

AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE
TOWN HALL
JUNE 9, 2009
TUESDAY - 7:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER

ITEM 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 26, 2009

ITEM 2. PUBLIC HEARING - FISCAL YEAR 2009-2010 BUDGET

On May 12, 2009, the proposed 2009-2010 fiscal year budget was presented to the Town Board by the Manager and Finance Director. Later that week, a legal notice appeared in the Mountaineer announcing that the budget had been presented and that a copy of the proposed budget was available at Town Hall for review by any interested citizen. Since the initial presentation, the Board has held three budget work sessions on May 18, 19 and 26. Both the Mountaineer and the Asheville Citizen-Times have carried articles about the budget proposal. At the meeting of June 9, citizens will have the opportunity to offer their input about the budget document.

It has been the tradition that following the public hearing on the budget, the Board will wait until the second meeting in June to formally adopt the budget. This gives management and staff the opportunity to make budget adjustments and changes which might result from the comments at the hearing.

With the budget situation of the State of North Carolina, it seems especially wise this year to wait as late as possible prior to adopting the budget. A recent report indicates that the State may experience a revenue shortfall approaching \$5 billion dollars. If that is the case, it is almost certain that the State will make a raid of some sort on the revenues to which the municipal and county governments are entitled and expect to receive. By waiting until late in June to adopt the budget, we might allow ourselves more time to take action to offset a revenue loss or an expenditure increase which might result from the State's actions.

There is authority in State Statute allowing local governments to adopt interim budgets to allow operations in a new fiscal year. Such an interim budget may allow a Board to change or amend its fees and tax rates after July 1. I have never been particularly fond of this measure, but if the State were to take action after July 1 which had a dramatic and negative impact upon the Town of Waynesville's estimated revenues or expenditures, being able to make some adjustments may be critical to the financial well being of the Town. I bring this up as something that is allowed and may need to be considered, regardless of how I feel personally about interim budgets.

ITEM 3. MS. SHARON WALLS - SIGN ORDINANCE REGULATIONS

Ms. Sharon Walls has asked for time on the Board's agenda to express her opinions on the Town's sign ordinance regulations.

ITEM 4. WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN REVISIONS

During the meeting of April 14, Public Works Director Fred Baker appeared before the Board to explain the revisions and changes in the Town's Water Shortage Response Plan. At that time, a public hearing was held to give citizens the opportunity to comment on the Plan. Announcements soliciting public comment had appeared in the local media sources as well as on the Town's website. In addition, a notation was added to all utility bills sent out.

Under State law, the Town must give a minimum of a 30 day review period for adoption of the Plan. This was done at least 30 days prior to the public comment advertised for the April 14 meeting. Following the hearing, it was Mr. Baker's recommendation that the Plan lay open for a period of time to allow additional comment. It was also requested that the Plan be approved so that the Town may submit the plan to the State prior to June 30, 2009.

I would restate what was presented on April 14. The Town of Waynesville has had a Water Shortage Response Plan in place for several years, and the first time it was necessary to implement the plant was during 2008. At that time, a drought which had been ongoing for three years led to a noticeable drop in the level of the Town's reservoir at the head of Allens Creek. Going through the experience of implementing the steps called for in the Plan led Mr. Baker to realize that some amendments were desirable to the Plan.

Mr. Baker also submitted the Water Shortage Response Plan to the State of North Carolina for their review, and in a letter dated May 22, 2009, the Division of Water Resources indicates that the Plan meets the minimum criteria established by State statute.

Mr. Baker will be on hand Tuesday evening to answer questions you might have about the Water Shortage Response Plan, but we are in hopes that the Board will be able to adopt the document at that time.

As you review this document, if you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Baker so that he might answer your questions in advance of the meeting on Tuesday.

ITEM 5. RESOLUTION ACCEPTING AND ENDORSING HAYWOOD COUNTY'S SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

For approximately 20 years, the State of North Carolina has required that local governments give adequate attention to the collection and disposal of solid waste in their communities. This is more than simply a cursory review of the way waste is collected but extends to the capacity of the landfill where waste is buried and to the general protection of public health and the environment. The local governments are to adopt a ten year comprehensive solid waste

management plan and make an honest effort to achieve a 40% reduction in the volume of the waste stream.

The State law requires that at least every three years, the local governments will review and update the Solid Waste Management Plan. There is a Solid Waste Planning Committee which works with Haywood County Solid Waste Director Stephen King to undertake this review and make updates. The Town's representative on that committee is Public Works Director Fred Baker, and this Committee has been meeting and conducting their review.

A portion of the requirement is every local government, either individually or in cooperation with other local governments, makes the review and updates. As the Town of Waynesville participates with other local governments in Haywood County, it is requested that the Town Board adopt a resolution accepting and endorsing the Solid Waste Management Plan for Haywood County.

Fred Baker has provided a copy of this plan for your information. If you have questions on the document, please feel free to contact him in advance of the meeting on Tuesday evening. Mr. Baker will be at the meeting and should be able to answer questions if they may arise.

ITEM 6. REQUEST FROM SARGE'S ANIMAL RESCUE FOUNDATION

There follows a letter from SARGE'S Animal Rescue Foundation seeing the Town's approval for the 4th Annual Downtown Dog Walk in Waynesville on Saturday, August 8, 2009.

In talking with our police department, we believe that closing the streets for a very brief period to allow the dog walk can be accomplished without the necessity of overtime for law enforcement officers. This is an issue we will have to be particularly concerned about during a very tight budget year which we are anticipating in 2009-2010.

This event has been held in previous years and went smoothly, and we know of no reason why it should not be approved in 2009.

ITEM 7. STIMULUS FUNDING

As indicated to the Town Board during the budget work sessions, the Waynesville Police Department is making application to the federal government for funding under the American Recovery Act. These funds would be used to hire additional police officers and would be paid for a period of four years. After that time, the Town would have to absorb the cost of keeping these four officers.

One of the requirements in applying for stimulus money is to make a public announcement that the Town is seeking such funding.