

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
July 14, 2016

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on July 14, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk), Daniel Reid (Police), and Eric Ridenour (Town Attorney).

VISITORS PRESENT: Quintin Ellison, Jay Coward, Sae Smyrl, J.P. Gannon, Harold Sims, and Kent Crawford.

CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: *Mayor Sossamon called for a motion to add a presentation on Pinnacle Park to the agenda. Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to add the Pinnacle Park presentation and approve the agenda. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Harold Sims of the Catman 2 Shelter, made a presentation about his shelter work and cat museum. Mr. Sims is seeking monetary support from the board for his museum. Commissioner Hamilton thanked Mr. Sims for his work in the community.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Nestler explained to the board that the Main Street Association established a goal of adding public art to the downtown area, but taxpayer revenue would not be used for such purchases. Nestler requested that the Town of Sylva set up a public art fund for the Main Street Association. Manager Dowling explained that she had been addressed by Nestler and checked with the Auditors who instructed the Town to treat the fund as a grant.

Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the establishment of a Public Art Fund. The motion carries with a unanimous vote. Manager Dowling will establish the parameters of the fund and create a resolution to do so.

Nestler also mentioned that the Town of Canton adopted a Living Wage Resolution and he would like to see the Town of Sylva do the same in the near future. Commissioner Hensley thanked those who attended the fundraising ceremony at Freedom Park. Commissioner McPherson encouraged the board to look at EV Charging stations. He noted that an area behind Bridge Park would be a good location for such station. McPherson also told the board that he had access to a free large art sculpture that would look good in the downtown area but the Town would need to evaluate the cost of insurance on the sculpture.

Commissioner Hamilton told the board she was glad to be back after knee replacement surgery. She added that Concerts on the Creek and the July 4th celebration were very good.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager Dowling reported that the police department and Jackson County law enforcement agencies did very well at their supply drive on July 8th. They plan to take donations and items collected to the flood victims in Virginia on Friday. Dowling attended the NC City County Managers' summer conference in Asheville June 24-25th. Bronwyn from the audit firm Bureson & Earley came to Sylva this afternoon to begin audit work. The Town is sponsoring the Concert on the Creek Friday July 15th. Bid openings for the garbage truck were held on June 30th. Amick was the low bidder with \$141,593. Lynn Bryant, Finance Officer, has contacted banks and is awaiting on their bids for financing the backhoe and garbage truck. Those are due by July 15th. The Board will approve the RFP and bid contract July 28th.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: The Planning Board met on June 16th and discussed the Professional Business District ordinance. They went through the list of uses and decided to make most of the uses from the mixed-use ordinance conditional uses under the professional business district. This will be a public hearing and an ordinance amendment at a meeting soon. The Planning Board is also going to revisit the mixed-use development overlay district standards.

NEW BUSINESS

COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN: The Comprehensive Economic Development Plan Committee would like to meet on July 18, 2016 from 6-8 p.m. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the meeting. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

WEBSITE DESIGN: Manger Dowling illustrated to the board options for changing the Town's website design from GovOffice, the current vendor, and the associated increase in annual premiums. *After reviewing the schedule of fees, Commissioner Hensley made a motion to keep the same level of design refreshed with a new logo. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

CANCEL AUGUST 11, 2016 MEETING: The NC Main Street Managers conference will be held in Sylva August 10-12, 2016 and the board will be involved in the conference. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to cancel the August 11, 2016 meeting so that the board will be available for the conference. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

PINNACLE PARK PRESENTATION: J.P. Gannon and Sae Smyrl made a presentation to the board on the potential for mixed-use trails at Pinnacle Park. They outlined the need, community benefits, their vision, concerns with a facility of this nature, and the need for funding for such a project. Jay Coward also spoke in support of creating the mixed-use trails. He also mentioned areas that currently need improvement, which would need the Public Works department to help. Manager Dowling suggested that Mr. Coward, Mr. Gannon, and Mr. Smyrl meet with Dan Schaeffer, the Public Works Director. Commissioner Nestler expressed his interest in moving forward with this plan. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to pursue the potential for mixed-use trails at Pinnacle Park and to establish a meeting with the Public Works department. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk