

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
March 12, 2020

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on March 12, 2020 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
Mary Gelbaugh, Commissioner
Ben Guiney, Commissioner
David Nestler, Commissioner

Paige Dowling, Town Manager
Amanda Murajda, Town Clerk
Eric Ridenour, Town Attorney

ABSENT: Greg McPherson Commissioner

Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. following a Board of Adjustment meeting.

STAFF PRESENT: Mallory Caraway (Fire Department), Chris Hatton (Police Chief) and John Jeleniewski (County Planner).

VISITORS: Jenny Hooper and Joe Hamilton.

AGENDA: *Commissioner Gelbaugh 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: John Jeleniewski reported that the Overlook Village apartment complex, a CUP approved by the Town of Sylva Board of Adjustments, designed by KRP Investments had pulled out from building because the site did not meet soil testing standards and their would be major expenses related to prepping the site because of the soil issues.

MAYOR’S REPORT: Mayor Sossamon reported about her NCLM meeting in Duck, NC.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT: Commissioner Nestler reported that the Jackson County Health Department was issuing a report on a regular basis about health issues in our area. He also asked if the Town had an emergency management plan. Commissioner Guiney discussed how the Coronavirus will affect residents and businesses in Jackson County. Commissioner Hamilton noted that the “Paint the Town Purple” event would be postponed till the fall.

MANAGERS REPORT: Manager Dowling reported the following:

- Budget Update: The next budget work session is March 26th after the regular meeting.
- Employment Update: Jordan Beck began work with the Police Department and Todd Fisher begins with Public Works on March 9, 2020.
- Paint the Town Purple: Decorations will be installed March 20th. Bows and banners will be put on streetlights and paw prints will be put on the street. WCU students and artists are painting windows downtown March 21st from 12-5:00 p.m.

MAIN STREET REPORT: None.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT: Mallory Caraway reported that the department would be reducing the number of breathing calls they responded to due to the exposure of the Coronavirus. They would only be responding if EMS needed them. The department has had 171 since January 1, 2020.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT—HOUSE BILL 655-MEDICAID EXPANSION: *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the resolution of support for House Bill 655 on Medicaid expansion. Commissioner Guiney commented this would be good for the community. The motion carried with a 3-1 vote. Voting in the affirmative were Commissioners Nestler, Guiney and Hamilton. Voting against the motion was Commissioner Gelbaugh.*

SPECIAL EVENT REQUEST—ALCOHOL—GREENING UP THE MOUNTAINS: *Commissioner Nestler made a motion to approve the request to have alcohol at Greening Up the Mountains. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

CHANGE TIME OF MARCH 26, 2020 BUDGET WORK SESSION: *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to change the time of the March 26, 2020 budget work session to 9:00 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

CANCEL MARCH 26, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING: *Commissioner Guiney made a motion to cancel the regular board meeting on March 26, 2020. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

RESCHEDULE MARCH 26, 2020 BOARD WORK SESSION: *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to reschedule the board work session scheduled for March 26, 2020 to April 23, 2020 after the regular meeting. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Guiney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

Lynda Sossamon
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk