

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
May 24, 2018

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on May 24, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

**PRESENT:** Lynda Sossamon, Mayor  
Barbara Hamilton, Vice-Mayor  
Harold Hensley, Commissioner  
Greg McPherson, Commissioner  
David Nestler, Commissioner

Paige Dowling, Town Manager  
Amanda Murajda, Town Clerk  
Jeff Goss, Attorney

**ABSENT:** Mary Gelbaugh, Commissioner

Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rick Bryson (Assistant Police Chief), Tammy Hooper (Police Chief) and Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director).

**VISITORS:** Quintin Ellison, Holly Kays, and Lillian Hatton (Intern).

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Sossamon reported that she and Manager Dowling traveled to Raleigh to accept the "Great Main Street" award for the Town of Sylva. She also thanked Lambert and Joy Hooper for contributing the banners on Main Street in memory of those who served in the wars.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Hensley reminded everyone of the Memorial Day event sponsored by the American Legion scheduled for Monday, May 28, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. Commissioner Hamilton reminded everyone of the merchant sidewalk sale on Saturday, May 26, 2018 and the community yard sale on June 30, 2018.

**MANAGERS REPORT:** Manager Dowling explained that the Town is sponsoring the concert Friday night. The band is Ian Ridenhour and he plays in Asheville frequently. Sherry Adams came from the Main Street program to do a site visit. She reviewed the program report and work plan. Kelly Brown (MSSA president/chair) took her around downtown to show her new projects and places that have opened since their visit in 2016. Dowling reminded the board that there is a public hearing on the budget Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:** Dan Schaeffer reported that work had begun on Mill Street constructing the bump outs. He hopes they will be completed by the end of June.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Tammy Hooper reported that the department participated in a recent impaired driver program where numerous DWI arrests took place. She added that active shooter training will be held Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** The Planning Board did not meet in May.

**TWSA BOARD REPORT:** Commissioner Nestler reported that impact fees were discussed at the last meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**PINNACLE PARK EXPANSION:** Bill Hollman of the NC Conservation Fund has requested that the Town and County write a letter of commitment for \$250,000 by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Dowling explained that if the Board is still in agreement, they would need to authorize her to write a letter for Mayor Sossamon to sign committing to the \$250,000 local match if the CWMTF grant is awarded and if the property is reappraised. *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion instructing Manager Dowling to construct a letter of commitment for the \$250,000 local match from the Town of Sylva contingent upon the CWMTF receiving grant money and the reappraisal of the property. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**LEAD BULLET DISCUSSION:** At the request of Commissioner Nestler, Police Chief Tammy Hooper researched the use of lead free bullets. Hooper presented her research to the board and explained that the 5 year cost of bullets currently in use would be approximately \$15,557 compared to \$56,500 for lead free bullets. She went on to present information against using lead free bullets from law enforcement experts across the state. She told the board she did not recommend switching to lead free bullets. Commissioner Nestler thanked Hooper for the research but told her he did not agree with her research. He commented that from the research he had done on his own he would like to propose using the Fisher Creek water quality money to cover the cost of changing to lead free bullets because water is ultimately affected. Commissioner McPherson asked Nestler if during his research he found a police department in the state of North Carolina who used lead free bullets and Nestler's reply was "No." Commissioner Hamilton commented that she appreciated Nestler's research but looks towards experts for information. She thanked Hooper and Assistant Chief Rick Bryson for their work on this research. Commissioner Hensley agreed with Hamilton and told the board Hooper had been hired to do a job and should be trusted. Mayor Sossamon reminded Nestler that lead in water is not just from bullets; lead comes from numerous other sources including old pipes, etc.

**MAIN STREET CONTRACT:** The National Main Street Program requires that the agreement be provided to the governing board each year. It outlines benefits of the program and requirements for participation. *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the contract. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**AUDIT CONTRACT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to approve the 2017-2018 audit contract. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ABC BOARD BUDGET—REVIEW ONLY:** No Comments.

**CLOSED SESSION:** *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS. 143-318-11(a)(3) to consult with the town attorney at 9:37 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

*Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion carries with a unanimous vote and the Board entered into regular session at 10:27 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:28 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

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Lynda Sossamon  
Mayor

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Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk