion control.

Alderman Feichter made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman to approve sponsorship of Haywood Waterways 4th Annual Polar Plunge in the amount of \$500.00 as requested. The motion carried unanimously.

11. Street Closure Requests

a) Mountaineer 2-Miler Foot Race, hosted by Waynesville Middle School PTA and Mountain Fit – rolling closures through Hazelwood (Brown Ave., Sulphur Springs Rd., Elysinia Ave., Hazelwood Ave., Brown Ave.) beginning and ending at Waynesville Middle School, 9:30 – 11:30 AM on Saturday, March 19, 2016.

Susanna Barbee and Regan Wyatt requested a rolling street closure for the event and explained that proceeds would go to work with children who are interested in running but may not have the resources for good shoes, clothes and training. The course is a flat two mile loop. This is the first year for this event.

b) West Haywood Relay for Life – Main Street from Church Street to Depot Street from 4:00 pm Saturday, April 23, 2016 until 1:00 a.m. on April 24, 2016.

Mark Scott, West Haywood Relay for Life came before the board once again asking for a street closure for the Relay for Life event. He noted that there is a good team working hard on this including Chairman Rusty Wallace and John Sanderson. Mr. Scott noted that they hope to give the town another great event in the same capacity as last year. He presented the Board with a certificate of thanks for their support.

c) Haywood Chamber of Commerce’s Gateway to the Smokies Half Marathon – rolling closures for 13 miles through Haywood County from the intersection of Main & Depot Streets and ending in Frog Level, from 6:00 am – 1:00 pm, Saturday, May 14, 2016.

Manager Onieal noted that last year was the inaugural event and had been a great success. The route would be the same as the previous year.

d) Downtown Waynesville Association street closures

Manager Onieal explained that she had officially added these events to the calendar and that there are no conflicts at this point. In an effort to be pro-active, she asked for approval to include all

festivals and events and street closures. Manager Onieal explained that if other events need to be approved or added, they would be brought before the board.

Alderman Freeman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Feichter to approve all of the noted street closures as presented and to approve the addition of the Downtown Waynesville Association events on the calendar. The motion carried unanimously.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

12. Town Manager – Marcy Onieal

Weather Response Update

Manager Onieal again thanked the staff for their response to the winter weather event. Public Services staff worked 12 hour shifts and all supplemented streets and sanitation by assisting where necessary. Manager Onieal added that the Town staff was fully engaged and active through the weekend. She noted appreciation of the business community, specifically Brandon Green with Clyde's Restaurant who opened just to feed town staff; Bogart's gave a discount to staff on Saturday and Custom Paving assisted by supplying motor graders. Manager Onieal applauded the value of social media noting that via online services Facebook reached over 5200 people with information about the storm and clean up efforts.

Manager Onieal explained that while answering telephones in administration during the event, there were no complaints received, but rather inquiries about other county services and when the Recreation Center would re-open.

Career Track and HR Updates

Manager Onieal noted that Career Track and pay and compensation program had been implemented with a January 2016 deadline. The Leadership team focused a huge amount of effort for transparent, equitable and livable wage and succession planning and individual improvement as part of the career track development. The goal of career track is to move all employees as close as possible to market rates for their pay grades. Manager Onieal explained that this was a highly innovative project and required lots of time from leadership team. She thanked the Finance staff for their countless hours to reprogram MUNIS to better coordinate with the career tracks.

Manager Onieal commented that all full time employees who were eligible received career track adjustments and the part-time adjustments would be completed with the next pay period. She added that every dollar that was approved by the board will have been spent by June 30 of this year. Manager Onieal noted that parameters had been put around part-time pay grades and made it clear that the pay plan maximum and minimums for job classifications have not changed. She explained that the biggest adjustments occurred at the lowest end of the pay scales with the new base living wage for a full time employee is \$11.55/hour. Manager Onieal reiterated that career track is a work in progress; a program that will require continual monitoring and support from the board. Without such monitoring, it can be misused or neglected. She added that this is not a finished product and that continued work with incoming manager and staff will be necessary to build this into a fair and equitable system. Success will take mentoring, encouragement and promotion within the organization.

Mid-Year Operational and Financial Reports – Staff

Finance Director Eddie Caldwell presented financial information for the period beginning July 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015. He noted that in looking at the general fund, revenues were slightly ahead of the past two years with overall expenditures running at 50.35% at the six month mark which is slightly more than previous years.

Mr. Caldwell noted that there had been an increase in police department expense due primarily to overtime due to assistance on I-40 and an officer involved shooting which required the officers to be paid during their absence and to have additional officers to cover their work loads. He added that the Recreation department purchased equipment this year which is the reason for their increase; this should fall back in line given time. Mr. Caldwell noted a possible budget amendment for the police department, but thought with the tremendous savings in fuel that should help them.

Mr. Caldwell summed up the General Fund numbers by noting expenditures were well below at this point due to not booking receivables. Much of receivables do not get booked until January. Sewer fund revenues running well comparable with other years. Electric fund is down due to purchases in cold weather – the true ups, plus the expenditures includes professional services for power contract. Asset services allocates back to departments for actual costs. Mr. Caldwell noted that in the Garage fuel savings from gas and diesel are helping to keep expenditures low. The current rate for diesel is \$1.43 and \$1.18 for gasoline. Propane was \$0.99 on the last invoice.

Mayor Brown applauded Mr. Caldwell for the financial update and the departments for keeping their expenditures low.

Administrative Services

Amie Owens, Administrative Services Director, provided the report for Administrative Services noting the following:

Human Resources:

- Essentially flat for health insurance premiums
- Partnering with Triune for administration of initial ACA reporting
- Includes employee notifications and report filing
- New Hires – 16; Retirees - 7

Wellness:

- Provided 5 Lunch and Learn sessions since beginning of FY
- Renewed efforts for wellness programming and new theme for 2016 of “All In”
- Continued participation of approximately 1/3 of workforce

Communications/Record Keeping:

- Added to website resulting in increased traffic
- Continued to develop presence on social media
- Hazelwood minutes now preserved via microfilm at NC State Archives
- Responded to over 200 general information requests; sent 34 press releases
- Update of Emergency Action Plans for all departments

Fire Department

Fire Chief Joey Webb reported that there were 2,352 calls for service including 63 fires, 64 vehicle crashes, 153 citizen assist calls and \$128,500 in loss from fires. During the past six months, the fire department developed its strategic plan; unfortunately, manpower was a deficiency. Chief Webb reported that the downtown disaster drill held in June was successful with 19 agencies participating. The department just had its insurance rating inspection and passed. Chief Webb indicated that the Mayor should receive notification of that passing soon. Once the grade is back, the fire department will review the rural districts and lower the rating, if possible.

Development Services

Ms. Teague reported that Development Services is now fully staffed and she is proud to work with her team. She noted that the department is averaging 40 to 60 permits per month. Ms. Teague noted that working with the Historic Preservation Commission, they are applying for National Register for Greenhill Cemetery and are in the process of choosing a consultant.

Ms. Teague highlighted the various plans that are being reviewed including the 2020 plan, the 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan with the MPO and the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Ms. Teague explained that there are many things happening in the community and the Development Services staff is in place to help connect people and help facilitate the process particularly those starting new businesses. The technical review committee meets regularly to create a comfortable discussion table, to discuss builder/developer needs and infrastructure.

Police Department

Police Chief Hollingsed was not able to be at the meeting as the Town of Waynesville was the host for the annual police chief's conference but he provided information on the following topics:

K-9 Program - The WPD K9 Unit consists of four Narcotics Detection/Tracking Dogs and one Explosives Detection/Tracking Dog. The K9 Training Sergeant, Brandon Gilmore, was recently selected as the National Vice President for the Southeast Region for the United States Police Canine Association (USPCA). The Waynesville Police Department trains K9 Teams from all over western NC.

Unified Narcotics Investigative Team - The U.N.I.T. is comprised of Drug Investigators from the Waynesville PD (3), Haywood SO (3), Canton PD (1), Maggie Valley PD (1), and the State Bureau of Investigation (1). In the past 6 months, members of the UNIT have made cases on 3 separate Meth Labs that information was received about, a number of Drug Trafficking cases, and a Sale and Delivery that resulted in an Overdose Death of a Waynesville man. Investigations by the UNIT were also conducted in the areas of Prostitution and Illegal Gambling. The UNIT also provided surveillance for the FBI, which led to the arrest of a very complex Bank Robbery ring.

Expansion of Evidence Processing - The Criminal Investigations Division completed the expansion of the Evidence Processing Room. This was necessitated by the increasing demands placed on local law enforcement by the NC State Crime Lab system. This new area will allow Evidence Technicians a safe work environment to analyze fingerprints, utilize the Cyanocrylate Fuming Chamber, employ alternative light sources, and use chemical processing techniques on critical evidence. The old Patrol Storage Room was converted into the new Processing Room. A Patrol Storage area was then created with the addition of a wall in the Prisoner Detention Room.

Repeat Offender Program - The Repeat Offender Program was initiated within the TAC Unit in order to identify and focus on individuals that were committing the majority of the crimes in Waynesville. In the past 6 months, it was expanded to include all of Patrol and CID to assist in the identification and arrest of these Career Criminals. We have also expanded the program to meet with the District Attorney's Office in order to ensure that any pending cases are solid and that there is no hindrance to a successful prosecution. This program has led to Habitual Felon convictions on numerous repeat offenders.

Nuisance Abatement - In the past 6 months, the Waynesville Police Department has been engaged in proactive measures in order to address quality of life issues in the following communities:

- Frog Level
 - Carolina Avenue
 - Taylor Avenue/Hamer Avenue
 - Fuller Drive
- Chestnut Park
 - Georgia Avenue
 - Craven Street / Hillside
 - Burris Lane / Allen's Creek

Improvements to these neighborhoods/communities are being made through active enforcement of the law, Code Enforcement Ordinances, working with the Health Department, the property's Landlords, and with the District Attorney's Office.

Recreation and Parks

Rhett Langston, Recreation and Parks Director reported various numbers regarding participation with senior programming, participation in offered camps and the Day Camp Certification obtained by Tim Petrea from the American Camp Association. He noted that his staff had a retreat with Nyda Bittman-Neville on working together as a team. Mr. Langston added that since the department is working toward CAPRA certification, there have been reviews of the policies, procedures and processes utilized in providing services at all locations. Training opportunities have been identified.

Mr. Langston excitedly added that attendance had reached greater than 140,000 this year and that the period from October through December had been the best on record. The Waynesville Recreation Center was named as the best fitness center for the fifth year in a row by the readers of the Mountaineer. He added that he would be working with Ms. Teague regarding the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and that the Recreation Center would be paid off in 2018. Mr. Langston concluded by noting the arrival of the new weight equipment later in the week and provided the board members with copies of the Recreation and Parks Annual Report for their review.

Public Services

Mr. Foster reported that while there were multiple successes during the first six months of the year, in the interest of time, he would highlight only a few. **Streets and Sanitation** - purchase two knuckle boom trucks which reduce time for brush pick up and minimizes exposure to injury. The Town only needs three more commercial customers to come back and have break even point that was set by the reduction in rates last April. **Asset services** – by using alternative fuel vehicles, it is estimated to save \$8,400 this year. **Water and Sewer** – with the addition of the capital construction crew there has been better interconnection and less need to re-do jobs due to planning.

Alderman Feichter asked if there was an estimate on the completion of the Elysinia project. Mr. Foster responded it will take an additional two to three months to complete.

Mr. Foster continued with his report noting that mapping GIS for all water/sewer infrastructure is in process; electric infrastructure has already been mapped. **Water/Sewer Treatment** – both continue to work well with several upgrades completed at the water treatment plant and needs identified for the wastewater treatment plant. **Electric Division** – the wholesale power agreement with Santee Cooper has been finalized. A new peak clipping generator has been installed which will allow for cost savings on the Duke Energy and Santee Cooper agreements.

Manager Onieal thanked the department managers for their reports and commented to the board, “You can see from these reports that I am leaving you in good hands. I have had an excellent staff. I thank them, and I thank the citizens of Waynesville. It has been my pleasure to serve you and I hope to be of service to the people of Waynesville in the future.”

5. Town Attorney

Town Attorney Woody Griffin had nothing to report.

G. COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Mayor Brown again thanked Wells Greeley for his service and invited those in attendance to a reception in the lobby area.

H. CALL ON THE AUDIENCE

Susan Jaynes, 72 Welcome Lane, in the Waynesville ETJ wanted to inform the board that there is a need for better lighting on Main Street after the Christmas lights are taken down, it is dark and individuals walk out from in between cars and it is dangerous. Mr. Foster noted that he is working with a vendor on an option for LED lighting for Main Street.

Ms. Jaynes also inquired about a noise ordinance regarding the train cars slamming together at all hours of the night at the Evergreen Plant on Howell Mill Road. Mayor Brown indicated he would speak with the plant manager and let him know he is receiving complaints.

I. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Roberson, to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST

Gavin A. Brown, Mayor

Amanda W. Owens, Town Clerk