

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
August 20, 2009

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held their regularly scheduled meeting on August 20, 2009 at 9:15 a.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Brenda Oliver and Commissioners Sarah Graham, Harold Hensley, Ray Lewis, Stacy Knotts and Maurice Moody

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Brandi Henson King (Town Clerk), Eric Ridenour (Town Attorney), John Buchanan (Detective), Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director) and Adrienne Isenhower (Town Manager)

VISITORS PRESENT: Ryan Sherby, Justin Goble, Jeff Parris, David Kelley, Danny Allen and Eric Moore

CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Oliver called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Commissioner Graham made a motion to approve the agenda as amended and the motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

DUKE ENERGY STREET LIGHT PROPOSAL: Jeff Parris with Duke Energy presented Duke's Street Light Proposal to the Board. The Board previously approved that Duke take over 38 wooden poles and street lights, but there are still 75 lights in question. It would cost the Town an additional \$3,400 per year for Duke to take over the remaining 75 lights. Schaffer stated that he does not have the expertise to continue working on the street lights and they will continue to get more expensive to maintain. Commissioner Hensley and Graham both stated that Duke Energy should take over the poles due to the safety issues with the Town's employees. *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to have Duke take over all the street lights and take the additional expenditures from the Public Work's Fund Balance. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

MAYOR'S REPORT: Oliver stated that Vicki Green agreed to serve on the Revolving Loan Fund Board. She commended Marie McDonald for abating the old building on Chipper Curve Road. Oliver also reminded the Board to have a list of topics ready for the Board Workshop on August 27th.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Knotts stated that TWSA is now receiving bids for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and they should be able to extend service to Cherry Street.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Isenhower stated she spoke with Mr. Martel about installing a sidewalk up to Jackson Plaza so the road can be dedicated to the Town. The Street Committee will meet on August 31st at 9:00 a.m. to come up with a recommendation of where the sidewalk should be placed. Isenhower also stated that the DOT will not be moving the stop sign on Yellowbird Branch because it is within their guidelines and there is a warning sign also installed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT: Schaeffer reported the Public Works crew had to repair culvert on Keener Street.

POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT: John Buchanan reported the statistics of the previous month. The police department has also been in contact with DOT to try to help alleviate some of the problems at the red lights on Mill Street since Municipal Drive is temporarily closed because of the Fire Department construction.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: The Planning Board heard a rezoning request from The Summit Church for property they plan to purchase on Dills Cove Road. The public hearing is scheduled for the September 17th meeting. The Planning Board will discuss directional signage and the Subdivision Ordinance further at their next meeting.

DSA REPORT: None

DOGS AT BRIDGE PARK: Commissioner Hensley is opposed to allowing dogs at the Bridge Park because they are not allowed at other parks, the sod was expensive and small children will be at the park. Mayor Oliver stated they should not be allowed because of the upkeep of the grass and someone could be hurt by the dogs. Commissioner Knotts stated that dogs are allowed at 'Greening Up the Mountains' and other festivals so they should be allowed at Bridge Park. Commissioner Graham stated since there is no fence at the Bridge Park there is no clear definition of where the dogs would not be allowed. Commissioner Moody asked the Board to table the discussion for 90 days and re-evaluate at that time to see if there are any problems. *Commissioner Knotts made a motion to allow dogs at Bridge Park and re-evaluate in 90 days. The motion carries with a three to two vote. Commissioners Knotts, Graham and Moody were in favor. Commissioners Hensley and Lewis were opposed.*

MILL STREET LOADING ZONES: Commissioner Moody stated the Street Committee's recommendation is to paint on the street identifying the loading zones on Mill Street and make the three parallel parking spaces between Spring Street and Cope's a loading zone with a '15 minute pickup/dropoff area' sign. *Commissioner Moody made a motion to follow the Street Committee's recommendation. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

The DOT will not allow another crosswalk to be installed between Allen Street and Mill Street.

MAYOR'S AWARD RULES: The rules for the Mayor's Award will be customized for the Town of Sylva at their Workshop on August 27th.

REVOLVING LOAN COMMITTEE BOARD VACANCY: *Commissioner Moody made a motion to appoint Vicki Green to the Revolving Loan Fund Committee. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING: Ryan Sherby presented the Board with the Draft of the Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The Plan covers the deficiencies in the County and provides alternatives to help alleviate the transportation problems. Most of the deficiencies in the Plan are found in the Town of Sylva. The Draft Plan will have a 30 day public comment period and then Sherby will come back to the County and the Municipalities for adoption. The Plan will be updated on a five to ten year basis.

Ryan Sherby also stated he is working on the proposals for the Pedestrian Planning Grant for the Town.

DISCUSSION: Commissioner Hensley stated that tenants of the Main Street Apartments should not be parking on Main or Mill Street all day. Commissioner Graham stated the landlords could set up parking policies for their tenants. The issue will be discussed further at the Board Workshop on August 27th.

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 a.m.*

Brenda A. Oliver
Mayor

Brandi H. King
Town Clerk