

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
October 25, 2018

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on October 25, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

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

**ABSENT:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rick Bryson (Assistant Police Chief) and Jake Scott (Public Works Director)

**VISITORS:** Dave Russell, Holly Kays, Casey Fields (Duke Energy), Marie Leatherwood, and Jeannie Kelly.

**AGENDA:** *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to amend the agenda by adding two items. She would like a discussion added for the Duke Energy Neighborhood Energy Savings Program and a closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to consult with an attorney. The motion to add the two requested items and approve the amended agenda carries with a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Marie Leatherwood addressed the board and discussed her concerns about the Highway 107 road construction project. Leatherwood believes that jobs will move out of city limits if the project continues. She is asking the board to do something about the project to save the town. Jeannie Kelly thanked the board for allowing her to speak. She addressed the board with her continued concerns about the Highway 107 road construction project. Kelly is concerned that proper feasibility studies have not been done to evaluate the impact on businesses. She reminded the board of a letter from the 2011 Town of Sylva Board that stated it was not a desire of the town to reconstruct the highway.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Sossamon reminded the board of the NCLM Regional Roundtable Meeting to be held on October 30, 2018 at Town Hall. She also reminded that board about the Lights on Afterschool event being held at the First Baptist Church 1<sup>st</sup> Explorers program at 4:00 p.m. October 25, 2018.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Gelbaugh expressed her concerns about the Highway 107 project. She is also concerned about the effect of TWSA impact fees on businesses who have to relocate. Commissioner Hamilton announced that the purple bows being put up in town are in honor of WCU's homecoming parade and festivities. She thanked the MSSA Promotions committee for their hard work on the 3-day kick-off event they have scheduled for the Christmas holiday season.

**MANAGERS REPORT:** Manager Dowling reported the following:

- Chance Mull has been hired to fill the Maintenance Technician position in Public Works.
- The Town is hosting the NCLM Regional Roundtable in Sylva at Town Hall Tuesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Treat Street will be held October 31<sup>st</sup> from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The street will close at 5:00 p.m.
- WCU's Homecoming Parade: will be held downtown Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
- R5600 Preparation: There is now a page on the Town's website for NC 107/R5600 information. The page currently has the latest newsletter from NCDOT that was mailed last month and a brochure on relocation assistance. Pertinent information will be added to this as it becomes available.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:** Jake Scott reported that Harold Street would be closed from approximately November 5 through November 15 for railroad construction and repair work. Mulch and fall décor have been installed. Crosswalk installation has been postponed till spring because of seasonal limitations.

**POLICE DEPARTMENT:** Rick Bryson told the board that their K-9 softball tournament fundraiser was a great success. He thanked businesses who donated items for the tournament. Bryson also announced that the department would be participating in the Block Party in Town.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** The Planning Board did not meet in October. They are beginning the process of reviewing ordinances to see how the Town can help businesses during R5600. These recommendations will be brought to the Board, but they are getting a head start since we are still over two years from construction.

**TWSA BOARD REPORT:** Commissioner Nestler reported that the policy committee met on November 18<sup>th</sup> to specifically look at allocation regarding those businesses and property owners displaced by the Highway 107 construction project. There are three options that the committee is reviewing:

1. Leave the policy as written.
2. Allow a transfer of allocation.
3. Allow property owner to keep allocation but renter to be given allocation if they move.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**DUKE ENERGY NEIGHBORHOOD ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAM:** Casey Fields, Program Manager for Duke Energy addressed the board about their upcoming program for residential energy savings. Representatives from Duke Energy will be in Sylva over the next few weeks working on residential housing needs. The crews will be installing various energy savings components to houses in need. They are working with Hands on Jackson and Mountain Projects for this project.

**RED RIBBON WEEK PROCLAMATION:** *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve the proclamation for Red Ribbon Week. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**CANCEL NOVEMBER 22, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:** The November 22, 2018 regular board meeting falls on Thanksgiving. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to cancel the November 22, 2018 regular board meeting. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**CANCEL DECEMBER 27, 2018 REGULAR BOARD MEETING:** The December 27, 2018 regular board meeting falls during the Christmas holidays. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to cancel the December 27, 2018 regular board meeting. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**CANCEL DECEMBER 20, 2018 PLANNING BOARD MEETING:** *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to cancel the December Planning Board meeting. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ASHEVILLE DESIGN CENTER SCOPE OF WORK—DISCUSSION ONLY:** Manager Dowling explained that the ADC would be scheduling their meetings and site work soon. The scope of work presented to the board has not changed. Initial sitework will be during the early part of November.

**CLOSED SESSION:** *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS. 143-318-11(a)(3) to consult with the town attorney about the Highway 107 construction project and how questions from the public should be handled. at 9:37 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

*Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to come out of closed session. The motion carries with a unanimous vote and the Board entered into regular session at 10:09 a.m. No action was taken during closed session.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 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