

MINUTES
BEECH MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL
Special Meeting – June 17, 2015

I. Call to Order – Mayor Owen called the special meeting of the Beech Mountain Town Council to order at 4:05 p.m., Wednesday, June 17, 2015 in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Other Council Members present were Paul Piquet, Alan Holcombe, Cindy Keller and E. ‘Rick’ Miller. Town Attorney Stacy C. Eggers, IV. was not present. Staff members present were Town Manager Randy Feierabend; Administrative Assistant Dara Barnes, Finance Officer Steve Smith, Tax Collections Administrator Rebecca Ward, Building Inspector John Merritt, Public Works Director Riley Hatch, Public Utilities Director Robert Heaton, Town Planner James Scott, Fire Chief Robert Pudney, Police Chief Shawn Freeman, Parks and Recreation Interim Director Sean Royall, and Director of Tourism and Economic Development Kate Gavenus.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Adoption of Agenda – Mayor Owen stated that the agenda would be amended to move § IV. New Business d. ‘*Buckeye Creek Road Improvement Project*’ up in the agenda to be discussed prior to § IV. New Business c. ‘*Council Budget Discussion*’. Mayor Owen stated that the agenda would stand as amended.

IV. New Business

- a. Drug Abuse Resolution Team** – Betty Erhart of the Drug Abuse Resolution Team presented information to Council to support funding the Drug Task Force. Avery County stopped funding the program. In previous years Avery County had funded \$20,000. Shane Vance, the current Drug Task Force Officer, took questions from Council. Councilman Miller motioned to reinstate \$10,000 in funding for the Drug Task Force for the 2015-2016 fiscal year budget. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.
- b. Recreation Department Study** – Vice Mayor Piquet motioned to table the discussion of the Recreation Department Study. The motion failed for lack of a second. Councilman Holcombe motioned to accept the proposed Recreation Department Organizational Study. Councilwoman Keller seconded. The vote passed 4 to 1 with Councilman Holcombe, Councilwoman Keller, Councilman Miller, and Mayor Owen voting aye and Vice Mayor Piquet voting nay. Staff was asked to bring the job description back to Council for further consideration at their July meeting.
- c. Buckeye Creek Road Improvement Project** – Town Planner James Scott presented information to Council about the proposed Buckeye Creek Road Improvement Project. Mr. Scott provided an estimate from Moretz, a calculation of asphalt cost, and information on the water and sewer infrastructure on Buckeye Creek Road. Carl Marquadt spoke to Council representing the Tourism Development Authority Board.

The Tourism Development Authority Board was in favor of this proposed paving project. Councilwoman Keller motioned for staff to proceed with the North Carolina Appalachian Regional Commission Program North Carolina Department of Commerce grant application. Vice Mayor Piquet seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

d. Council Budget Discussion – Vice Mayor Piquet motioned to adopt the budget as amended through the budget meetings, including the amendments in this budget meeting. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and the vote passed unanimously.

V. Adjourn – Councilman Holcombe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:10 p.m., which was seconded by Vice Mayor Piquet. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned 5:10 p.m.

Minutes approved by Town Council on July 14, 2015.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dara Barnes, Administrative Assistant

Richard H. Owen, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer Broderick, CMC
Town Clerk