

**MINUTES**  
**BEECH MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL**  
**March 8, 2005**

***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 Town Hall Council Chambers. Other Council Members present were Gil Adams, Pete Chamberlin, Paul Piquet and Dr. Ed Waligroski. Also present were Town Manager Seth Lawless, Town Engineer Ed Powell and Town Attorney David Paletta. There were a number of interested parties in the audience.

***Invocation*** – Dominic Simon 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 two items under #5 **New Business: E.** Jonathan Hoffman and **F.** Joe Coakley. Mr. Piquet moved to accept the Agenda as amended. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

***2. Consent Agenda – Minutes of February 8<sup>th</sup> Regular Meeting*** – Mr. Adams moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Mr. Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

***3. Old Business- Committee Appointments – Parks (1), Recreation Center (1)***

***A. Parks Committee*** – Mr. Piquet moved to appoint Mr. Adams to the Parks Committee. Mr. Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

***B. Recreation Center Committee*** – Mr. Adams moved to appoint Tracy Sims to the Recreation Center Committee. Mr. Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mr. Piquet moved to appoint Fred Pfohl as chair to the Recreation Center Committee. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

***4. New Business***

***A. Consider Contract for Telecommunications Consulting Services*** – Mr. Lawless directed the Council's attention to a letter from Mr. John C. Howell of 'The Howell Group, LLC dba Telecommunications Consulting Associates'. The ICA is a private group involved in independent audits for communities serviced by Charter Communications and has an excellent success rate in discovering new cable franchise tax revenues for clients. Mr. Lawless further reported that he had discussed the possibility of a deal between Banner Elk, Sugar Mountain and Seven Devils in sharing the cost, which was originally quoted as \$3,000 for one Town. At the Municipal Association Meeting the possibility of splitting the fee based on the amount of realized funds was discussed, or, if no monies were found the Town's would split the cost evenly. After a brief discussion, Mr. Chamberlin made a motion to participate in the ICA Audit, provided the towns of Banner Elk, Sugar Mountain and Seven Devils agreed to participate. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**B. Tax Release** – Dr. Waligroski moved to approve the Tax Release in the amount of \$94 22. Mr. Piquet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**C. Authorize Tax Administrator to Advertise Tax Liens** –Mr. Chamberlin made a motion to direct the Tax Administrator to advertise the outstanding tax liens for 2004 in accordance to G.S. 105-369(c). Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**D. Consider Proposed Contract for 2004/05 Audit**– Mayor Owen reported that Mr. Bryce Holder, CPA, PA was submitting the yearly audit contract for the Town, with audit and reports to be completed by October 17, 2005 for fiscal year July 1, 2004 ending June 30, 2005. After a brief discussion, Mr. Chamberlin moved to approve the audit contract. Mr. Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**E. Jonathan Hoffman – Antenna Request**–Mr. Jonathan Hoffman, Aisling Broadcasting of Banner Elk LLC, was requesting the Council's approval to replace the existing antenna at the top of the mountain, by Ski Loft Road, with one that would be 16½' taller. The guy lines for the tower would extend out 16'. The antenna would be used to broadcast WECR-FM and WZJS-FM. After a lengthy discussion the Council agreed to look at the site and have Mr. Lawless negotiate a new lease proposal.

**F. Joseph Coakley – Klonteska Condominiums**–Mr. Benji Greene, realtor for Mr. Joseph Coakley, addressed the Council and audience with a proposal for additional condominium units adjacent to the Klonteska building site on Beech Mountain Parkway. Mr. Greene indicated that Mr. Coakley was in the process of purchasing additional property from Mr. Charlie Burleson. Mr. Greene also reported that of the 18 units that had been built 14, were either sold or under contract. After a brief discussion, Mayor Owen indicated that the issue should come before the Planning Board. Mr. Chamberlin made a motion to refer Mr. Coakley's request for permission to build more condominium units to the Planning Board. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **5. Staff/Consultant Reports**

**A. Town Engineer's Report – Ed Powell** – Mr. Powell reported that his firm had sent the necessary information to the state on the 201 Amendment for the Pond Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant. Mr. Powell will keep the Council updated on the progress.

**B. Public Works Director's Report – Riley Hatch** – Mr. Lawless indicated that he had given Mr. Hatch the night off due to the weather. Mr. Lawless did note that the Town had an overflow of approximately 200,000 gallons of water at the Meadows Water Tank due to operator error. Mr. Lawless also indicated that two of the public works employees were staying until 10:30 p.m. tonight to watch the road conditions. Mr. Hatch's report is on file with the Town Clerk.

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

**D. Chief of Police's Report – Jay Hefner** - Mr. Lawless indicated that he had also given Chief Hefner the night off due to the weather. The report is on file with the Town Clerk.

**E. Town Manager's Report – Seth Lawless** - Mr. Lawless reported: 1) The Recreation Center progress meeting has been rescheduled due to weather. It will be held on Tuesday, March

15<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. at the construction site. 2) Thanks to everyone that recycled phone books. The Town will continue to collect old phone books and save them for next year. 3) The Watauga Humane Society is in need of blankets and towels for bedding. Their annual fundraiser will be at the armory in Boone on June 18<sup>th</sup>. 4) The Planning Retreat is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at Region D in Boone. 5) Tuesday April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. volunteers are invited to meet to discuss the annual flower planting. 6) Trail clean up is scheduled for April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers should meet at Fred's at 8:30 a.m. 7) Annual clean up day has not yet been set. 8) The MountainEar has two corrections, the addition of Jim Weaver as a Board of Adjustment member and the corrected spelling of Ms. Gayle Cooper's name. 9) Due to weather, the Chamber of Commerce has rescheduled their meeting for Tuesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

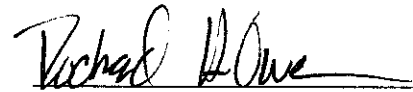
**F. Tax Collection Report – Melissa Norwood** – The report is on file with the Town Clerk.

**G. Building Inspection Report – Keith Cook** – The report is on file with the Town Clerk.

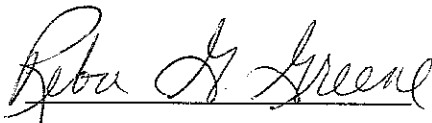
**6. Other Business** – Mr. Chamberlin recommended that Town clean up day be scheduled as soon as possible. After a brief discussion, the Council agreed on April 16<sup>th</sup>.

**7. Adjournment** – Upon a motion by Mr. Piquet the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. Dr. Waligroski seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by Town Council on 4-12, 2005.

  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Town Clerk

