

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
April 25, 2019

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on April 25, 2019 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 Mary Gelbaugh, Commissioner Greg McPherson, Commissioner	Paige Dowling, Town Manager Amanda Murajda, Town Clerk Eric Ridenour, Town Attorney
-----------------	--	---

ABSENT: Harold Hensley, Commissioner
David Nestler, Commissioner

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

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

VISITORS: Holly Kays and Dave Russell.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Gelbaugh reminded everyone of Greening Up the Mountains on Saturday. She thanked the Sylva Herald for their coverage on the killdeer birds, a protected species, who have nested in the Bridge Park gravel parking lot. Commissioner McPherson thanked the Main Street Promotions committee for cleaning up Mill Street and the Smoky Mountain News for their coverage on the Catawba Indian Nation push for a casino in North Carolina. Commissioner Hamilton encouraged everyone to attend Greening Up the Mountains.

MANAGERS REPORT: Manager Dowling reported the following:

- Greening Up the Mountains is Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.
- The next budget work session is May 2, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. The draft budget and fee schedule will be reviewed.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT: Jake Scott reported that the Public Works Department is busy preparing for Greening Up the Mountains. He noted that the killdeer who had nested in the Bridge Park parking lot are doing well and encouraged the board to tell others to leave them alone during the festival. Installation of lights on Mill Street will begin after Greening Up the Mountains. Duke Energy will be installing them. Scott is working on an encroachment agreement with NCDOT for the Sylva sign to be installed on Grindstaff Cove Road. The department has also been working on several issues resulting from the recent rains.

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Tammy Hooper reviewed the monthly statistics report. She added that the Civilian Police Academy for 2019 had begun and participants were eager to learn.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: The Planning Board met Thursday, April 18, 2019 with Kristy Carter on the land use plan. The board ranked items in the code that were the most important to the Town and discussed past issues they have encountered. The code assessment and revised map will be complete by the end of June.

TWSA BOARD REPORT: None.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION: OPPOSITION TO CATAWBA INDIAN NATION CASINO IN NORTH CAROLINA:

Manager Dowling explained that Chief Sneed, of Cherokee, attended the Southwest Commission meeting and requested the support of governmental entities in opposition of allowing the Catawba Indian Nation to build a casino in North Carolina. Senator Lindsay Graham of South Carolina introduced the bill along with the support of two from North Carolina. The financial impacts of allowing the casino in North Carolina would be devastating to local economies served by Harrah's Casino. Commissioner Hamilton stated that she did not support the Catawba casino. Commissioner Gelbaugh would like to support our own region. *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the resolution in opposition to the Catawba Indian Nation Casino in North Carolina. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

PLANNING BOARD MAY MEETING—CHANGE OF TIME: *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to change the start time of the May Planning Board meeting to 4:00 p.m. to accommodate a presentation on the Town's zoning ordinance and land use map. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk