

**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners  
September 8, 2016

The Town of Sylva Board of Commissioners held a regular meeting on September 8, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. in the Board Room of Municipal Hall, 83 Allen Street, Sylva, N.C.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Lynda Sossamon and Commissioners, Mary Gelbaugh, Harold Hensley, Greg McPherson, and David Nestler.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Commissioner Barbara Hamilton.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Paige Dowling (Town Manager), Amanda Murajda (Town Clerk), and Eric Ridenour (Town Attorney).

**VISITORS PRESENT:**

**CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Sossamon called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

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

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Charles Pringle read a letter signed by some of the merchants on Mill Street referencing parking changes on Mill Street. He thanked the Board for their support of diagonal parking and a one-lane traffic pattern.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:** Mayor Sossamon reported that she attended a transportation meeting with Jackson County and thanked the County for giving their votes to the Town's pedestrian plan for sidewalks.

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT:**

Commissioner McPherson noted that the Town should look at the crosswalks installed near Noble Hall at WCU as an example for the Town to use. McPherson also told the board that he believes the Jackson County permitting office is stifling innovation and restaurant growth in town.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Dowling told the board that the grant application for the electric vehicle charging station has been submitted and the Town should be notified in late December if it is received. Wayfinding signs have been ordered from Signs Etc. She updated the board on traffic issues at the library and noted that Dan Schaeffer and Davis Woodard have been working on a solution to help the speed of traffic. Stop lines have been painted on Keener Street and Ridgeway Street coming from all three directions. A crosswalk has also been painted on Ridgeway Street to hopefully cause vehicles to stop before easing up to the crosswalk. Patrol will also be increased at this intersection to further force vehicles to stop at the stop signs.

Dowling mentioned that Karen Perry called last week to let the Town know that the federal housing grant was denied for the apartments across from the hospital. She hopes to submit the project again for the next round. The Church of God notified John Jeleniewski that they are not planning to build on Skyland Drive.

Dowling noted that she and Mayor Sossamon had attended the Jackson County/DOT STIP prioritization meeting for the next round of statewide funding last week. During the meeting, Sossamon encouraged the group to prioritize the sidewalk along Skyland Dr. from Bus. 23 to Chipper Curve as a pedestrian project since it had a higher score than most of the road projects. If the Skyland Drive project is selected and funded, the Town will be responsible for 20% of the concrete costs. The Board passed a resolution two years ago committing to the match, but the project was not prioritized at the State level.

Dowling has been contacted by several property owners adjacent to Pinnacle Park over the last couple of weeks. These property owners have expressed concerns with the mountain bike trail presentation.

**PLANNING BOARD REPORT:** Manager Dowling gave an update from the Planning Board meeting on August 19<sup>th</sup>. The Planning Board continued their discussion on food truck ordinances. This will also be discussed at the September meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Sossamon opened a public hearing at 6:40 p.m. for the purpose of hearing comments on proposed changes to Section 26-28 of the Town Code of Ordinances entitled: Exception to Notice. Being no comments the hearing was closed at 6:41 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Mayor Sossamon opened a public hearing at 6:41 p.m. for the purpose of hearing comments on proposed changes to Section 38-45 of the Town Code of Ordinances entitled: Professional Business District. Being no comments the hearing was closed at 6:42 p.m.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **ORDINANCE AMENDMENT—SECTION 26-28: EXCEPTION TO NOTICE:**

*Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve amendments to Section 26-28 of the Town Code of Ordinances. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

##### **ORDINANCE AMENDMENT—SECTION 38-45: PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS**

**DISTRICT:** *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve amendments to Section 38-45 of the Town Code of Ordinances. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**CUP DESIGN APPROVAL: BLUE RIDGE INN:** Dowling presented a design for a storage building requested from Blue Ridge Inn. The board previously reviewed a CUP from Blue Ridge Inn and requested the company present a design before approval was given.

*Commissioner Hensley made a motion to approve the design. The motion carries with a 3-1 vote. Voting in the affirmative were Commissioners Gelbaugh, Hensley, and McPherson. Voting in the negative was Commissioner Nestler.*

**COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN MEETING:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to schedule the next comprehensive economic development plan meeting for September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Hensley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 p.m.  
The motion carries with a unanimous vote.*

---

Lynda Sossamon  
Mayor

---

Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk