

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
February 9, 2017

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on February 9, 2017 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, Harold Hensley, Barbara Hamilton, Greg McPherson, and David Nestler.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk), Mike Beck (Fire Chief) and Eric Ridenour (Town Attorney).

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Ann Sellers, Marie Leatherwood, Tom Caldwell, Wanda Austin, Pat Bedford, Shirley Kool, Dean Kool, Dallas Stephens, Joey Russell, Chelsea Dobert-Kehn, Holly Kays, Quintin Ellison, Brenda Grag, Nicole Dexter, Chip Owen, Irene Ball, and Gary Kirby.

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to approve the agenda as amended by adding two items, an ordinance to authorize the use of petty cash as payment and an emergency action plan for the Fisher Creek Dam. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended by removing the resolution for petty cash. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chelsea Dobert-Kehn, a student from WCU, addressed the board about taking over the “Draw Sylva” art project that was started several months ago. She will be organizing several stations throughout Sylva with drawing pads and pencils so that residents and visitors will participate.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** None.

**COMMISSIONER’S REPORT:** Commissioner Gelbaugh encouraged everyone to attend a book signing in support of Sylva native Natalie Coward Anderson who now lives in Switzerland and just published a book. Commissioner McPherson told the board he would miss the March 9, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Hamilton commented that the trees planted in town look very good.

**MANAGER’S REPORT:** Manager Dowling announced that the Fire Department conducted a second round of bids for air pack and Newton Fire & Safety was selected with a bid of \$63,365. She reminded the board that the February 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting would be a work session with TWSA. Also at 4:00 p.m. on February 23<sup>rd</sup>, NCDOT is conducting a meeting on the NC 107 improvement project at the SCC Burrell Building for elected officials. A public input session will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. that same day. The Town is accepting applications for Greening Up The Mountains at this time.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT:** None.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** None.

**PUBLIC HEARING-ZONING MAP AMENDMENT:** Mayor Sossamon opened the public hearing for a zoning map amendment at 7:22 p.m. Manager Dowling explained that property located on Savannah Drive (PIN# 7631-66-1393) owned by Roger Bartlett and Donald Hensley and in the Town's ETJ District was zoned Professional Business and it was requested that it be rezoned to B-2. Dowling is recommending this parcel be rezoned because it is technically spot zoned and it needs to be done regardless of future development. Being no further comment, the hearing was closed at 7:24 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD:** Mayor Sossamon addressed the board and attendees and explained that Phyllis Foxx was the recipient of the 2017 Town of Sylva Volunteer Service Award. Sossamon presented Foxx a plaque in honor of her service while Commissioner Hamilton read a proclamation on Foxx's accomplishments.

**ZONING MAP AMENDMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to rezone a parcel on Savannah Drive (PIN# 7631-66-1393) owned by Roger Bartlett and Donald Hensley from Professional Business to B-2. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ORDINANCE—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF PETTY CASH AS PAYMENT:** Manager Dowling explained the purpose of the ordinance. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the ordinance. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN—FISHER CREEK DAM:** Manager Dowling explained that the Fisher Creek Dam is classified as a high hazard dam. It is inspected on an annual basis. During the last legislative session, North Carolina passed a session bill that required high hazard dams have an emergency action plan in place by May 1, 2017. Vaughn & Melton, an engineering firm, has given an estimate of \$25,000 for such a plan. Dowling explained that approval was needed from the board to spend the money for the action plan. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to pay for the action plan report out of Fisher Creek funds using the 60% that is not set aside for water quality. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

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Lynda Sossamon  
Mayor

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Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk