

TOWN OF WEBSTER

MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2014 BOARD MEETING

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

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Tanner Hall of *The Sylva Herald*, Don Kostelec, Michele Smith, and Louise Stephens

GENERAL MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Breedlove amended agenda to add items a) Don Kostelec and b) re-appoint planning board members. Commissioner Moses motioned to approve agenda as amended; Commissioner Grant seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Breedlove asked to move the time the board went into closed session above the word "Adjourned" and add the reason as "G.S. 143.318.11 A3 for legal discussion with attorney." Closed session minutes were distributed.

Commissioner Grant motioned to approve the August 6, 2014 Meeting minutes as amended. Mayor Pro Tem Rodes seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Grant motioned to approve the August 6, 2014 Closed Session Meeting minutes as presented. Mayor Pro Tem Rodes seconded. Motion carried. Commissioner Bryson said she was allowed to keep copies of closed session minutes because in the past she was allowed to. Mayor advised they would be available at town hall for board member inspection but would not leave town hall. Mayor said things may have been done improperly before, but they would be done properly now.

Informal Comments by Public

Louise Stephens mentioned after speaking to the board members of the Webster Cemetery, the consensus was they would appreciate lighting at both ends of the cemetery.

Consent Agenda

Financial Report

Danell Moses presented the financial report:

Beginning town finance balance per August minutes:	\$131,274.45
Deposits	1,807.99
Cleared expenditures totaled	7,155.12
Checking balance	63,628.67
CD 0001 balance	25,547.66
CD 1681 balance	36,766.60
Ending town finance balance	\$125,942.93

Moses explained during a recent meeting with the town accountant, she verified the town could amend the budget with the addition of money not used for last year line items to be brought forth to this year's budget for two areas:

Fund balance appropriated for repairs in the amount of \$8,400.

Fund balance appropriated for miscellaneous in the amount of \$550.

Moses suggested that a budget adjustment be in order to add the two new lines items and delete the line item of "interest for \$50."

Commissioner Grant provided a motion for approval of the report and the budget adjustment with Mayor ProTem Rodes providing a second. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor's Report

*Mayor Breedlove informed the board that the state said they will not be testing for shale deposits in western North Carolina; however, the modernization act will still permit them to. Commissioner Grant commented that the town's voice may be more significant than we attribute.

* Homeowners are blowing grass into the sidewalk. He asked the board if we should do something to prevent our town landscaper from having to address this.

#followup: Mayor will write a note or visit the homeowner to ask that they sweep it back into their yard.

* Mayor asked TWSA to review and address the sidewalk patch job. TWSA will be re-done to standard. Citizens have asked the mayor to buy the old jail and turn it into a museum. He estimates cost of at least \$200,000. Commissioner Bryson commented that the current rent at the library was \$385 per month.

* Mayor asked the NCDOT to move the entrance sign to Buchanan Loop closer to the road. Commissioner Bryson indicated she believed that had already been done.

Council Member's Reports

* Commissioner Moses indicated she had spoken with homeowner Laura Spalding about the bushes at the edge of her property impeding view of people driving out of Buchanan Loop. Spalding indicated it would be fine for the town to get the landscaper to trim those bushes back to a safe height.

NEW BUSINESS

New Business:

A. Planning Consultant

- a. Don Kostelec of Kostelec Planning, LLC reported that he had identified some areas he would like to further research for potential areas of walkability or community engagement:
 - i. He and his associate identified parcels around the ball fields at the old Webster School. Commissioners and Kostelec shared ideas of using those parcels as community garden, BMX bike park, playground, picnic shelter, or skate park.
 - ii. He said an historic walk could be developed with descriptions of the homes and people of historic significance.
 1. Louise Stephens has a list of 21 confederate and 30 American soldiers from Webster.
 2. Commissioners were asked to bring notes to add to the walking points.
 3. Commissioner Blanton noted she remember that George Frizzell had made some audio-recordings of elder Webster residents as an historic account of Webster.

Mayor Breedlove indicated he would check with Frizzell about the recordings made in the 60s.
 - iii. Commissioner Bryson mentioned that she has a copy of every newsletter ever published for Webster.
 - iv. Kostelec encouraged the council to voice concerns and ideas to the town planning board to include in the county comprehensive plan.
 - v. Mayor Breedlove mentioned he had spoken to TWSA's Dan Harbaugh regarding the cost of buying and installing a water fountain. The quote was a rough \$9,300. TWSA said they might be able to waive impact fees. Mayor asked Kostelec to include this in his plan in case it was feasible in future. Mayor Pro Tem Rodes mentioned we might also partner with the Board of Education since high school runners might use it.

B. Duke Lighting

- a. After talking to residents, Mayor indicated that some residents support more lighting and some do not.
- b. Commissioner Moses will meet with the Duke representative to indicate commissioners have interest in placing new lights or some new poles with LED lights at
 - i. Install light near beginning of town limits at the town's entrance sign on South River Road.
 - ii. Install pole/light on east bound side of hill after entrance to North River Road.

- iii. Install two new lights on existing pole at corner of Webster Road and Buchanan Loop with light over the crosswalk and second light over entrance to Buchanan Loop.
- iv. Install new lights at entrance and exit to Webster Cemetery.
- v. Install new lights on Buchanan Loop:
 - 1. just past entrance to Briarwood Road in blind curve
 - 2. near 1004 Buchanan Loop (near the old horse barn)
 - 3. 875 Buchanan Loop (between Old Rogers Lane and McNeill neighborhood)
 - 4. 750 Buchanan Loop (just past Stephens house coming back toward Grove Road)
 - 5. 630 Buchanan Loop
 - 6. 307 Buchanan Loop
 - 7. Entrance to Grove Road
- vi. Beginning and end of "groundhog patch" on 116.
- vii. Just past Davis Road on way toward SCC
- viii. Just past McNair Road on way toward SCC

C. Parking Lot

- a. While on conference call, Mr. Hooper explained that he could likely get closer to \$8,000 with his estimate.
- b. Mayor Pro Tem Rodes moved that the board proceed with Mr. Hooper to complete the concrete work. Commissioner Grant seconded. The motion carried with a non-unanimous vote. Moses did not vote for concrete.

D. Planning Board

- a. Commissioner Moses motioned that Harry Allman and Walter Turner be re-appointed to the planning board for two-year appointments; Commissioner Grant seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:07pm, the meeting adjourned.

Nick Breedlove, Mayor

Danell Moses, Town Clerk