

MINUTES
BEECH MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL
July 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, Captain Dana Crawford, Public Works Director Riley Hatch, 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 as submitted.

2. Consent Agenda – Minutes of June 8th Regular Meeting & Special Meetings of June 1st and June 15th – Mr. Chamberlin moved to accept the minutes of June 8th Regular meeting and the special meeting minutes of and 15th as submitted and the June 1st special meeting minutes as amended. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Old Business - Consider Property Lease to Chamber of Commerce– Mr. Lawless reported that the Chamber of Commerce had requested property to place a storage building on and that he had researched the possibilities and found a site acceptable to both the Town and the Chamber. The location is by the water tank above Kats on the Parkway. The building would not be visible from the road. Mr. Adams moved to approve the lease of property to the Chamber of Commerce for \$1.00 per year. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

4. New Business –

A. Review Proposed Amendments to Water and Sewer Ordinance –

1. Section 2-5– Mr. Chamberlin moved to approve the amendment to Section 2-5 (f) & (g) adding the exception for all residential construction which reads, ‘except for all residential construction, which shall be 50¢ per sq. ft. of heated space’. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

2. Appendix A– Mr. Chamberlin moved to approve the rate increases reflected in Appendix A. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. Appendix B– Mr. Lawless gave a brief overview noting that section ‘b’ was the result of the ‘Greco’ discussion at the June Council meeting when it was realized that the Town Ordinance should include a water tap only fee. The Council agreed to refer the item to the Planning Board for their recommendations. Mr. Hatch requested that the word ‘one’ be written out on the portion that indicated (1) ¾” galvanized steel water line to the lot corner.

4. **Appendix C** – Mr. Chamberlin made a motion to approve the paragraph transfer from Appendix B to Appendix C “All fees collected as of September 1, 1987 shall be put in a capital reserve fund for purposes of future expansion”. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

B. Consider Cyclone Brett Request – Mr. Lawless addressed the Council with regards to a request from Mr. Cyclone Brett of 100 Wintergreen Way. Mr. Brett had received a letter from the Town in February 1999, indicating that he had 60 days to connect to the sewer line. The Town records show that a tap was installed on 3/8/99 for Mr. Brett’s address. The Town has recently discovered that the property is not hooked up to the sewer system and Mr. Brett has been paying for the sewer usage. Mr. Lawless noted that Mr. Brett had requested to be reimbursed for the fees paid and he had not agreed to the request and recommended that Mr. Brett address the Council with the reimbursement issue. After a brief discussion, the Council was in agreement with Mr. Lawless’ decision not to reimbursement the fees paid noting that there are other customers who are not hooked onto Town sewer yet pay the sewer usage fee. Mayor Owen asked that Mr. Lawless notify Mr. Brett of their decision.

C. Proposed Fees for Map Size Copies – After a brief discussion, Mr. Chamberlin made a motion to adopt the copy/print fees as proposed by Mr. Lawless: 8½ x 11 black & white 25¢, 8½ x 11 color 50¢, 8½ x 14 black & white 50¢, 11 x 17 black & white \$1.00, large maps \$1.00 per sq. ft., aerial photography on photo paper \$2.50 sq. ft. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

D. Proposed Lot Donation – LG-174 – Mr. Piquet made a motion to accept the donation of 104 Sassafra Road (LG-174) from Mr. Bert Sherman. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

E. Consider Budget Amendments – Mr. Piquet made a motion to approve the budget amendment transferring funds for the pavement resurfacing and road stripping and the amendment for the sludge tank renovations. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

F. Discuss Scrap Metal Disposal – Mr. Lawless reported that the disposal of scrap metal through GDS would require the Town to separate the appliances and metal and pay to have it removed. The current system for the Town is for the employees to haul off the scrap metal and be paid for it. Mayor Owen asked if there was any way the staff could improve the looks of the area used to store the scrap metal to which Mr. Hatch indicated they would continue to look for a solution.

G. Discuss Section 1114 of the Zoning Ordinance – Cutting of Trees – Mayor Owen recommended that the Ordinance be referred to the Planning Board for review to which the Council agreed. Mr. Lawless indicated that the areas that needed review were how to educate the public on the tree cutting issue, the possibility of having the tree cutters be licensed by the Town, and the amount of the fine.

5. *Staff/Consultant Reports*

A. Town Engineer’s Report – Mr. Powell reported that a pre-construction meeting had been held with Moretz Paving and the work was scheduled to start on July 26th, this will also

include the change order for Summit Circle and Grassy Gap Loop Road. The contract has a 45-day completion clause. Mr. Powell also reported that Rider Construction would begin the work on the decant tank August 9th and further noted that their contract had a 90 day completion clause. Mr. Powell's report was accepted as submitted.

B. Public Works Director's Report – Riley Hatch reported: 1) The right of way crew is working on Pinnacle Ridge Road in anticipation Phase II of the water and sewer project. 2) The inflow and infiltration crew had to return to Hummingbird Lane because of residents who could not be blocked access to their house. Mr. Hatch did indicate that the project was moving along well and the project should be completed by August 15th. 3) Mr. Hatch indicated that the crew would be assisting Moretz Paving and Rider Construction on their projects. Mr. Piquet asked if the paving crew would fill in the sunken areas where the pavement had been patched. Mr. Hatch indicated that they had planned to take care of those areas. Mr. Hatch's report was accepted as submitted.

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

D. Police Report – Captain Dana Crawford asked if the Council had any questions with regards to the report. The report was accepted as submitted. The Police report is on file with the Town Clerk.

E. Town Manager's Report - Mr. Lawless reported; 1) The compacting at the Buckeye Recreation site is almost completed; Mr. Hatch assisted the workers by providing water from one of the fire department tankers to assist in the compaction process. Mr. Lawless also noted that a progress meeting would be held on August 4th at 1:00 at the building site. The architect, contractor and sub-contractors would be in attendance to meet with the Town. The Council was invited to attend. 2) Iron Mountain is scheduled to have the Phase II of the sewer project completed August 15th. 3) The owners of Stoneybrook Subdivision, the Basksts' and Bowman's, have indicated that they would like to begin development later this year. Mr. Lawless noted that talk of starting the development had come up in the past and one of the requirements previously set was the instillation of a turning lane into the development, off Pine Ridge Road. Mr. Lawless noted that the partnership would be dissolved and he did not know which portion of the property would be developed first, however the Planning Board will have to look at the plans again. 4) A representative from the NC Wireless Board inspected the Town's E 911 dispatch Center and gave a favorable rating. The Town will start receiving wireless funds in May, 2005. Mr. Lawless noted that Watauga County would be taking new aerial photos next year and he would look into the possibility of the Town doing a fly along with the county and use the wireless funds for their own photos shot at 1/100 scale. 5) Mr. Lawless reported that Mr. Cook was on vacation and he had recruited John Warren, Blowing Rock's inspector, to do a few inspections at the end of the week.

F. Financial Report – On file with the Town Clerk.

G. T.D.A. Quarterly Report - On file with the Town Clerk.

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

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

6. **Other Business** – Mr. Lawless reported that the repairs at the decant tank were going to be a challenge, but he felt that Mr. Hatch and the crew had it figured out.

7. **Adjournment** - There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. upon a motion by Mr. Piquet. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by Town Council on August 19th, 2004



Mayor

ATTEST:



Town Clerk