

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Regular Meeting
February 22, 2022

THE WAYNESVILLE BOARD OF ALDERMEN held a regular meeting on Tuesday February 22, 2022 at 6:00 pm. in the Town Hall Board Room located at 9 South Main Street Waynesville, NC.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gary Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm with the following members present:

Mayor Gary Caldwell
Mayor Pro Tem Julia Freeman
Alderman Jon Feichter
Alderman Chuck Dickson
Alderman Anthony Sutton

The following staff members were present:

Rob Hites, Town Manager
Jesse Fowler, Assistant Town Manager
Eddie Ward, Town Clerk
Martha Bradley, Town Attorney
David Adams, Police Chief
Police Department Officers

The following media representative was present:

Becky Johnson, Mountaineer
Cory Valliancort, Smoky Mountain News

1. Welcome/Calendar/Announcements

Mayor Gary Caldwell welcomed everyone to the meeting and told everyone about the Special Event "Bikers in Boxers" which will be held on March 5, 2022 beginning at 10:00 am on Main Street.

He asked Assistant Town Manager Jesse Fowler about the Polar Plunge that was held the previous Saturday. Mr. Fowler stated that the Waynesville team had raised approximately \$2,180.00 for Haywood Waterways Kids in the Creek program.

Mayor Caldwell said that the Town had received notice that the North Carolina Parks and Recreation has selected Waynesville to receive a grant in the amount of \$232,750.00 from the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund to fund the Richland Creek Park Greenway Project.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

Peggy Hannah spoke to the Board concerning issues that plague the west end of Waynesville, the increase of taxes and cost of services.

Sherrie Morgan commented on the February 8, 2022 meeting, low barrier homeless shelters, and voting on alcoholic beverages being allowed on the streets of Waynesville.

C. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

D. CONSENT AGENDA

All items below are routine by the Board of Aldermen and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items unless a Board member so requests. In which event, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered with other items listed in the Regular Agenda.

- i. Adoption of minutes of the February 21, 2022 special meeting
- ii. Adoption of minutes of the February 22, 2022 regular meeting
- iii. Approval of the Bikers in Boxers Special Event Application

A motion was made by Alderman Anthony Sutton, seconded by Alderman Chuck Dickson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

D. PRESENTATION

2. Recognition of recent promotions
 - Chief David Adams

Chief David Adams presented certificate of promotions to Officer Ryan Craig and Officer Billy Benhart. Officer Craig has been promoted to Sergeant, and Officer Benhart has been promoted to Lieutenant. Chief Adams issued the Oath to both officers.

Retirement of K-9 Cairo (2010-2022 - 12 years of service)

- Assistant Chief Brandon Gilmore

Assistant Chief Brandon Gilmore stated that K-9 Cairo began his career in 2010 at the Maggie Valley Police Department. Cairo worked in Maggie Valley until 2014, and at that time he and his handler joined the Waynesville Police Department. His handler, Mr. Michael Blaylock, decided to leave the Waynesville Police Department and since then Officer Derek Embler has been Cairo's handler. Both have been an asset to the Police Department with Cairo assisting 697 times in tracking, narcotic searches, and evidence recovery with a success rate of 365 times. In his twelve years he averaged approximately 3.1 searches a day. Cairo will remain with Officer Embler permanently in his retirement.

Alderwoman Freeman stated that she appreciated Cairo's service for these years with the Town.

E. PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Public Hearing for March 22, 2022, to consider the Stormwater Ordinance Text Amendment, Section 12.5 of the Land Development Standards (LDS).

- Planner Olga Grooman

Planner Grooman stated that the Planning Board had unanimously recommended these text amendments as an ongoing effort to implement the goals of 160D and requirements of North Carolina.

The Town of Waynesville holds a 5-year National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit that is issued by the NC Department of Environmental Quality. Ms. Grooman explained that one of the requirements of the permit is to "maintain adequate legal authorities through Ordinance." The proposed amendments will align the Town's local stormwater ordinance with the Phase II NCDEQ Stormwater Model Ordinance for North Carolina, which will bring the Town into compliance with the NPDES permit requirements.

Ms. Grooman asked the Board to hold a Public Hearing on March 22, 2022, to consider these text amendments.

A motion was made by Alderman Jon Feichter, seconded by Alderman Anthony Sutton to Call for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday March 22, 2022, at 6:00 pm or as closely thereafter as possible in the Town Hall Board room located at 9 South Main Street to consider the Stormwater Ordinance Text Amendment, Section 12.5 of the Land Development Standards. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Calls for Public Hearings for March 22, 2022, to consider the following Text Amendments in the Land Development Standards (LDS):

- Planner Olga Grooman

Planner Grooman explained to the Board that last year the Town completed substantial updates to the Land Development Standards to comply with changes in the NC General Statutes for local land use regulations, referred to as "160D." Since then, additional typographical errors and incorrect and outdated information in the LDS have been discovered and will need to be corrected.

She asked the Board to hold a Public Hearing on March 22, 2022, to consider these amendments.

1. Multiple text amendments to provide additional clarifications and definitions related to 160D and minor corrections; and
2. Revisions to LDS Section 6.19 Transportation Impact Analysis.

A motion was made by Alderman Anthony Sutton, seconded by Alderwoman Julia Freeman to call for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday March 22, 2022, at 6:00 pm or as closely thereafter as possible in the Town Hall Board room located at 9 South Main Street Waynesville to consider multiple text amendments to provide additional clarifications and definitions related to 160D and minor corrections; and Revisions to LDS Section 6.19 Transportation Impact Analysis. The motion passed unanimously.

Planner Grooman told the Board that an adhoc committee had been formed with two staff members and four Planning Board members to update the Ordinances for subdivisions. Large text amendments will be brought before the Board in April to give flexibility to developers, to satisfy the need of citizens, and protect the environment.

3. Call for Public Hearing for March 8, 2022, to discuss Financing for Fire Station and Tanker Truck, and to refinance existing loan

- Town Manager Rob Hites

Manager Hites told the Board that the Town was scheduled to appear before the Local Government Commission to request permission to borrow up to \$600,000.00 for the purchase of a Fire Tanker and repay the General Fund Balance \$400,000.00 for the purchase of the land where the Town will locate Fire Station #2. He said the Commission requires the Town advertise and hold a Public Hearing at it March 8th, 2022, Board meeting for input from the public on the proposed borrowing.

A motion was made by Alderman Chuck Dickson, seconded by Alderman Anthony Sutton to call for a Public Hearing to be held on Tuesday March 8, 2022, at 6:00 pm or as closely thereafter as possible in the Town Hall Board room located at 9 South Main Street Waynesville to discuss Financing for Fire Station and Tanker Truck, and to refinance existing loan. The motion passed unanimously.

F. NEW BUSINESS

4. Board Retreat

- Town Manager Rob Hites

The Board has requested that the staff develop a proposal for a one-and-a-half-day retreat to provide time to concentrate on long-term goals and objectives. In the past, specific projects have been discussed, but never any long-term goals. He suggested that the first day be used for goal setting and the second day have small project discussions.

A motion was made by Alderman Chuck Dickson, seconded by Alderwoman Julia Freeman, to set March 31st and April 1st as dates for a Board of Alderman Winter retreat. The motion passed unanimously.

Manager Hites provided the Board with a set of goal setting worksheets to structure their goals and projects and how they plan to achieve them. He said he would like to have everyone's goals and worksheets before the retreat so that staff can look at them and have an idea for long range budget.

G. COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF

Manager's Report

- Rob Hites, Town Manager

An RFP has been developed to meet the ARP guidelines for the garbage containers. The bid will be opened on March 24, 2022 and hope to have them in place by June. Managers Hites said the recycling containers are in production now, and hopefully have them by the third week of March.

He said he is going to have a conference call with McGill and Associates discuss the final figures on the redesigned sewer plant project to see if the 28 million price tag can be reduced. Also, they will discuss the SOC which will have to be resubmitted because of the redesign. Because of the resubmission of the SOC, the Town will have to ask the State for another 100,000 gallons of flow, which he believes will be an uphill battle.

Manager Hites told everyone that steel should be laid on the Chelsea Road soon.

Town Attorney Report

- Martha Bradley, Town Attorney

Attorney Bradley had nothing to report.

H. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR AND BOARD

I. ADJOURN

With no further business, a motion was made by Alderman Anthony Sutton, seconded by Alderman Jon Feichter, to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 pm. The motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Gary Caldwell, Mayor

Robert W. Hites, Jr. Town Manager

Eddie Ward, Town Clerk