

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
November 14, 2019

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on November 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.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
Mary Gelbaugh, Commissioner
Greg McPherson Commissioner
David Nestler, Commissioner

Paige Dowling, Town Manager
Eric Ridenour, Town Attorney

ABSENT:

Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

STAFF PRESENT: Chris Hatton (Police Chief) and Jake Scott (Public Works Director).

VISITORS: Ethan Confer, Jeanette Evans, Holly Kays, Dave Russell and Boyd Sossamon.

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT: Mayor Sossamon congratulated Commissioner McPherson and Nestler on being re-elected to the Town Board. She reminded the board of the Essentials of Municipal Government class on December 5th and an Elected Officials Ethics class on December 10th, both of which are required.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Nestler attended a recycling meeting with County officials and it was a good refreshing course on the requirements of recycled material. Nestler added that he would like to see Town Ordinances amended to include the requirement that all rental property owners provide recycling bins to tenants. This will be added to a future agenda for discussion and public input. Commissioner McPherson thanked Commissioner Hensley for his service at a Commissioner. Commissioner Hamilton updated the everyone on plans for the Christmas weekend in Sylva, November 29, 2019 through December 1, 2019.

MANAGERS REPORT:

- Planning Board: The vacancy of Joe Bill Matthews needs to be filled. The application is on the Town of Sylva website.
- Personnel Changes: Officer Daniel Peoples has accepted a job as an investigator with the Sheriff's Department. Eli Trantham has been hired to fill a vacant officer position.
- The newly elected and re-elected board members will be sworn in December 12, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. We will also recognize Commissioner Hensley's time on the board.

MAIN STREET REPORT: Manager Dowling reported that flyers are being distributed with a calendar of events for the weekend of November 29, 2019 through December 1, 2019.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: None.

NEW BUSINESS

TWSA BOARD APPOINTMENT: Manager Dowling explained that Michael McCardle was appointed in 2018 to fill an unexpired term. Commissioner Nestler added that McCardle was doing a great job on the board. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to appoint McCardle to a 3-year term on the TWSA board. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

RAILROAD AVENUE TRAFFIC PATTERN: NCDOT approached the Town during the summer about whether or not the board would consider making Railroad Avenue a one-way street. The Town asked for traffic study to be done after school started. NCDOT reported that the traffic volume did change much during the traffic count. Options are to leave it the way it is or make it one way going either west or east. The crosswalk at Grindstaff Cove Road will eventually be signalized. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to change the travel direction on Railroad Avenue to one-way eastbound. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH PARKING LOT: The First Baptist Church of Sylva has offered their parking lot located adjacent to Humanite Boutique for rent at \$255 per month through June 2020 and \$400 per month thereafter. The Board discussed renting the parking lot for \$255 per month through June 2020. Discussions about future years will be held at a later date. *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to appropriate \$2,113 from contingency to the parking lot rental line item for the lease and maintenance of the parking lot through June 30, 2020. The lease is for half of November 2019 and December 2019 through June 2020. To cover maintenance, \$200 is added to the total. The motion carries with a 4-1 vote. Commissioners Gelbaugh, Nestler, McPherson and Hamilton voted in the affirmative. Commissioner Hensley voted against the motion.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk