

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
August 23, 2018

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on August 23, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

PRESENT:	Lynda Sossamon, Mayor	Paige Dowling, Town Manager
	Barbara Hamilton, Vice-Mayor	Amanda Murajda, Town Clerk
	Mary Gelbaugh, Commissioner	Eric Ridenour, Town Attorney
	Greg McPherson, Commissioner	
	David Nestler, Commissioner	

ABSENT: Harold Hensley, Commissioner

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

STAFF PRESENT: Rick Bryson (Asst. Police Chief), Tammy Hooper (Police Chief), Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director) and Jake Scott (Public Works).

VISITORS: Rose Bauguess, Robin Bailey, Janine Sowers, Jay Coward, Dave Russell and Ken Nicholson.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Ken Nicholson from the Jackson County Genealogy Society addressed the board and asked for a donation from the board for their annual Rebel Cruise-In. He added that the event is the only fundraiser the society does on an annual basis. *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to donate \$100 to the Genealogy Society for their fundraiser. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Sossamon accepted the award for "Great Main Street" for the Town of Sylva.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Gelbaugh reported that she had received a complaint about the music being too loud at Concerts on the Creek. She thanked the police department for patrolling Highway 107 during the morning rush hour. Commissioner Hamilton also thanked the police department for their work.

MANAGERS REPORT: Manager Dowling reported that Jake Scott began with the Town on August 20th. Dowling has contacted Chris Joyell with Mountain True and the Asheville Design Center to schedule a meeting with the board. He is drawing up a scope of work for the Highway 107 project that should be delivered by the end of the week. The MSSA held their annual retreat August 20, 2018. They updated their workplan for the upcoming year with the goals each committee will work on. The Garden Club has completed the chalk boards and noise makers at Poteet Park.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Dan Schaeffer welcomed Jake Scott to the Town of Sylva. Scott will be replacing Schaeffer upon his retirement. Schaeffer reported that he had installed a new sound system in the board room.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief Hooper reviewed the monthly statistics report. She also added that the department is continuing to do crosswalk campaigns. Numerous officers are attending training. The department is preparing for upcoming festivals and parades.

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

TWSA BOARD REPORT: Commissioner Nestler reported that TWSA is working on a policy to help those businesses who are forced to relocate because of the Highway 107 project.

NEW BUSINESS

SWEAR IN PLANNING BOARD MEMBER—ROSE BAUGUESS: Mayor Sossamon administered the oath of officer to Rose Bauguess who will serve on the Planning Board as an ETJ Representative.

MAIN STREET TRAFFIC REQUEST: Janine Sowers, from Fusions Spa, addressed the board about traffic safety issues at the crosswalk in front of her business. Sowers would like to see crosswalk timing changed, a left-turn yield sign added, and traffic barriers added in the intersection of Main Street and Schulman Street. Sowers believes that traffic is not attentive to pedestrians crossing Main Street. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve Sowers request to contact NCDOT to look at the timing of crosswalks and study the traffic in these areas. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

RESOLUTION FOR STREET CLOSURE—BEACON DRIVE: Manager Dowling explained that the section of road to be closed was a paper street that was never officially opened by the Town. It divides a piece of property and the owners are working to sell the property as one piece. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve the resolution of intent to close the unnamed, unopened street bisecting the Austin property. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

RESOLUTIONS FOR EVENT STREET CLOSURES

- (A) **EVENT RESOLUTION—WALK FOR HOPE:** A request has been made by the Sylva Police Department to close Main Street for the purpose of having a Walk for Hope celebration for breast cancer awareness on October 6, 2018. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*
- (B) **PARADE RESOLUTION—WCU HOMECOMING PARADE:** A request has been made by WCU to close Main Street for the purpose of having a homecoming parade on November 2, 2018. *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*
- (C) **PARADE RESOLUTION—VETERAN’ DAY PARADE:** A request has been made by the local Veterans chapter to close Main Street for the purpose of having a parade on November 11, 2018. *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*
- (D) **EVENT RESOLUTION—TREAT STREET:** A request has been made by the Main Street Sylva Association to close Main Street for the purpose of having a “Treat Street” festival for Halloween on October 31, 2018. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*
- (E) **PARADE RESOLUTION—CHRISTMAS PARADE:** A request has been made by the Main Street Sylva Association to close Main Street for the purpose of having a Christmas parade on December 2, 2018. *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*
- (F) **EVENT RESOLUTION—GREENING UP THE MOUNTAINS:** A request has been made by the Main Street Sylva Association to close Main Street for the purpose of having the Greening Up the Mountains festival on April 27, 2019. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve the temporary street closure. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

POLICE DEPARTMENT K-9 FUNDRAISER: Chief Hooper addressed the board and explained that the department would like permission to open a fundraising campaign for the purpose of purchasing another K-9 unit for the department. Their goal is \$15,000, which would cover the dog, kennel, training, equipment, food, and vet bills. The Waynesville Police Department is willing to help the department organize the fundraiser. Hooper reported that Don, the current K-9, has participated in approximately 80 searches with positive findings in over 30 of those. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve and authorize the department to conduct a fundraising campaign for a new K-9. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

BOARD PARADE FLOAT DISCUSSION: The board discussed possible options for the December 2018 Christmas parade and will continue the discussion at future meetings.

CLOSED SESSION: *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS. 143-318-11(a)(2) to prevent the premature disclosure of an honorary degree, scholarship, prize, or similar award at 9:48 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Commissioner McPherson made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion carries with a unanimous vote and the Board entered into regular session at 10:11 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:11 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk