

TOWN OF BURNSVILLE  
Special Meeting  
May 29, 2012

On May 29, 2012, the Town Council, with members Mayor Danny McIntosh, Ruth Banks, Judy Buchanan, Ron Powell, and Bill Wheeler present, held a special meeting in the Town Hall. Also in attendance were staff members Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Anthony Hensley, Jeanne Martin, and Ronnie Tipton; and visitor Jody Higgins. The Mayor called the meeting to order, stating that the purpose of the meeting was to consider budgetary issues for FY 2012 - 2013.

Council reviewed the latest draft of the budget; Finance Officer Leslie Crowder explained changes that had occurred since last review as a result of Council direction. She advised that she adjusted fire tax expenditures to insure consistency with expected revenues. Provision for an expenditure of \$500 was included in the Community Promotions Department for public art.

Public Works Director Anthony Hensley presented a proposed water/sewer rate and fee schedule, explaining that the increase is tied to the CPI. Ron Powell made a motion to adopt the rate and fee schedule as presented. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, mentioning that she'd rather not, but she did prefer this version over another that was considered. The motion was unanimously approved.

Councilors considered salary increases for all employees. Ron Powell made a motion to approve an across-the-board increase of 2.5% for all employees. Danny McIntosh seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

Ayes

Ruth Banks  
Danny McIntosh  
Ron Powell  
Bill Wheeler

Noes

Judy Buchanan

Ruth Banks expressed concern that the Utility Clerk's salary was not in line with salaries of similar positions. She recommended an increase to \$33,000 annually, not subject to the 2.5% across-the-board increase. Councilors were generally in agreement with this recommendation.

It was noted that the Economic Development Commission requested an increase in funding to cover the cost of printed material which will probably be covered by NC STEP (the Burnsville Development Group), with the money designated specifically for the printed materials.

Code Enforcement Officer Ronnie Tipton told Council that there had been numerous complaints from merchants about the yard sales that have cropped up around town since warm weather arrived. Some yard sales are carrying the same merchandise that is being sold by merchants who have paid for a privilege license. He mentioned that many of these yard sales create a traffic hazard along the side of the road. Mr. Tipton provided Councilors with copies of the town's privilege license ordinance.

Councilors discussed various options to address the merchants' complaints. It was generally agreed that residential yard sales held at home are permissible. Itinerant merchants who do not have a license will

be encouraged to do business at the trade lot operated by Chuck Renfro on the bypass; otherwise, they will be shut down. Ronnie Tipton agreed to research how Yancey County resolved yard sale problems at OMC and Glen Raven.

Council inquired about the status of the proposed paving project at the First Baptist Church parking lot. Anthony Hensley said he proposed to the church that the town cover 50% of the cost of the project. He is waiting for acceptance or a counter-offer. Yancey County indicated no interest in helping with the project.

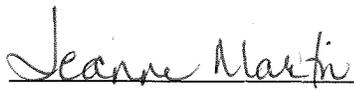
Judy Buchanan asked about the status of the sidewalk project on North Main to the Yancey Common Times building. Anthony Hensley agreed to revisit this project.

Council learned that the Town of Spruce Pine has asked to use the town's performing stage for its upcoming barbeque festival. Councilors were generally not in favor of honoring the request.

The Police Department's budget was reviewed. It was decided that compensation for police officers who work the Crafts Fair would be charged to the Community Promotions Department.

Anthony Hensley told Council that there were only two bidders at the bid opening for the I & I projects, so McGill is advertising a new bid opening scheduled for the week of June 4<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business, Judy Buchanan made a motion to adjourn. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

  
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Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk

  
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Danny McIntosh, Mayor