

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners
August 6, 2015

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on August 6, 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), Dan Schaeffer (Public Works Director), Eric Ridenour, (Town Attorney)

VISITORS PRESENT: David Nestler and Tanner Hall.

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

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

APPROVAL OF 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 Moody noted that the Mountain Faith Band represented Sylva and Western North Carolina well on the TV show America's Got Talent. He reminded everyone that they would be playing at Bridge Park on August 14th as part of the Concerts on the Creek series. He also noted that he would like to declare a day in the month of August as "Mountain Faith Day" in the Town of Sylva. Moody reminded everyone of the ongoing traffic study.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: Commissioner Sossamon noted that she and the other board members had received an email from the NAACP, Lucy Christopher, requesting support from the Town both monetarily and in the form of a recognition letter. This would be in support of the "Hats off Celebration" hosted by the NAACP. The board requested that Manager Dowling write the letter of support and mail to the local chapter of the NAACP. Sossamon also requested that an agenda item be added to the next meeting to discuss cancellation of the second board meeting in September because the first meeting has been moved to the 10th.

Commissioner Allen reminded everyone of the joint meeting of law enforcement officials and the NAACP coming up on August 15th at Liberty Baptist Church. Commissioner Hamilton commented on the large crowds attending the Concerts on the Creek and noted how good it was to see everyone.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Manager Dowling reported to the board that the Main Street Statistics report has been submitted and noted the progress made in the 2014-2015 fiscal year. The Town will hold a bid opening on August 14th at 10:00 a.m. for the purpose of receiving bids on a knuckle boom truck for the public works department. The bid opening for the proposed fire department substation in Dillsboro will be August 14th at 5:30 p.m. Taste of Sylva will be on

October 3rd. Tickets are \$20 purchased in advance and \$25 the day of the event. Dowling updated the board on recent employment changes. Mickey Bumgarner in the public works department resigned with nine years of service and Delonda Roberts, a part attendant, resigned. Applications for the Maintenance Tech position are due by August 7th. The park attendant job is not being posted at this time. Dowling reminded the board that she will miss the August 20th board meeting to attend the Main Street Managers meeting in Smithfield, NC.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT: The planning board met on July 23rd to review extending sidewalk restrictions to the B-1 zoning district. The board also began their review of the zoning ordinances. Each meeting they will review certain sections and update the board as needed.

NEW BUSINESS

BRIDGE PARK FENCE: Commissioner Gelbaugh opened the discussion about adding a fence at Bridge Park by noting the energy resulting from previous discussions was great and that suggestions and concerns were being shared. She stated that a decision should not be made at this meeting so that careful consideration could be given. Sarah Thompson and Rose Baugess both submitted suggestions by email since neither could attend the meeting. Thompson suggested several options and mentioned that there is a possibility that the Town could apply for and receive a grant from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund to help fund the construction of a landscape barrier in the spring of 2017. Gelbaugh said that the goal is to build momentum of Bridge Park not stifle it. Commissioner Hamilton agreed with Gelbaugh and did not want to make a decision at this meeting, rather construct a plan for beautification. Mayor Moody suggested inviting Thompson to a board meeting to discuss her ideas in person. Commissioner Hensley noted that he still likes the idea of fundraisers mentioned at the previous meeting. Sossamon noted that comments she had read and heard from residents suggested that they wanted careful planning into any decision made for a fence or barrier at Bridge Park.

Dan Schaeffer presented the board with additional quotes from B.H. Graning Landscaping, a local business. The Town received six examples ranging from \$7,000 to \$20,000. Graning also gave Schaeffer a list of previous jobs completed as references. Schaeffer noted that this will give the Board something to study.

Commissioner Allen stated that discussions about Bridge Park have been on-going for quite some time but wanted to remind everyone that installing a gate at Bryson Park had previously been discussed. He would like the board to look at this as well. Hensley questioned why the gate could not be added at present time. Schaeffer told the board the gate could be installed in the next two weeks. *Commissioner Allen made a motion to have a gate installed at Bryson Park. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

PROCLAMATION—25TH ANNIVERSARY OF ADA

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was passed on July 26, 1990 to ensure the civil rights and legal protection of citizens with disabilities. This proclamation renews the commitment of the Town of Sylva to the ADA's core goals of equal opportunity. *Commissioner Hamilton made a motion to approve the proclamation. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT AND ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS (if funded)

The Town of Sylva has submitted a pre-application for the ARC Emerging Opportunities Grant and has considered the need for a comprehensive plan. The resolution is in support of participating in the full application process and if awarded the comprehensive plan process.

Commissioner Sossamon made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT: *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 p.m. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

Maurice Moody
Mayor

Amanda W. Murajda
Town Clerk