

**Minutes**  
**Town of Webster Council Meeting**  
**Town Hall – 1411 Webster Road, Webster, NC**  
**January 5, 2012– 6:00 pm**

**Members Present:**

*Mayor Larry Phillips, Commissioners Jean Davenport, Billie Bryson, Allan Grant and Town Clerk Gwen Nicholson*

**Absent:**

*Commissioners Rick Fulton and Tracy Rodes*

**Others Present:**

*Nick Breedlove with The Sylva Herald, and Louise Stevens, and Attorney Kim Lay.*

**Call to Order**

*Mayor Phillips called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. with a request for additional agenda items. The additional agenda item was as follows:*

- *Email from Sarah Graham regarding the 107 Connector Project-.recent actions taken on the NCDOT project R-4745 which is locally known as the 107 Connector.*

**Agenda Approval**

*Mayor Phillips called for a review and approval of the agenda. Commissioner Davenport made a motion to approve the agenda and Commissioner Grant seconded the motion. All members approved.*

**Minutes Approval**

*Mayor Phillips called for a review and approval of the December 2011 minutes. There were no additions. Commissioner Davenport made a motion to approve the December minutes with one change regarding members present. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion. All members approved.*

**Financial Report Approval**

*Town Clerk Nicholson reported that the Town received \$14,448.90 in income for the month of December and expenses were \$9,857.0. The CD balances were as follows:*

- a. *\$25,491.37*
- b. *\$36,645.58*

*Mayor Phillips called for an approval of the financial report, as presented. Commissioner Grant made a motion to approve the financial report and Commissioner Davenport seconded the motion. All members approved.*

**Old Business**

- **Sidewalks**

*The Commissioners previously approved a resolution that authorized \$65,000.00 to The Town and is now waiting on the final contract from NCDOT.*

- **Town of Webster Welcome Sign**

*Commissioner Davenport reported that the “welcome sign” was ready and will be installed soon near the road entrance to the Jackson County Senior Center for Aging. Commissioner Davenport stated that the weather likely delayed the installation of the sign. Installation should take place in a couple of days.*

- **Staggered Terms**

*Town Board members asked Attorney Kim Lay to draft a resolution that would allow the board to move to staggered terms whereas the top three vote-getters in an election would receive four-year terms and the next two would receive two year terms. The Mayor position would still be a four-year term. Board members winning the initial two-year terms would stand for election to four-year terms in the next election cycle, which would result in staggered terms. A public hearing would be required to passing such a resolution.*

### **Committee Reports**

- **Greenway Committee** – *The N. C. Division of State Parks is planning for mountain and sea trails which will include 80 miles of trails. This will run along the county’s north edge and parallels the Blue Ridge Parkway to reach Great Smoky Mountains National Park.*

*Commissioner Grant stated the county Greenways Commission has been focusing on the planned Tuckaseegee River Greenway and that county officials have approved funds for its construction and engineering.*

*Ms. Dixon of the Friends of the Mountains to the Sea Trail proposed a different route that would have the MTS Trail leave the Parkway route and go through Swain County which is Bryson City and follow the Tuckaseegee River to Whittier, then go through Thomas Valley Road and then follow the river to Dillsboro and Sylva, to follow the county’s planned Tuckaseegee Greenway to Cullowhee, then proceed from Cullowhee to Caney Fork then follow Moses Creek Road to the Parkway. Jackson County has adopted the resolution to support that route in October.*

*Commissioner Grant stated that Swain County recently passed a resolution in support of a proposed alternate route for a portion of the Mountains-to-Sea trail that includes sections of Jackson County’s Greenway. Commissioner Grant stated that the proposed route would open up more funding opportunities for the county.*

*Commissioner Grant stated a Greenway meeting is planned during the third week of January but was unsure of the exact date.*

- **Planning Board**

*The Mayor presented an email from Commissioner Rode’s which read as follows:  
The Planning Board (Susan Leveille and Bob Cochran and Commissioner Rodes) met on December 27<sup>th</sup> to review Webster’s new zoning map and discuss the ECU dental building lot size. The consensus was that we would recommend reducing the proposed size requirements from 2 acres to 1 ½ acres in the Commercial and Government zones. At any rate, the Planning Board does want to consider the ECU building as “grandfathered in” because the new ordinances haven’t been approved. There were some questions the Planning Board had for Gerald Green concerning the map, but it was approved as being general representative of what the Board had asked to be drawn up. The concern is what does the Planning Board do next and to get a listing of residents. Officials discussed sending a notice to residents affected by the new zoning boundaries and agreed to get a map or list of affected residents so The Town could send notices of the required public hearing.*

*The Planning Board has yet to go over page 58 which is on hold at this time. Susan Leveille will need to come to next Town Hall meeting in February. The Mayor asked the Town Clerk to email Commissioner Rodes to obtain maps for review.*

- **Traffic & Safety Committee**

*Mayor Phillips gave an overview of the patrol report for the month of December 2011. Mayor Phillips told town leaders that he appreciates the deputies who patrol the streets. In December, deputies James Henry and Donnie Allen gave out 12 speeding tickets and 38 warning citations for speeding.*

- **TWSA**

*Commissioner Davenport discussed the TWSA annual meeting and stated that Mayor Larry Phillips attended. Commissioner Davenport showed board members a map of Webster's existing sewer and water lines as well as proposed new lines.*

**New Business**

*Commissioner Davenport stated that everything The Town has done this year has been good and the Council needs to make recommendations for future goals.*

*Mayor Phillips stated that he would like to set up a retreat planning session for municipal elected officials in Dillsboro, Sylva, Forrest Hills and Webster to see what we can do from an economy stand point. The gathering would be a workable agenda so the Towns could accomplish what issues were brought up. It has been several years since such sessions were held on a regular basis.*

**Adjournment**

*There being no further business, Commissioner Grant made a motion to adjourn, the meeting The next meeting will be February 2, 2012.*

*Minutes prepared by:*

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*Gwen Nicholson, Town Clerk*

*Minutes approved by:*

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*Larry Phillips, Mayor*