

SPECIAL CALLED BOARD MEETING

Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners

June 6, 2016

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a special called board meeting on June 6, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the traffic flow and diagonal parking on Mill Street.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Lynda Sossamon and Commissioners, Harold Hensley, Mary Gelbaugh, Greg McPherson, and David Nestler.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Barbara Hamilton

STAFF PRESENT: Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk), Davis Woodard (Police Chief), and Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director).

VISITORS PRESENT: Scott Cook, Steven Buchanan, Rick Lepore, Sheryl Rudd, Jay Coward, Tanner Hall, Dodie Allen, Reuben Moore.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and stated the purpose.

PUBLIC HEARING: The public hearing was opened and Scott Cook from NCDOT discussed the possibilities of diagonal parking and traffic flow on Mill Street. Suggestions from NCDOT are to make Mill Street one lane to Landis Street and allow diagonal parking. Spring Street would become a one-way street southbound and the traffic signal at the intersection of Allen and Mill Street would be removed. The traffic signal at Grindstaff Cove Road would be adjusted to help with traffic flow. Steve Buchanan, also from NCDOT, showed the board a proposed drawing of Mill Street with diagonal parking to illustrate Scott Cook's points of interest.

Commissioner Nestler asked if there could be a crosswalk bump-out installed near Spring Street. Sheryl Rudd spoke to the board about the backup of traffic in the afternoon with school traffic. She supports diagonal parking. She suggested closing Spring Street and making it a green space for restrooms. She also suggested that sidewalks could be enlarged and Mill Street made to look more like Main Street. Reuben Moore asked if reverse angle parking had been investigated. Commissioner Gelbaugh asked if the project would allow sidewalks to be improved on Mill Street. Cook noted that it would take approximately \$25,000 to complete the project and that it did not include sidewalks.

Jay Coward spoke in support of diagonal parking. He noted that traffic signal synchronization would be very important to keep traffic flowing. He also added that he saw firsthand during the movie filming on Main Street that Spring Street could be closed permanently. Manager Dowling reviewed comments sent to her by email about the traffic flow.

Mayor Sossamon thanked Scott Cook and Steven Buchanan for attending the meeting. Cook noted that they would need a resolution from the Town requesting that NCDOT evaluate the project on Mill Street and to request funds to complete the project.

Commissioner Nestler made a motion to develop a resolution requesting NCDOT look at the request to change Mill Street traffic and parking. The motion tied with a 2-2 vote. Voting in the affirmative were Commissioners McPherson and Nestler. Voting in the negative were

Commissioners Gelbaugh and Hensley. Being a tie vote, Mayor Sossamon voted in the affirmative to break the tie. The motion carries.

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:07 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk