

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
SPECIAL MEETING - RETREAT
March 1, 2019**

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held its winter retreat on Friday March 1, 2019 at 8:30 a.m. at Public Services Training Room located at 129 Legion Drive, Waynesville, NC.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gavin Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. with the following members present:

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

The following staff members were present:

Amie Owens, Assistant Town Manager
Eddie Ward, Town Clerk
David Foster, Public Services Director
Rhett Langston, Parks and Recreation Director
James Robertson, Tax Collector
Eddie Caldwell, Contracted Finance Personnel
Joey Webb, Fire Chief
Bill Hollingsed Police Chief
Julie Grasty, Asset Services Manager
Daryl Hannah, Streets and Sanitation Superintendent
Luke Kinsland, Aquatics Supervisor
Jesse Fowler, Planner

The following media representatives were present:

Becky Johnson – The Mountaineer
Cory Valliancort – Smoky Mountain News

1. Call to Order

Mayor Gavin Brown called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

2. Opening Comments by Mayor and Board

Mayor Brown welcomed the Board Members, Department Heads, and citizens of Waynesville. He asked James Robertson to open the meeting with prayer.

3. Discussion of Cemetery

Mayor Brown stated that Cemetery Rules and Regulations were being discussed at the January 23, 2009 Board Retreat. He gave a brief historical summary of the events leading up to the discussion of the cemetery at this retreat. In September 2016, after great thought and Board discussion, a new set of rules and regulations were presented for the cemetery, and no members of the public spoke at the hearing. The meeting was continued until the next meeting. Again there were no members of the public there to comment. The changes and revisions were implemented at this time.

After hearing many complaints, much time has been spent thinking about the cemetery over the last two months, and how to address the subject of the cemetery issues again. Mayor Brown said the cemetery is primarily a place to bury family and friends, but it is more than just a place where people are buried. It is multi-dimensional. Some of the characteristics of the cemetery include being an historical place and it was recently appointed as an historical site. He gave an examples of the cemetery being a social setting, and very important to veterans. It is also a cultural place with fine art.

Mayor Brown said these are the things that should be kept in mind as a vision for the cemetery is formed. He proposed that a committee be formed of people in the community who have a strong interest in Greenhill Cemetery. There are no prerequisites or qualifications, just a desire to work on a project to ensure that in the next 100 years, the Town of Waynesville has a great cemetery that is serving whatever needs the community has decided Greenhill Cemetery will serve.

Mayor Brown stated that in order to get a broad spectrum of people in the committee is for each Aldermen to select a person to serve, and that is their choice. Also, the Board collectively should appoint two members to have a seven member Board at the April 9, 2019 Board of Aldermen meeting. Applications will be taken to provide a pool of available candidates, and this is a source that the Board can choose from. Applications will need to be turned in to the Town Clerk by April 2, 2019.

After the committee is formed, Mayor Brown suggested that Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens be the staff liaison between the Board and the group. He asked that the Town staff that is directly related to the operation such as Finance, Public Services, and Town Attorney be available to assist the committee. Either Wells Greeley or Ryan Jacobson will be asked to serve as a Technical/Professional Director to the committee.

Mayor Brown asked the Aldermen what they thought of the formation of this committee.

Alderman Roberson said he thought it was a very good idea to select members of the community and be a better sounding board.

Alderman Feichter stated this was a grand idea and to count him as an enthusiastic yes. He said he felt the management of the Cemetery is a forever thing. He said he would advocate that it not be a committee, but an actual Board that is permanent, and have members cycle through as with other boards.

Mayor Brown suggested that the committee make that recommendation, and let them decide. He suggested a complete review of the operations of the cemetery and ask the questions where are you, where do you want to go, how you get there, and finally, did you arrive safely. He said this is the outline to be used for future planning. There will be no time frame for completion because there are too many decisions to be made, and he would like the final plan to stand for years.

Alderman Julia Freeman stated that she felt the Board of Aldermen needs to support the people in the community as well as the leadership involved in this committee, and support their findings. She said it was a great idea.

Alderman Caldwell agreed that this was the fairest way to handle the Greenhill Cemetery. He asked how the Dix Hill Cemetery on Pigeon Street would come into play. Public Services Director David Foster said that the Dix Hill Cemetery does not have stewardship, and they would like a lot more guidance on how to maintain it. Mayor Brown stated that Dix Hill and Greenhill should both be part of the study area, and have the same long term visioning.

A motion was made by Mayor Brown, seconded by Alderman LeRoy Roberson, to create a Cemetery Commission as outlined in comments. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Items for discussion requested by Aldermen

- Staggered Terms – Alderman LeRoy Roberson

Alderman Roberson stated he is looking to the future where there could be a big turnover of the Board with new leadership, and years of experience could be lost. He said he felt like it was time to give serious thought to staggered terms. He said it takes a long period of time for a new Alderman to get to the level that can benefit the town, and now is the time to move in that direction.

Mayor Brown said the discussion of staggered terms for the Board of Aldermen had been discussed before. He said that if terms were staggered, there wasn't potential loss of the entire Board at one time. At the last retreat Manager Hites had given an overview of the process of a Charter Amendment that would change the election process from the current on to one that would operate on staggered terms.

Mayor Brown explained that the Charter is the section of law adopted by the General Assembly that sets up a municipality governing structure. Every town Charter is different so one authority will not necessarily be the same as another. Since the Town of Waynesville's method of election is prescribed in the Charter, the Board must return to the Legislature for any changes. Mayor Brown said that generally legislative delegation will require a unanimous or near unanimous vote of the Board to introduce a bill to change the Town's Charter. He said the Board would need to decide if they wanted to move forward to changing to staggered terms, and he expressed concerns about doing it close to the upcoming election in the fall. He said that if the Board unanimously wanted to pursue this, he would ask Senator Jim Davis and Representative Joe Sam Queen if they thought it is possible.

Mayor Brown gave statistics that 345 of the 553 cities in North Carolina have four year staggered terms, and 162 have two year terms, and only five that run on four year terms like the Town of Waynesville. He stated he would not recommend introducing this action if it does not have the full support of the Board.

Alderman Caldwell stated that he is opposed to the idea of staggered terms. After doing research on past elections, he feels that if the terms are staggered, there will be less turn out for the elections, and possibly less qualified people running. He felt that it might break the continuity of the Board if terms were staggered. He added that there would be added cost for elections to be held every two years.

Alderman Julia Freeman said she sees both sides of the issue. She said there could be 100 % turnover which could be detrimental to the Town, and if terms are staggered that could mean that the Board has people with much less experience. Politics are very volatile right now, and she said she agreed with the Mayor that this may not be the right time to pursue the issue. She said she hoped that the Board's decisions were based on what is right for the community and not on politics. Alderman Freeman said she would be in support of exploring staggered terms.

Alderman Roberson said that if it cost more for holding the elections, he would still be in favor of staggered terms because the possibility of a complete turnover of the Board would be very detrimental to the Town and would end up costing more. Staggered terms are more of a safeguard for the Town.

Alderman Feichter said that he concurs with Alderman Roberson that it takes a long time to grasp how the Town does business. He said he also realizes that major turnover could have detrimental effects on the government of the Town, but he also agrees with Alderman Caldwell that there is unity among a Board coming together for a period of time as one. He said he sees both sides of the issue, he is in favor of keeping the terms as they are as opposed to staggered terms.

Mayor Brown stated he is concerned first of all about a brand new Board being seated in the fall, and he suggested to the Board that the staggered term proposal be delayed, and not present it to Representative Queen and Senator Davis until after the upcoming election, especially in light of the fact that the Board is split on this now. He said he like to contact Queen and Davis and verify that it does have to be a unanimous vote of the Board in order for it to be considered.

- Policy Preserving Green Space

Assistant Manager Owens explained that the Comprehensive Planning process was already underway, this particular topic should be addressed by that steering committee and a policy statement included in the final document.

Planner Jesse Fowler added that there is a rough draft of the comprehensive plan update that will be circulated soon. The steering committee has been meeting regularly and community meetings would be the next step in the process.

- Town efforts for renewable energy resources

Public Services Director David Foster provided an update related to the progress that the Town has made and is making related to its commitment to be at 50% renewable energy resources by the year 2025. Mr. Foster explained that there are 3 big generators in the green effort to hit the Town's goal.

Propane Fuel Vehicles: The Town is averaging 65 % propane usage among all the Town's vehicles. He explained that the costs of propane and gasoline have moved closer together and the total annual savings dropped to \$14, 030. This will make the return on investment being projected to be in 4.07 years. The environmental benefits are still applicable.

Lighting/Electricity: Mr. Foster said that 450 bulbs had been changed to LED in the Town's facilities resulting in \$11,700.00 savings per year. There have been 360 streetlights changed to LED and that will result in a \$1.5 million dollar savings over the life of the program

Solar/Electricity Customers: Waynesville doubled its solar customers on 2018 to two. Additionally, a typical electric customer uses around 8,000 kWh per year. The typical Waynesville solar customer saves the equivalent of 90 trees worth carbon reduction, or 3,000 pounds of coal at a local energy plant. Combined, this equals 180 trees and 6,000 pounds of coal that won't have to be burned.

- Prohibition of investments in fossil fuel industries

Assistant Manager Owens provided a memo and pages from the North Carolina Capital Management Trust Fund (NCCMTF) to illustrate that the Town is not and cannot invest in the fossil fuel industries. From the pages of the NCCMTF, "*The fund may not invest in oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development programs.*" The Town is further regulated as to the proper investing of funds under NC General Statute §159-30. While no resolution is required, the board may adopt one if it is their choosing.

Also of note is the fact that as an ElectriCity and a Town that purchases wholesale power, we still must continue to operate with a loose affiliation with the fossil fuel industry. The relationship that the Town has with Santee-Cooper does use a mix of power generating sources including: coal, nuclear, gas, purchase power and other. As a power utility there is no way to avoid having to in some manner continue to use these fossil fuels as part of power production. The Town has no say in which of these sources are used by Santee-Cooper for power production.

Assistant Manager Owens acknowledged the environmental concerns expressed and assured the board that the staff will always look to be good stewards and fiscally responsible when it comes to our future.

- Reduction of Debt since 2015

Eddie Caldwell, former finance director, explained that since 2014 the amount of debt seen by the Town had dropped from \$10,708,777 to \$6,951,392. This was due in part to the roll-off of several larger items such as the Recreation Center loan, the pay-off of the parking deck and several smaller vehicle purchase financed purchases. However, this does not mean that there is a surplus of \$3.7 million, this means that we have paid off the debt for these items, but have accumulated additional debt such as the renovations to the Public Services building. Each year the budget is calculated in a very cautionary manner to ensure that expenditures are kept low. With the addition of staffing, capital outlay and requirements from the state and other regulatory bodies, the funds used for these debt payments are continuing to be used for operations of the town.

5. Presentation of Year to Date cash flow including budget considerations for upcoming year

Mr. Caldwell provided a mid-year update related to the cash flows in all funds. He noted that the Town was in good shape overall with collections at 49.78% at the mid-point of the year which was consistent with the previous two years. He noted that related to the three enterprise funds, due to weather and other issues, there was a lag in the billing which has led to a 5/12 rather than full half year report. For the Water fund, this means a drop of \$11,449 from budgeted; for the Sewer fund a drop of \$203,670 and for Electric, a decrease of \$32,944. Mr. Caldwell explained that by the year end, the numbers would fall in to place.

Mayor Brown always likes to see what the cash balances are and Mr. Caldwell reported that as of December 31, 2018, the total available was \$14,787,659.24.

Mr. Caldwell reiterated that the Town is in fine shape related to the budgeted figures.

Assistant Manager Owens explained that there would be some budget considerations that she wished to call to the Board's attention now rather than later. On January 31, 2019, the NC Local Government Employee Retirement System Board passes increase in the pension "base" employer contributions to be effective July 1, 2019. This means an increase to the funds provided by the Town for each employee to the retirement system – the rate for FY 19/20 would be 8.95% for non-law enforcement and 9.70% for law enforcement. Future increases are planned at 1.2% annually for FY 20/21 & FY 21/22. This increase is approximately \$90,000 of an unfunded mandate for the Town. There is no state assistance or other funding source for this required contribution. Approximately \$58,000 would be from the general fund or almost ½ cent on the tax rate; the remaining \$32,000 would come from the enterprise funds.

The next budgetary consideration is the health insurance premium cost. Due to the fact that the Town has had a year where the premium costs have been well below the payment of claims by BCBS, there will be an increase in the upcoming year. As of December 2018, the Town had paid \$1,734,807 to BCBS and BCBS has paid out \$2,159,031 in claims. Because of the additional monies that BCBS has paid out, we will have an increase in premiums. The current projected increase is 25% which is approximately \$439,000 in premium costs. Ms. Owens added that we will work to adjust the plan where we can – this may mean an adjustment in deductibles and the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) and will keep the dependent cost as low as possible.

Ms. Owens closed by noting that the two items she mentioned was an increase to the budget of just over \$530,000. These are expenses that were not in the previous years' budget and must be included in the proposed budget for FY 19-20.

6. Presentation of Storm Water Utility Plan

- James Robertson, Tax Collector

Mr. Robertson explained to the Board that during the 2018 retreat we discussed a five year cash flow program for the Town. The 2017 revaluation show very little growth over the past eight years. The Board implemented an auto license fee that is targeted to use to supplement Police salaries and provide road maintenance to service departments that service a tremendous influx of tourist and transient population.

A second proposed program is to create a "Storm Water Utility" that targets our greatest asset, our pristine mountain stream system. Mr. Robertson said that for the past year the Town has employed two interns to carry out a considerable amount of study to determine the number of residences and businesses in the Town. For our customers the interns used a measurement tool in the software of Haywood County's GIS program to physically measure the area of impermeable surface (surfaces where water does not soak into the soil) to determine that average impermeable surface for residences (2,125 sq. ft. This is the base unit of measurement for our program. It is known as the "Equivalent Residential Unit" or ERU. We recommend that the Town Board approve a \$2.00 per month fee for all residences.

With the "ERU" we apply it to the impermeable commercial areas and determine how many ERUs each parcels contains. We multiply the \$2.00 fee by the ERUs of the commercial area and determine the monthly fee. Since many large parking areas would have hundreds of dollars in monthly fees we recommend that the monthly fee for commercial areas be capped at \$10. We would estimate that the residential fee would generate approximately \$ 90,000 in 2019 and \$170,855 for the commercial areas.

For those commercial developments that have installed certified storm water devices they will receive a 40% reduction in their fees.

The Storm Water Fee will be charged to those who own or rent property and will be billed though their monthly utility bill. For those properties that contain multiple renters the owners will be charged their yearly fee on their property tax bill.

Mr. Robertson told the Board that in order for calculations and the proper fees to be assessed, a compilation of all the property that is inside the Town of Waynesville that would qualify for the storm water fee would have to be determined by measuring the impervious service area by square footage. He said that areas that are covered with grass or that is planted are not counted as impervious services. Wooden decks (without roofs), and the area of swimming pools that actually hold water are considered pervious.

The total estimated revenues for both residential and commercial storm water is \$260,855.28 per year. Mr. Robertson stated that is it federally mandated that the Town has to comply with minimum control measures, and the public needs to be educated on these practices. Some of the funding uses would address education, leaf cleaning, vacuum cleaning, street sweeping, construction, stream relocation, and restoration. He said this storm water fee would help prevent the flooding of rivers, help keep water clean, and keep a healthy outdoor community for Waynesville.

7. Presentation by Recreation regarding Pool Ventilation Study and Capital Outlay required

- Luke Kinsland Aquatics Supervisor

Mr. Kinsland told the Board that the Recreation Center was built in the year 2000, and that is when the Dectron unit was installed. This unit serves two purposes; to heat the pool, and to provide treated air quality. It is supposed to keep the water and the air within a couple of degrees of each other. This particular system that works correctly has an estimated life expectancy of 15 years. He explained that the Rec Center has a unique type of pool with the junior Olympic size pool and the water park. Mr. Kinsland stated that from the year 2000 to present the center has had problems with chloramines, or the bi-products of chlorine fighting bacteria. These chloramines were slowly killing the Dectron unit. Many pools have this same problem.

Mr. Kinsland said there has been many complaints concerning the chlorine smell in the pool area. The decision was made to shut down the Dectron and heat the pools with auxiliary gas boilers and other air quality solutions were explored. Exhaust fans were used, and a push pull ventilation window system was installed to create a fresh air draft. This causes it to be very hot in the area in the summer, and very cold in the winter with condensation forming. The humidity is making everything rust that is not made of stainless steel. There has been three years of deterioration causing the water slide platform to rust, and that had to be replaced along with one of the gas boilers. There is evidence of algae, black mold, and the plaster of deck floor is coming up. All these factors are a health risk to the public and staff.

Mr. Kinsland presented to the Board cost estimates which included 3 options:

1. Direct replacement of present unit at a cost of \$570,000.00 (Most expensive but keeps unit inside and protected from outside elements)

2. Installation of new unit on roof at a cost of \$510,000.00, and dismantle of the old unit (roof unit not suggested because of access for service and is exposed to weather elements)
3. Installation of new unit on the ground \$499,000.00, and dismantle of the old unit (second best option due to cost – easy access for service and maintenance. Weatherproof cabinet could be bought for unit)

Mr. Kinsland gave suggestions of fund raising and donations to help offset some of the costs for the replacement of this unit.

Alderman Roberson asked if extensive damage was occurring in the pool area. Mr. Kinsland stated that it was not extensive, but he was trying to get ahead of the problem for the future.

Alderman Caldwell asked if the situation with the Dectron unit had deterred visitors from coming to the pool. Mr. Kinsland said no, in fact numbers are increasing every year for people attending the pool at the Recreation Center, but they would like to get the condensation out so it will dry up.

8. **Proclamation – Development Disabilities Awareness Month**

- Mayor Gavin Brown

Mayor Brown read a proclamation declaring March 2019 as ID/DD Awareness Month. This month provides an excellent opportunity for our Town to demonstrate its support the numerous people in our community living with unique abilities and needs. Moreover, it is a wonderful opportunity to educate the public on the daily challenges faced, the isolation they can feel, the desires they have to just be accepted and highlight the value they bring to the community at large.

He said this proclamation would lend official recognition to the importance of acceptance and inclusion, while educating the public on the unique abilities of people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities. It will as well, emphasize personal commitment to raising awareness about these wonderful individuals and the value they can bring to a community at large.

Mayor Brown recognized individuals present at the meeting.

9. **Discussion of Commercial Yard and Debris Pickup**

- David Foster Public Works Director

Mr. Foster stated that Waynesville officials have received a significant increase in requests for yard waste and large debris (junk collection) services from some of our commercial and business citizens. He feels that there are two factors that play into this increase in requests: the Town was recently inundated by a variety of storms, and storm related damage. This has created an increase in the amount of debris that all Waynesville customers generated, including commercial entities. Secondly, the Town has changed its collection services over the previous few years; going from a labor intensive hand collection, to a more modernized knuckleboom collection. The latter change creates the perception that there is no real cost to the Town; therefore, no real impediment to expanding the service.

Waynesville's current ordinance (Sec. 44-45) specifically prohibits collection of trees, limbs, and other cuttings from commercial or paid entities. Town ordinance, Section 44-46, provides similar language for

commercial entities on appliances and junk. The ordinances allow some latitude for collection in instances where a hazard or public nuisance exists, but this latitude is often being stretched by frequent requests for collections outside of approved parameters, and by commercial entities who otherwise don't qualify to receive such Town services.

Mr. Foster presented some options that are available in other towns:

- One of the most common ways to serve commercial properties is to serve smaller businesses who don't generate much solid waste. Several cities (including Charlotte) provide solid waste services to commercial businesses who generate less than 512 gallons of trash per week. This could be a viable solution for Waynesville as we could serve brush and bulky services to commercial properties based on what's determined to be a nominal amount of solid waste.
- A minimum size collection for all piles, regardless of origin or who cut it. (The Town of Chapel Hill authorizes collection of up to one cubic yard of material per month.) Waynesville could opt for a similar accommodation, with an allowance according to reasonable expectation of what can be collected. For example, two cubic yards (3X3X6) would be about a pickup bed size.
- A similar accommodation could be offered for junk collection, one item per address per month. Care and consideration would have to be included to account for businesses whose model deal in large quantities of junk material, such as: furniture stores, rental properties, storage units, and second-hand retail stores. These type of business models rely on junk disposal as part of their primary business function.
- Some cities offer brush collection carts, where the town will collect any amount of brush that will fit into the cart. These are typically cities or towns who have automated collection services. This is a service that Waynesville is considering, and can look at further when automated collection is an option. For example: the Town of Chapel Hill collects trash on Monday through Wednesday, and then collects brush on Thursday and Friday.
- A model could also be included to provide service to a business in a given district, such as the Central Business District zones and/or the Business Improvement District, with an argument that is financially beneficial to the Town to provide such service to a district who is willing to self-impose a tax in their district.
- Many smaller towns collect white goods (large appliances) on an appointment basis.
- Many cities and towns have adopted a fee structure where larger brush and junk piles can be collected for a fee. These services are typically by appointment once the fee is paid.
- Almost all towns with an approved "sanitation fee" restrict brush (yard waste) collection to developed properties.
- Almost all towns maintain size limits on the brush that is collected, typically between 4" and 8" diameter, and 6-10 feet in length.

- All towns base their prohibited items on the items prohibited in landfills by statute.

The Board asked Mr. Foster about any extra cost that might be attached with these options. He said that it has cost the Town about \$20,000.00 for the extra pick up of debris so far. Mr. Foster said the best fit he could see for the Town is to collect from any residential property provided it is general yard maintenance and upkeep. A small business that generates a low amount of debris and brush, the Town could accept that also. He stated that language needed to be incorporated into the Ordinance that only certain amounts could be collected so other customers would not be neglected on their pick up days.

Mayor Brown stated that the Board would like to see a draft of an Ordinance at a future Board Meeting and asked that Mr. Foster and Mr. Daryl Hannah, Streets and Sanitation Superintendent, work together and present it to the Board.

10. **Budget Amendment – Electronic Office**

- Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens

Assistant Manager Owens explained to the Board that as part of the transition to the new IT vendor – Electronic Office – a budget amendment is required for our onboarding needs. The servers were off-site and now will be on-site requiring some initial cost.

This will cover all of our servers, peripheral equipment including cabling and racks, replacement of 16 computers that cannot be served adequately due to age, replacement of Police Department PCs and MDTs in vehicles as well as the back-up platform, software licensing and the \$50,000 project cost.

Ms. Owens said the total for this initial transition is \$221,396.91, and she asked that \$225,000 be transferred to include a small contingency. She stated that the Town will own this equipment outright – no additional costs monthly for it. The monthly bill will then be \$9,075.00 for our managed contract. This is a savings of approximately \$18,000 per month or \$216,000 per year from the existing vendor which is a total savings of \$1,134,000 over the life of the contract (63 months).

Replacing computers in other departments will begin as part of the 2019/2020 and 2020/2021 budget and they will be included as part of the capital budget.

The existing PCs were purchased from VC3 at a cost of \$16,363; this amount was still in the budget.

Motion: A motion was made by Alderman LeRoy Roberson , seconded by Alderman Jon Feichter, to approve Budget Amendment # 10 to the fiscal year 2019/2020 Budget for the purchase of IT equipment; and

A motion was made by Alderman LeRoy Roberson, seconded by Gary Caldwell, to approve Amendment No. 4 to the 2018-2019 Financial Operating Plan for Internal Service Funds. Both motions passed unanimously.

11. **Special Events Applications**

- Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens

Ms. Owens said the Town had received four requests for upcoming events in the Town. She said the Special Events Committee had reviewed the applications, discussed any concerns noted, and had spoken with event organizers to seek out solutions when necessary.

8th Annual Bare as You Dare motorcycle ride – Saturday, March 9 - This is an annual event hosted by the American Legion Riders in association with Mountain Projects to collect and provide funds for heating assistance. Bikers are in their boxers for a loop around downtown. This is a police escorted event with no street closures required.

Base Camp Spring Challenge – Saturday, April 6 – this is a new event that is utilizing the format of the old Main Street Mile. The route has been approved by police, fire and public services and will not require extended closure of Main Street (approximately 1 hour) and then closure will be the same (Depot to Wells Events Way) as for a street dance for post-race activities.

Folkmoot Parade of Nations – Saturday, July 20 – This is an annual event in conjunction with the opening of the Folkmoot International Festival. There were no concerns noted by the Committee and Police, Fire and Civilian Volunteers will work the event with assistance by Public Services in placement of the appropriate barriers along the parade route.

Folkmoot International Day – Saturday, July 27 - This is an annual event. There were no concerns noted by the Committee and Police, Fire and Civilian Volunteers will work the event with assistance by Public Services in placement of the appropriate barriers on Main Street and the cross streets. Set up and blocking of the street will be done Friday, July 26th beginning at 9:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Alderman Jon Feichter, seconded by Alderman Julia Freeman, to approve the special events permit applications and direct Town Manager to execute special events permits, as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

12. **Appointment of Member to Public Art Commission**

- Assistant Town Manager Amie Owens

Ms. Owens explained that the Waynesville Public Art Commission had a vacancy that was left when Jan Griffin resigned her position. This appointment would serve the remainder of this term ending June 30, 2020. The applicant, Mel Bennett, is an artist and would serve as an at large member.

A motion was made by Alderman Jon Feichter, seconded by Alderman Gary Caldwell, to appoint Mel Bennett to the Waynesville Public Art Commission as an at-large member for a term through June 30, 2020. The motion carried unanimously.

13. **Other Business**

Alderman Roberson said that pickle ball at the Armory has really picked up and asked if someone could be there to help with people who are just beginning to play. Mr. Langston will get with Mr. Hummel to ensure that there is someone available to assist.

Alderman Roberson stated that he heard more complaints concerning speeding on Country Club Drive and Ninevah Road than anywhere else. He suggested testing speed bumps on a couple of roads to slow traffic. He gave an example of speed bumps in Asheville that are about 6 – 8 feet wide and are gradual. Mr. Foster stated that snow plowing and inhibiting the roads for the fire department are detrimental to installing speed bumps. He said that the expenses that would be incurred would be about \$5000.00 – up and there would also need to be signage at the placements.

Alderman Roberson said that two of the problems on Ninevah Road is the four way stop, and not being able to see when pulling out of the Country Club because of the hill. He said this is a safety factor, and needs to be considered.

Chief Bill Hollingsed said that the speed bumps would control the speeding when police officers cannot be there.

Mr. Foster stated that he and Town Engineer Preston Gregg, along with Chief Hollingsed would work together to come up with ideas for the speedbumps.

14. Closing Comments

Mayor Brown thanked the Board for their creation of a plan for the cemetery, and he said he thinks it is the correct way to plan the future of the cemetery. It will also bring attention to the cemetery for the gem that it really is.

Mr. Foster reiterated again that there was no intention from The Town to harm or hurt anyone, and his department would love to have some stewardship for the cemetery.

Mayor Brown asked the Board members to take time in choosing their individual member, and two more members will be picked at the Board meeting on April 9, 2019.

In closing Mayor Brown quoted Maya Angelo in saying “You did then what you knew how to do, and when you knew better, you did better.” He said he thought the Board had done that today.

15. Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, the Board adjourned at 1:53 PM.

ATTEST

Gavin Brown, Mayor

Eddie Ward, Town Clerk

Rob Hites, Town Manager