

BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Thursday, November 3, 2011

The Town Council, with members Mayor Danny McIntosh, Ruth Banks, Judy Buchanan, Doyce McClure, and Ron Powell present, held a regular meeting on Thursday, November 3, 2011, in the Town Hall. Also in attendance were town staff members Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Anthony Hensley, George Nero, and Ronnie Tipton, as well as visitors Bill Baker, Cynthia and Jake Blood, Dottie Buker, Bob Cohen, Lucy Doll, Lisa England, Jody Higgins, Jim McQueen, Wanda Proffitt, Maurice Robinson, Dean Russell, Raven Tata, and Bill Wheeler. Mayor McIntosh, who presided, called the meeting to order, stating that the purpose of the meeting was to consider regular business for the month of November, 2011.

- Public Comment - Maurice Robinson advocated on behalf of a utility customer who has been paying for two units in one building for years, and would like to be charged for only one of those units, although he originally made the choice to have a master meter installed rather than individual meters. Anthony Hensley offered several options for correction. He told Council that the water/sewer ordinances need a thorough review.

Judy Buchanan made a motion to correct the situation according to the customer's request, and place a moratorium on similar situations until ordinances have been reviewed. Doyce McClure seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- Adoption of Agenda – Ron Powell made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Doyce McClure seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- Consideration of Minutes – The minutes from the following meetings were considered:
 - a. Regular meeting held October 6, 2011
 - b. Special meeting held October 21, 2011
 - c. Closed session held October 21, 2011

Ron Powell made a motion to approve the minutes from the aforesaid meetings. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- Community Promotions – Council members reviewed a summary of community promotion activities which the town supports, as well as a list of contributions that are made annually for a variety of promotional purposes. This information will be updated and brought to budget prep meetings in the spring. It was agreed that the cost of these activities and the financial contributions should be accounted for in a separate budgetary department. The clerk was directed to ask each recipient agency for minutes of their meetings so Council will be aware of their activities.

- Amendment of Audit Contract – Available for review was an amendment to Cody McKinney’s contract to perform audit services for the town for FY 2009-2010. Ruth Banks made a motion to approve the amendment. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

- Status Updates:

1. Small Town Main Street Advisory Board – Jake Blood reported that Small Town Main Street meetings are held the first Thursday each month prior to the regular council meeting in the downstairs boardroom at the town hall. He reported that the Main Street annual conference will be held in Clayton on January 25-27th. He said that Barbara Webster has submitted an award-winning project for the third year, and they are trying to assemble a group to attend the conference with Ms. Webster.

Mr. Blood said that on November 5th tulip bulbs will be planted around the Square and South Main Street. There was a discussion about the vacant storefronts on West Main Street.

2. Main Street Solutions Fund (NC Department of Commerce) – No changes to report; Todd Bailey is working on an agreement between the Town and the NuWray Inn.
3. NC STEP (NC Rural Center) – Ron Powell reported that locally-approved projects have been sent to the Rural Center, but they were judged to be unacceptable. Paul Combs has been helping with the Rural Center’s recommendations and will be able to work with us until January, if necessary.

The Rural Center has scheduled a regional NC STEP meeting at the Town Center on December 1st.

4. Water/Sewer Asset Management Plan (NC Rural Center) – no change in status this month.
5. Water/Sewer Capital Improvement Plan (NC Rural Center/McGill) – We are working with McGill on the capital improvement plan.
6. East Yancey Sewer District (Yancey County) – no change in status this month.
7. U.S. 19 E Utilities Relocation (NC D.O.T.) – There have been some issues with rock in the past month. The project should be complete the last part of December or the first of January.
8. I & I Remediation Projects (NC Clean Water Revolving Loan / McGill) – McGill is filming the inside of lines to discover opportunities for remediation.
9. Annexation Study (High Country Council of Governments) – No change in status this month; at a standstill.
10. Ordinance Codification (American Legal) – We are awaiting the final draft.
11. Zoning Assistance (NC Department of Commerce) – Anthony Hensley reported that he has spoken with Betsy Kane. She hopes to have the final report to Council sometime in November.

12. Broadband/Cable – Council learned that the project is awaiting building and environmental approval.

▪ Department Updates:

Fire Department – Chief Niles Howell reported:

- The annual Rod Run was a tremendous success, and it worked well as a shared event.
- He and Isaac McCurry took the Chief 101 course at Mayland as required.
- The department is scheduling two houses for a live burn as a training exercise in December and January.
- Ten new narrow-band radios were ordered.
- There is no update as of yet regarding the Forest Service property.

Police Department - Chief Brian Buchanan reported:

- The Police Department recently participated in a prescription drug collection effort, gathering 55 lbs., or 48,687 pills. A similar effort will be conducted in the spring.
- Halloween was a successful event, and having the road closed worked very well. Two families said they came from Bakersville because of safety concerns. Chamber of Commerce Director Ginger Johnson plans to advertise the event more heavily next year.

Public Works Department

- Consideration of variance on 19E Bypass – Council learned the request is to place a mobile home in the city limits, which is not allowed by town ordinances. The mobile home is the one currently located near Summit Building Supply and being used by Young and McQueen as an office. The plan is to use it as office space.

Code Enforcement Officer Ronnie Tipton commented that a stipulation could be imposed to prevent another unit being permitted, and stipulations such as requiring permanent foundations can be added. He said a variance would follow the property if it was sold in the future.

Councilor Ron Powell said he was not in favor of the variance. Doyce McClure made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing on the variance, which would include the stipulation that it would be for this request only, and the building would not be used as a residence. The hearing would be scheduled for December 1, 2011 at 5:45 p.m. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion.

Voting was as follows:

Ayes

Ruth Banks
Judy Buchanan
Doyce McClure
Danny McIntosh

Noes

Ron Powell

Ronnie Tipton will notify all parties affected by the variance request.

- Wanda Proffitt reported that it would be spring before concrete will be poured for sidewalks on the square. The Mayor reported that he, Mrs. Proffitt and Jay Swain had looked at the parking situation at First Baptist Church. The church deeds claim the church owns the parking lot, but they want someone else to pave and paint it. The church would probably execute a Quit Claim Deed in exchange for upgrades, which could cost approximately \$6,000. Public Works Director Anthony Hensley was authorized to enter into negotiations with the church.

Judy Buchanan commented that we should be paving some streets with Powell money.

Public Works Director Anthony Hensley reported:

- He has met recently with Jessica Brannack with High Country COG on mapping. It is hoped that the mapping will be complete by this time next year.
- He is working on a tracking system to alert when there are street lighting outages.
- The road will be closed to Rose's Shopping Center on December 7th and 8th due to the relocation project. Business owners have been advised.
- Projects that have been completed are:
 - ✓ Water system emergency management plan;
 - ✓ Water distribution system operations and maintenance plan;
 - ✓ Eight to ten owner certifications dating back to 2000.

Town Center – Facility Manager George Nero provided schedules and entertainment information for the upcoming month. He said weddings were held every week in October.

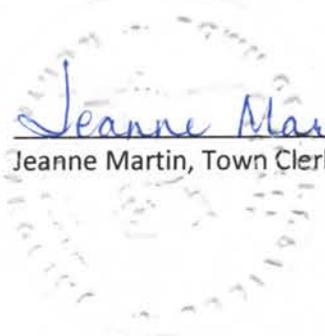
▪ Council Members' Reports

- The Mayor said that the D.O.T. is looking at the intersections at South Main Street and Reservoir Road. A public meeting will be scheduled in the winter concerning this issue.
- The Mayor and Anthony Hensley have met with the County and the Extension Service about water and sewer at Georges Fork for the agriculture project location.
- Public Art Design Board – no meeting/activity this month.
- The town's newly established Planning Board will meet the third Monday of each month. Minutes of the last meeting were available for review.

▪ Holiday Plans:

- Employee luncheon will be held in the upstairs boardroom at the Town Hall on December 13th at 11:30 a.m.
- Bonus checks will be distributed prior to Thanksgiving.
- Observance of Christmas holidays – In alignment with Yancey County and the State Employees' Credit Union, December 26th and December 27th will be considered the employees' holiday.
- Winter closings – During times of inclement weather, the town will operate appropriately, but may not necessarily follow the county schedule. An emergency contact number will be added to the town's website and the front door.

- Next Regular Town Council Meeting - The next regular Council meeting will be held December 1, 2011. There being no further business, Judy Buchanan made a motion to adjourn. Doyce McClure seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.



Jeanne Martin

Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk

Danny McIntosh

Danny McIntosh, Mayor