

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING
September 27, 2016

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the board room of Town Hall, 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, NC.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gavin 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:

Rob Hites, Town Manager
Woody Griffin, Town Attorney
Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk
Jill Howell-Shook, Administrative Assistant
David Foster, Public Services Director
Bill Hollingsed, Police Chief
Elizabeth Teague, Development Services Director

The following media representatives were present:

Mary Ann Enloe, the Mountaineer
Cory Vaillancourt, Smoky Mountain News

1. Welcome /Calendar/Announcements

Mayor Gavin Brown welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the following calendar events including:

- October 8 – Church Street Fair – 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. – Downtown
- October 15 – Apple Harvest Festival – 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. – Downtown
- October 31 – Treats on the Street – 5:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. – Downtown
- November 7 – Haywood County Council of Governments Meeting – 5:30 p.m. Wells Events Center
- November 8 – Election Day

Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager/Town Clerk introduced the newest member of the Administrative Services Staff, Jill Howell-Shook, Administrative Assistant II.

2. Adoption of Minutes

Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman, to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2016 regular meeting, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Certificate of Appreciation

Police Chief Bill Hollingsed presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Clark Williams, owner and operator of Frog Level Brewing for his support of Law Enforcement and Emergency Responders. Chief Hollingsed read the following: *On behalf of the men and women of the Waynesville Police Department, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for the many things that you do for our agency and those involved in Emergency Services throughout our community. It is very apparent that you do not do these things for accolades or praise, but we feel it is important for you to realize how much the members of this agency value your contributions, assistance and support.*

Mayor Brown added thanks from the Board of Aldermen, not only for Mr. Williams' support of local agencies, but for his service as a United States Marine. Mayor Brown noted that Mr. Williams is always participative as a business owner in Frog Level and has been an advocate in getting issues resolved in that area. Mr. Williams was afforded a standing ovation.

4. Recognition of Officer Dave Clancy

Mayor Brown began a discussion of the Brown Avenue realignment and asked that Waynesville Middle School (WMS) Principal Trevor Putnam and Officer Dave Clancy address the board related to their concerns. As Officer Clancy approached the podium to speak, it was revealed that this was not a discussion about the proposed realignment, but recognition of Officer Clancy by the WMS staff.

Police Chief Hollingsed explained that at the end of this past school year, School Resource Officer Dave Clancy was unanimously voted by all faculty and staff of the Waynesville Middle School as the Employee of the Year. This was his first year as the SRO at the Middle School. This is the first time in history that this award was earned by someone who was not a teacher. However, the school system would not approve the award for Officer Clancy because they stated that he was not an employee of the school system.

In the words of the principal, Mr. Putnam, "Officer Clancy has completely changed the culture of our school. His research and hard work have developed into policies that will be adopted across the entire system". Principal Putnam read the plaque; Presented *To Dave Clancy, On behalf of the students, faculty and staff of the Waynesville Middle School. Thank you for your hard work, dedication and commitment to our school and wellbeing of our students. Your passion and love for this school makes a difference every day!*

A letter was read by a WMS faculty member highlighting the many things that Officer Clancy does to make a difference on the campus daily from talking with students and teachers to getting much needed family and mental health services. She continued to note that Officer Clancy is knowledgeable with reports and advises accordingly and always communicates with staff. He has developed safety plans for the school and is aware of what is going on at all times. Officer Clancy takes his job seriously and the school, students and community are better because of him.

Chief Hollingsed explained that when Officer Clancy was hired he expressed his desire to be a School Resource Officer (SRO) and continue his work with children. He added that Officer Clancy has been heaped with accolades from staff and students and that there is no one more passionate about the job he does than Officer Clancy. Officer Clancy was met with a standing ovation.

Mayor Brown expressed his pride in Officer Clancy and the officers of the Waynesville Police Department.

B. CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING

5. Call for Public Hearing to consider a request from Southern Concrete for rezoning of two properties to the Commercial-Industrial District

Elizabeth Teague, Development Services Director, explained that Southern Concrete Materials had submitted an application to rezone two properties to consolidate business functions to one location. The two properties in question were shown on the monitors and Ms. Teague explained that the existing Southern Concrete operation had been at that location for 30 years. She illustrated that the property on Railroad Street was acquired in order to relocate the driveway and railroad crossing to improve safety. Expanded buffering would be a requirement as it is adjacent to a residential area.

Alderman Roberson asked how long the plant had been in this location. Ms. Teague answered that the site had been used as a mobile cement plant and storage site for many years. Ms. Teague added that representatives from Southern Concrete would be present at the public hearing to answer questions about operation specifics. She explained that the Planning Board had unanimously approved the requested rezoning. Mayor Brown thanked Ms. Teague for the information about the request for rezoning.

Alderman Freeman made a motion, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to call for public hearing to be held on October 11, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. or as soon thereafter as possible, in the Town Board Room, located at 9 South Main Street, Waynesville, to consider a zoning map amendment requested by Southern Concrete Materials, Inc. to rezone two properties - 120 Railroad Street, PIN 8605-71-1498 from Hazelwood Urban Residential to Commercial-Industrial District and 50 Vigoro Lane, PIN 8605-71-4029 from Hyatt Creek Regional Center Commercial to Commercial-Industrial District, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

C. NEW BUSINESS

6. Request approval of contract for ACMI for the purpose of replacement of media at the Water Treatment Facility

Public Services Director David Foster requested approval of a contract with ACMI for the purpose of replacement of media at the Water Treatment facility. Mr. Foster provided a diagram of the current water treatment process explaining the removal of bacteria and free flowing impurities. A second diagram was shown illustrating how the media is utilized. Mr. Foster noted that the lifespan of media is approximately 20 years; the existing media has been in place for 45 years.

Mr. Foster continued by explaining that this media replacement was postponed last year and is budgeted at \$240,000. By completing this replacement, all areas of the Water Treatment Plant, except for the sludge pond, will have been upgraded or replaced.

Mayor Brown asked what types of things are in the source water. Mr. Foster answered that usually twigs and leaves, but at times microbial organisms do have to be removed. The filter media is the last step before chemicals are added for drinking. Mayor Brown commented that water quality report that is put out annually shows how truly great the water is in Waynesville. He inquired how long this filter media replacement would take. Mr. Foster answered approximately 2 months.

Alderman Roberson clarified that this media would be in the tanks is inside the building. Mr. Foster confirmed noting that the tanks were okay and should not have to be replaced since the upstairs at the building had already been re-done.

Mayor Brown added that he has been in contact with Kyle Cook, Water Treatment Superintendent and even during this drought, the watershed was only down about 3%; this is not at a shortage stage and no restrictions are recommended at this time. Mayor Brown concluded by noting that the water is one of the best assets in Waynesville and the board and staff are committed to taking care of it.

Alderman Roberson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Caldwell to approve the contract with ACMI for the purpose of replacement of the media at the Water Treatment facility and to direct the Town Manager to execute said agreement, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF

7. Manager's Report - Town Manager Rob Hites

Town Manager Rob Hites provided a report related to the Electric Service Transition noting that the majority of the assigned tasks for UTEC have been partially or fully completed. At this point, the Coordination Study is the priority for the development of a plan to detail the appropriate fusing and switching procedures between substations to prevent wide-spread outages.

Manager Hites added that there is a two phase study to look at the anticipated rates and how spread across the user base and how that measures up with the Santee Cooper book of business. After 3 – 4 months the Town and UTEC will revisit to review actual rates for residential, industrial and commercial. The Board will have to approve or rebalance based on the contract. Mayor Brown added that it is important to balance and have an equitable mix across the utility.

Manager Hites added that in switching to Santee Cooper some long standing procedures with Duke Energy would be coming to an end such as substation maintenance. Request for Proposals (RFPs) will be sent out related to gaining a new vendor for such service and the chosen vendor would be the emergency response to substation failure.

Manager Hites noted that the closing for the Public Services Operations Center renovations would be on Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

9. Attorney's Report – Town Attorney Woody Griffin

Town Attorney Griffin had nothing to report.

F. COMMUNICATION FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD

Alderman Feichter provided an update on the West NGN broadband project. He explained that the project was moving along and that a Request for Qualifications had been issued by Land of Sky to find a consultant to act as a project manager on behalf of WestNGN. Each of the supporting entities contributed funds for the project which was budgeted at \$35,000. The Town of Waynesville's contribution was \$4,877.

Alderman Feichter noted that a deadline for submission of RFQs was September 22 and that only two responses were received; the deadline was extended to October 3 in hopes of receiving additional submissions. He added that tentatively, the consultant would be hired in November with their goal of having a preliminary RFQ for providers to build fiber in the region developed by April and sent out by May 2017.

Alderman Feichter excitedly spoke about the Steering Committee making a visit to Chattanooga on Friday to discuss their broadband implementation and utilization. Chattanooga has been a pioneer in provision of broadband services for citizens. Alderman Feichter provided an example of the low cost and fast speed of such services. He alluded to the fact that since the WestNGN was just beginning to move, they would also be paying close attention to what has to be done in the future for service provision and how such an investment in infrastructure would impact community development.

Mayor Brown interjected that the Haywood Advancement Foundation had hired a consultant, Magellan Advisors, to look at broadband access for the county. He explained that Alderman Feichter is the point of contact for the Town as part of the county's endeavor. Mayor Brown noted that it was imperative that leaders recognize the value of this new service utility and its necessity. It is expensive, but worth it.

Alderman Feichter concluded by noting that with the implementation of broadband locally, it opens doors for people to live here and work elsewhere, and provides the opportunity for new and expanding economic development balanced with quality of life.

G. CALL ON THE AUDIENCE

Dick Young addressed the board related to a catch basin that was installed and complained that water runs on to Ron Muse's property. Mr. Foster explained that he had looked into this project and due to direction by NCDENR the project was ceased and the water will continue to flow freely.

Mr. Young also inquired as to when the board would hold a public hearing on the relocation of the intersection on North Main Street. Ms. Teague explained that this was the NC Department of Transportation project, not the Town of Waynesville and that the NCDOT would properly notice any public meetings or hearings. She added that all the Town has been informed of is that NCDOT is studying the area. The project is not slated for start until 2020.

H. ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, Alderman Caldwell made a motion, seconded by Alderman Freeman to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST

Gavin A. Brown, Mayor

Robert W. Hites, Jr., Town Manager

Amanda W. Owens, Town Clerk