

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
November 19, 2015

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on November 19, 2015 at 9:15 a.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Maurice Moody and Commissioners Mary Gelbaugh, Barbara Hamilton, Harold Hensley, and Lynda Sossamon.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioner Danny Allen.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk), Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director), and Eric Ridenour (Town Attorney).

**VISITORS PRESENT:** David Nestler, Tanner Hall, and Bronwyn Burleson

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**AUDITOR'S REPORT:** Bronwyn Burleson of Burleson and Earley, PA presented the financial statements and auditor's report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2015. An unmodified opinion was given with no findings. Burleson encourages the board to review the report and to read the management discussion. She noted that the only major change to the audit report this year was the GASB 68 requirement to publish information pertaining to the retirement pension of employees.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Moody congratulated the newly elected officials. He reminded everyone of the Christmas Parade on December 5<sup>th</sup> and noted that the Fire Department would have a truck for the board to ride on if they chose.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Sossamon commended the Main Street Sylva Association on Taste of Sylva and said she enjoyed it very much. Commissioner Hamilton noted she was out of town for the Taste of Sylva event which had been rescheduled due to weather but she heard many great things about the event.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Dowling updated the board on corrections for the OSHA compliance visit at the Town. The corrections reports for Town Hall and the Public Works Department have been completed and submitted. The reports for the Police Department are due mid-December. Dowling reminded the board that Small Business Saturday is November 28<sup>th</sup> and the Christmas Parade is December 5<sup>th</sup>. The Garden Club has constructed a Little Free Library for book rentals at Poteet Park and they will have an official installation on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. There will be a reception immediately following the December 3<sup>rd</sup> board meeting to honor outgoing board members and congratulate newly elected board members.

All board members have been registered for the Essentials of Municipal Government course to be held in Asheville, NC on February 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Board will be meeting tonight, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Town Hall will be closed on November 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

**PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:** Dan Schaeffer reported that crews are finishing up the Christmas lights in town. The Christmas tree at the fountain should be up on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Schaeffer met with Duke Energy and agreed to replace the lights in the Town Hall building. The replacement was an \$8,000 value that the Town paid about \$2,500 for. The replacement lights will save roughly 53% on the monthly power bill and will pay for itself in about 15 months. Commissioner Hamilton thanked the department for all their work.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** Commissioner Gelbaugh reported that Officer Ryan Griffin and his wife had their baby.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** None.

**MAIN STREET REPORT:** The Main Street Sylva Association is working on an update for the downtown brochure. Manager Dowling attended the tourism conference at WCU on November 10<sup>th</sup>. The conference was focused on downtown businesses. Guadalupe Café was recognized as a farm to table example. The Blue Ridge Inn was commended for their renovation project. Motion Makers was praised for competitiveness in outdoor recreation. Our trout city designation and the Chamber's fly fishing trail map were used as an example for downtowns that capitalize on outdoor recreation. The courthouse/library was featured as a public project.

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

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Maurice Moody  
Mayor

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Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk