

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
May 7, 2015

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on May 7, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Maurice Moody and Commissioners Danny Allen, Barbara Hamilton, Harold Hensley, Mary Gelbaugh, and Lynda Sossamon.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk)

**VISITORS PRESENT:** Roger Turner, Lambert Hooper, John Jeleniewski, Tanner Hall

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Moody called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

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

**APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA:** *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve consent agenda. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Roger Turner, former owner of Lulu's, presented information from the NAACP and their sponsorship of workshops educating residents on the new voter registration requirements. They will hold an information session on July 11<sup>th</sup> at the Jackson Board of Elections on voter ID requirements.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Moody reported that there is still very little interest in the two-way traffic study. He would like to schedule a public hearing on the study after budget proceedings close.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:** Commissioner Gelbaugh stated that she has received complaints of employees parking on Jackson Street and the speed of traffic. Commissioner Sossamon noted that the traffic speed on backstreet also seems to be increasing. Manager Dowling will relay this information to the police department. Commissioner Hensley questioned if parking all day on backstreet by merchants/business owners is legal. He would like for the police department to send an email to all business owners stating where parking is allowed. Hensley also noted that he had received complaints of very loud noise coming from an event at Bridge Park. Dowling will notify the police department and look at revising the park use application for more detail. Commissioner Hamilton noted that the Greening up the Mountains festival was a good success.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Dowling announced that the N.C. Secretary of Cultural Resources, Susan Kluttz, will be touring Sylva on May 22, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. as part of the Historic Tax Credit tour. County commissioners, Senator Jim Davis, Representative Joe Sam Queen, and other elected officials have been invited to join the walking tour in downtown Sylva.

Dowling updated the board on the pre-application for the ARC grant. It has now been accepted and work can begin on the official full application. Grading has begun on Finch Street. There will be a public meeting on May 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the Library for merchants and residents to review the Merchant Study of the downtown area. The Chamber is sponsoring a concert on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. as a fundraiser. The Joe Lasher, Jr. Band will be performing.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

**Zoning change from R-1 to Public Utilities.** The public hearing opened at 5:42 p.m. Manager Dowling explained that the County had requested to change the zoning on a lot owned by them, parcel # 7641-15-8207 from R-1 to Public Utilities. They would like to build a block building for additional radio communication towers on Kings Mountain. Lambert Hooper spoke in support of re-zoning the parcel. He requested that his parcel also be included in the re-zoning, parcel # 7641-15-9179. No further comment. The hearing closed at 5:45 p.m.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Zoning change from R-1 to Public Utilities.** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to approve the re-zoning changes, including the parcel requested by Lambert Hooper. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**Re-appointment of Mayor Maurice Moody to ABC Board:** *Commissioner Sossamon made a motion to re-appoint Mayor Maurice Moody to the ABC Board for a three year term. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ABC Board Chairman Endorsement:** Mayor Moody stated that David Noland is the current chairman and the ABC Board would like for him to continue in that role. *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to endorse David Noland as the ABC Board Chairman. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**Main Street Association Survey:** Manager Dowling highlighted key points of the survey for the board, which had a 77% response rate:

1. How satisfied are merchants with the appearance of downtown?—most were neutral
2. How satisfied are merchants with the downtown merchant community and cooperation?—unsatisfied
3. How satisfied are merchants with town policy, codes, enforcement?—satisfied/neutral
4. How satisfied are merchants with the services provided by the town?—65% satisfied
5. Do you think there needs to be a Main Street Association?—78% yes
6. Should there be metered parking?—overwhelming no

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

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Maurice Moody  
Mayor

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Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk