

# TOWN OF WEBSTER

## MINUTES FOR AUGUST 5, 2015 BOARD MEETING



The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Webster met for its regularly scheduled meeting at 1411 Webster Road. Mayor Breedlove called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Commissioner Janice Blanton, Mayor Nick Breedlove, Commissioner Billie Bryson, Commissioner Allan Grant, Commissioner Danell Moses, and Vice Mayor Tracy Rodes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tanner Hall of *The Sylva Herald*, Louise Stephens, Francine Hoell, Bob Cochran, Deb Cochran, Dick and Rose Donnelly

### GENERAL MEETING

#### Approval of Agenda

Vice-Mayor Rodes motioned to approve agenda; Commissioner Blanton seconded. Motion carried.

#### Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the July 1, 2015 board meeting and July 1 closed session meeting were presented for review. Commissioner Bryson indicated she thought she found a mistake but could no longer remember where it was in the document. Vice-Mayor Rodes motioned to approve the minutes; Commissioner Blanton seconded. Motion carried.

#### Informal Comments by Public

Louise Stephens presented the board a document listing all the Confederate soldiers buried in Webster Cemetery. Bob Cochran stated he was pleased that the town was updating the lighting structure through town. He stated he prefers the natural darkness but would like to see balance in the placement of lights from the beginning of the loop throughout the rest of the road.

Deb Cochran presented a map of the location of the maps and with markings of the residents who prefer natural lighting.

#### Consent Agenda

#### Financial Report

Danell Moses presented the end-of-month reconciliation and budget reports for July 2015:

Beginning town fund balance per May report:	\$133,323.64
Deposits	
SunTrust	--
Macon	61,799.00
Cleared expenditures totaled	10,087.44
SunTrust	60,415.00
Macon	9,596.43
Checking balance (SunTrust)	4,481.32
Checking balance (Macon)	58,098.25
CD 0001 balance	25,611.61
CD 1681 balance	36,935.20
Ending town fund balance	\$125,126.38

She indicated she would like to have the board's approval to move the following funds:

FROM	TO	Amount
MISC	Attorney	\$80.00
MISC	Street Lights	\$13.50
MISC	Office Expenses	\$8.00
MISC	Utilities	\$60.00
MISC	Electric Apartment	\$23.00
Administration	MISC	\$5.00
Law Enforcement	MISC	\$200.00
Total moved from Miscellaneous		\$ 184.50
Total moved to Miscellaneous		\$205.00
<b>Total balance left in Miscellaneous</b>		<b>\$6,400.21</b>

Moses indicated the line item Fund Balance Appropriated – Miscellaneous line in the 2015-2016 budget will be updated from the previously estimated \$4,000.00 to the actual \$6,400.00 and the budget should be amended to reflect

that change. She also indicated she will close out the SunTrust account since the first notice that the state successfully deposited sales and use tax into the new Macon Bank account.

Commissioner Grant provided a motion for approval of the financial reports, line item adjustments, and amended 2015-2016 Budget with Vice-Mayor Rodes providing a second. The motion carried.

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### *ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS*

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#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Breedlove reported that

- He and council members Blanton, Bryson, and Moses attended the Joint Commissioners Meeting on Monday, August 3.
- Michele Smith's mother is still in the hospital. The board will send her a card.
- The historic walking tour signs were delivered and would be installed at the local Methodist Church with a kick-off planned for September.
- He attended the county's comprehensive planning meeting and the NCDOT comprehensive plan meeting. The committee is working on a survey for county residents to determine what residents want out of the county, and what can be done to better serve them as far as jobs, schools, health and human services, etc.

#### **Council Member's Reports**

- Grant attended a parks and recreation meeting. The big issue was funding for an indoor county pool to likely be housed in the Cullowhee facility.
- Moses reported that she would post a School of Government training schedule.
- Moses indicated that the office printer would need to be replaced fairly soon.

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### *NEW BUSINESS*

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#### **1. Lighting Project**

- a. Mayor Breedlove explained that the project started as a way to update the lights and then morphed into an effort to increase safety for pedestrians and residents. Duke Energy has worked to locate sources of power to run to proposed lights at the back of the loop with leader poles between poles with lights.
- b. Local residents (including the Cochran, the Hoells, Ms. Rose Donnelly, and Mark Jamison) expressed their desire to have natural light instead of new LED lights. Mayor Breedlove met with Mr. Jamison regarding his concerns since he could not attend the meeting.
- c. Vice-Mayor Rodes said she thought that residents wanted lights around the Loop and that the lights would provide safety for walkers.
- d. Commissioner Grant said he was for the darkest sky to be found but he also was thoughtful regarding a safe walking path that may eventually go around the loop.
- e. Commissioner Moses said she spearheaded the initiative to replace the old mercury vapor lights but never had the intent of putting lights in resident's yards who did not want lights in their yards. She said she was excited by the turnout of our citizens to voice their opinions.
- f. Commissioner Blanton explained that she thought that providing lighting throughout Buchanan Loop would ensure the Loop was considered as part of Webster. She said she likes having the lights around her property but that the board would certainly work with the citizens.
- g. Commissioner Bryson said that a long time ago many residents had expressed interest to have lights all around the Loop but then people requested to take them down.
- h. Mayor Breedlove suggested that we put a hold on the lighting project until something happens to indicate lighting is necessary to prevent accidents on that part of the Loop.
- i. Mrs. Hoell suggested that the DOT put more speed limit signs around the Loop.
- j. Louise Stephens indicated she loves her street light and is very thankful that her grandchildren can stand in a lit place while waiting for the bus.

## 2. Land Use Plan

- a. One bid was received from Michael O'Brien from Asheville for \$30,000.00.
- b. Commissioner Blanton indicated that she would be able to complete the plan for a reasonable price once she was no longer a commissioner.
- c. Commissioner Grant motioned that the issue will be tabled until after the election in November. Vice-Mayor Rodes seconded. The motion passed.

## 3. Apartment Lease

- a. Commissioner Moses indicated her daughter, Jade, had signed the lease. Mayor Breedlove will sign on behalf of the town. When Jade finds a roommate, that person will sign the lease as well. Vice-Mayor Rodes motioned that the lease be approved: Commissioner Blanton seconded.
- b. Commissioner Moses said the apartment had been cleaned and that the curtains were at the dry cleaner. She also indicated that new curtains may need to be purchased as the dry cleaner had told her that the curtains looked as if they were starting to dry rot and may not endure the cleaning process.
- c. Commissioner Moses said that Jade Moses had two questions
  - 1) Could she use command strips and/or putty to hang items on the wall?  
The board agreed that she could use strips and/or putty if an already existing nail or command strip was not available.
  - 2) Could she have a small, caged animal such as a bunny, hamster, hedgehog, fish, or turtle?
    - Commissioner Grant indicated he thought a fish would be fine.
    - Vice-Mayor Rodes indicated she thought a bunny would be too much but one of the other choices should be fine.
    - Commissioner Bryson said that the lease indicated no pets were allowed and that she wouldn't approve any animals. She indicated that gold fish smell. She said that stuffed animals would be fine.
    - Since no consensus could be reached, the request for a small pet was denied.

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### *ADJOURNMENT:*

Commissioner Grant motioned to adjourn. Vice-Mayor Rodes seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

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Nick Breedlove, Mayor

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Danell Moses, Town Clerk