

MINUTES
BEECH MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL
October 12, 2004

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rick Owen called the regular meeting of the Beech Mountain Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall. Other Council Members present were Gil Adams, Pete Chamberlin, Paul Piquet and Dr. Ed Waligroski. Also present were Town Manager Seth Lawless, Police Captain Dana Crawford, Public Works Director Riley Hatch, Building Inspector Keith Cook, Town Engineer Ed Powell and Town Attorney David Paletta. There were a number of interested parties in the audience.

Invocation – Charlie Burlison opened the meeting with prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance - All present joined in the pledge of allegiance to the flag

1. Adoption of Agenda – The Agenda was adopted with the addition of Broker Jim Brooks asking for an easement under New Business item ‘E’.

2. Consent Agenda – Minutes of September 14th Regular – Mr. Chamberlin moved to accept the minutes of the September 14th meeting as presented. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Special Presentation – Don Cameron, Red Oak Road - Mr. Don Cameron expressed his appreciation to the Public Works employees and Mr. Hatch for their assistance in clearing up the debris left by Mountain Electric’s right of way crew. Mr. Cameron reminded Mr. Hatch that he was going to take a look at the drainage ditch for future upgrading.

4. Old Business – Appendix B, Water and Sewer Use Ordinance

Mayor Owen noted that Mr. Lawless had made the requested additions in Appendix B. Mr. Piquet moved to approve the amended Appendix B, creating a partial water and sewer tap policy. Mr. Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

5. New Business -

A Consider Budget Amendment – Law Enforcement Block Grant - Mr. Lawless reported to the Council that the police department had received these grant monies for the last three years. The grant was to be used for supplies and equipment. Dr. Waligroski moved to accept the ‘Law Enforcement Block Grant’ budget amendment. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Set Date for Public Hearing – Proposed Amendment to Section 1114 of the Beech Mountain Zoning Ordinance- Mayor Owen asked for comments from the Council on the Planning Board’s proposed change to Section 1114. Cutting of Trees. Mr. Piquet indicated that he had been in attendance when the Planning Board discussed the changes and he felt there should be some consequences if the ordinance was not followed. Mr. Piquet felt the tree cutter should not be allowed to do any further work in the Town. The main changes to the

tree cutting section of the ordinance would require individuals hired to cut or trim trees be registered with the Zoning Administrator, a permit would expire after 90 days and the permit would have to be signed by the property owner and the tree trimmer/cutter plus the fine would increase to \$500 per tree should the rules not be followed. After further discussion Mayor Owen recommended the Council hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, November 9th at 6:00 p.m. All agreed.

C. Review Storm Water Improvement Request – Meredith and Peter Patton of 900 Charter Hills Road petitioned the Council for improvements to a drainage ditch adjoining their property. Mr. Hatch indicated that he had inspected the problem and recommended a temporary fix – put rip rap along the side of the ditch. Mr. Hatch felt this would be sufficient until a catch basin could be built in the spring. The Council agreed with Mr. Hatch's recommendations.

D. Proposed Amendment to Title VI Chapter 78 of the Beech Mountain Town Code - Parks Ordinance - Mayor Owen reviewed the proposed make up of the two proposed committees, The Parks Committee is established as an advisory board to the Town Council for all Town outdoor recreation activities. The Parks Committee shall have seven voting members appointed in the following manner: The Tourism Development Authority, The Planning Board and the Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors shall each designate one of its members. One member of the Town Council and three at large members appointed by the Town Council will also serve. The Town Manager and Public Works Director shall serve as ex-officio members. The second committee will have three members appointed by the Town Council and recommended guidelines relating to the new Indoor Recreation Center. Mr. Piquet made a motion to accept the changes to Title VI Chapter 78 as recommended. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Jim Brooks – Easement Request - Mr. Jim Brooks asked the Council to consider giving an easement across Arrowood Road and Pinnacle Ridge Road for sewer service to lots PA-32 and PA-33. After a brief discussion Mr. Chamberlin moved to approve the easement request. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

6. Staff/Consultant Reports

A. Town Engineer's Report – 1) Mr. Powell reported that Moretz Paving had a few items left on their punch list from their paving project. 2) Chris Ryder Construction planned to have his crew back on the mountain to begin work on the other alum sludge basin, bad weather had delayed the project. 3) Mr. Powell reported that he is continuing to work on the Pond Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant upgrades.

B. Public Works Director's Report – Riley Hatch reported: 1) The Town crew continued to work on the flood damage repairs to the road and road sides. Mr. Hatch noted that Eggers Construction and Moretz Paving had been very helpful in getting the roads passable after the heavy rains. 2) The inflow and infiltration crew is working with Pro Rehab out of Winston Salem to finish the second phase of the manholes. 3) The right of way crews were being kept on for a few extra weeks to help with the clean up process. 4) Mountain Electric had to cut down one of the white birch trees on Old Field Road to turn the power back on for that section of the Town. Mr. Chamberlin expressed his thanks for Mr. Hatch's crew working with Mountain Electric in getting the downed trees off the power lines and helping to restore power. Mr. Hatch's report was accepted as submitted.

C. Town Attorney's Report. – Mr. Paletta had no report.

D. Police Report – Captain Dana Crawford indicated that the police report was in the packet. The report is on file with the Town Clerk.

E. Town Manager's Report - Mr. Lawless reported; 1) The North Carolina League of Municipalities Annual Conference is scheduled for October 24 – 26 in Raleigh, Council members are invited to attend. 2) The Sled Hill Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 13th at 10:30 a.m. 3) Jennifer Ball has volunteered to coordinate the winter decorating effort. 4) GEM Construction will hold its monthly progress meeting on Wednesday, October 20th at the Recreation Center site at 1:00. 5) The monthly IDA meeting will be on Wednesday, October 27th at 9:00 a.m. 6) The property owners from Golf View Drive have submitted signatures to petition the Town for road paving, the signatures will be verified and submitted to the Town Council for consideration. 7) The MountainEar will be ready to go to print by Friday, October 15th, article suggestions should be submitted prior to that date. 8) Utility bills were sent out late due to the weather, the payment due date was extended. 9) Joe Perry, retired public works director, is working with the Town to process a claim with FEMA for the road damage sustained during hurricanes Francis and Ivan. Mr. Lawless' report was accepted as submitted.

F. Tax Collection Report – On file with the Town Clerk.

G. Building Inspections Report – On file with the Town Clerk.

7. Other Business –

A. Meeting Change - Mr. Chamberlin asked the Council to consider changing the January 2005 meeting date. This will be given further consideration at an upcoming meeting.

B. Tree Cutting - Mayor Owen reported that a tree had been cut by Old Field Rd. and Pine Ridge Rd, the tree was in the Town's right of way. The individual that cut the tree had approached the Council and asked for permission to which the Council denied, the tree was cut without regard to the Council's decision. After a brief discussion Mr. Paletta indicated that he would look into the situation and report back to the Council.

8. Adjournment - Upon a motion by Mr. Piquet the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by Town Council on Nov. 9, 2004


Mayor

ATTEST:


Town Clerk

