

TOWN OF WEBSTER
MINUTES
JUNE 9, 2011

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Webster met for its monthly meeting at a rescheduled time on June 9, 2011 at 1411 Webster Road beginning immediately following a Public Hearing.

Members Present: Mayor Larry Phillips, Commissioner Billie Bryson, Commissioner Jean Davenport, and Commissioner Allan Grant.

Members Absent: Commissioner Rick Fulton (work obligations)

Others Present: Attorney Kim Lay; Nick Breedlove with The Sylva Herald; Susan Leveille; Chair of The Planning Board; Louise Stephens; and community members Betty Crook, Francis Lowe; and Art Ellick

Agenda: Mayor Phillips called for review of the Agenda. A decision to move the Closed Session to the last item was made with no other changes or additions. Commissioner Grant made a motion for approval of the Agenda with Commissioner providing the second. The motion carried.

Minutes: Mayor Phillips called for approval of the Minutes. A note to change an incorrect date on the Agenda was made with Commissioner Bryson calling for approval of the Minutes as corrected while a second was provided from Commissioner Grant. The motion carried.

Financial Report: Commissioner Bryson presented the financial report showing deposits in the amount of \$1,876.88 while expenditures totaled \$1,072.20 A balance of \$105,027.88 was available according to our bank although outstanding checks totaled \$366.67 leaving an actual balance of \$105,394.55. Powell Bill funds showed a balance of \$63,195.08. There being no discussion Commissioner Davenport provided a motion for approval as presented while Commissioner Grant provided the second. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Budget 2011-2012-Following the Public Hearing where comments regarding the budget were made, Mayor Phillips noted that this budget accomplished goals that were not met in earlier budgets: paying off the Town Hall mortgage and reducing the excise tax from 07 cents to 05 cents. Commissioner Davenport made a motion to accept the 2011-2012 budget proposed at the Public Hearing with changes noted. Commissioner Bryson provided the second to the motion which gained unanimous approval.
2. Sidewalk Maintenance Agreement-no report was made. Commissioner Bryson will contact our provider and ask that he attend the next meeting for a report.
3. Sidewalk repair and replacement-Mayor Phillips opened the discussion with the note that Mr. Joel Setzer of DOT indicated that the DOT might be able to assist with sidewalk repairs. Mayor

Phillips will address a letter to Mr. Setzer formally requesting such assistance as is available. The Board decided to ask that Mr. Setzer inspect all the sidewalks for possible repair needs.

4. Hiring of accountant to install accounting service on Town computer-The Board decided that having the new clerk/finance officer work with Commissioners Bryson and Grant to determine exact needs would be most appropriate at this time.
5. Planning Board Seats-the Board decided to table this item until the current Planning Board members had completed the work on the Ordinances.
6. Estimate for greenery around Town welcome sign-Mayor Phillips presented an estimate from Blair Spangler in the amount of \$1200.00 to purchase, plant, and maintain greenery for each sign. Board members felt that this cost was prohibitive for greenery at this time.
7. Replacement of damaged Town welcome sign-Mayor Phillips presented an estimate in the amount of \$2,047.10 for replacement of the historic Town welcome sign recently destroyed in a storm. Board members decided to investigate other venues for replacement.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR REPORT-no report was given as the ZA had recently resigned

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. The Greenway Committee-Commissioner Grant reported:
 - Current funds, especially the Clean Water Trust Fund, are being slashed by 1/3 and a possible 1/3 of the remaining amount is being considered for reduction.
 - The Committee would be able to retain the grant money for the walking trail project around the Senior Center.
 - The Judaculla Rock area plans to be open on June 21, 2011 with a new observation deck although other needs still exist such as signage and parking.
 - Lowered property values have enabled the Committee to obtain property at a reduced rate and hopefully easements and purchases will allow further expansion of the Greenway.
 - The proposed widening of Ash Settlement Road is holding up some acquisitions until that project is completed.
 - The Committee had a successful "Greening Up the Mountains" experience with more citizens involved in the program.
2. The Planning Board-Susan Leveille, Chair of the Planning Board, reported:
 - That the June meeting which was originally proposed for review of the Ordinances with both the Board of Commissioners and The Planning Board members would have to be postponed until July.
 - The Planning Board members will meet at least twice in June to continue the work on the Ordinances
 - Ginny Faust will be able to be present when the two Boards meet for review of the Ordinances

- Ordinances may be posted on the website prior to review by the Board so that citizens and Board members may be aware of the proposal prior to discussion

On a more personal note Susan reported that she had enjoyed her time working with the Boards of Commissioners during her 10+ years and did feel that it was good for Board memberships to change periodically to bring fresh ideas to the Board. She relayed to the Board:

- That the May discussion of Planning Board membership had not been presented in the best manner and that some current Planning Board members had hurt feelings from the discussion
 - She reminded the Board that Planning Board memberships ran from January to December of each year rather than following the fiscal year.
 - She presented the Board with a State Statue160A-62 which states that all city officers whether elected or appointed shall continue to hold office until their successors are chosen and qualified. In that light the current Planning Board members had continued their work on the Zoning Ordinances
3. Traffic and Safety Committee-no report was given
 4. TWSA-Representative Davenport presented information that she had obtained from her time serving on the TWSA Board. A copy of that information is attached to the Minutes.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Joint Membership of The Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Adjustment-this item was tabled
2. Morris Broadband Communication-Commissioner Davenport received a certified letter stating that Morris Broadband would serve the Town of Webster with phone service in the amount of \$49.95 per month. Commissioner Davenport made the motion to remain with Frontier services as our Internet, phone, and fax were a package service. Commissioner Bryson provided a second and the motion carried.
3. Invitation to Grand Opening for Jackson County Library-Mayor Phillips informed the Commissioners that all were invited to the Grand Opening of the newly constructed library on Saturday, June 11, 2011.
4. Town of Webster Name Tags-Commissioner Davenport proposed that name tags be purchased for official wear at special meetings or ceremonies. She had a price quote of \$9.95 for three lines on a magnetic tag. Commissioner Bryson made a motion to purchase these tags with Commissioner Grant providing the second. The motion carried. Commissioner Davenport will make this purchase for the membership.
5. Refurbish outside of Town Hall building-Mayor Phillips presented a quote of \$2,516.00 to power wash, make repairs, paint building and shutters, and sand and paint iron railing in front of the building. Previous vandalism had marred the surface and no work has been done to the building in numerous years. The newly adopted budget had allowed for such repairs. Commissioner

Grant made a motion to accept this bid for work to be completed while Commissioner Davenport provided the second. The motion carried.

6. DOT-Municipal Agreement Project-Mayor Phillips notified the Board that he had received paperwork requesting Webster's approval of this project through the Mayor's signature. Mayor Phillips asked Attorney Lay to review the document prior to any action being taken. Mayor Phillips stated concerns about the proposed cost of the project and wants to hear Jackson County Board of Commissioners Chair Jack Debnam's ideas prior to any action by our Board. Mr. Debnam will be present at the July Board meeting for his comments.
7. Public Forum-Mayor Phillips notified the Board that Vicki Greene of Southwestern Commission had contacted him volunteering to serve as moderator for the Public Forum to hear citizens' ideas about de-annexing SCC and surrounding areas. He further notified the Board that he would like to have Ms Greene serve in this role as well as advertising, organizing, and locating a place for the meeting. Attorney Lay was asked to be present for the Forum so that legal issues could be clarified should there be a need.

CLOSED SESSION:

The Board went into closed session to discuss personnel. Mayor Phillips informed the Board that he and Commissioner Davenport had interview four applicants for the Clerk/Finance Officer position and was recommending Gwen Nicholson for the position. Ms Nicholson's position would begin July 1, 2011; her pay would be \$3600.00 per year prior to taxes; and her work hours would be on Friday mornings from 9-12AM. Ms Nicholson would also have the responsibility for Minutes at all Board meetings.

The Board reconvened from the closed session where Commissioner Bryson made a motion to accept Gwen Nicholson for the new position. Commissioner Davenport provided the second and the motion gained unanimous support. Commissioner Bryson will contact the bonding company to make proper arrangements for this action.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

Larry Phillips, Mayor

Jean W Davenport, Clerk

TOWN OF WEBSTER

AGENDA

JULY 5, 2012

1. Call to Order/Call for Agenda items/Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Approval of Financial Report
4. Guest Speaker:
 - Mr. Jack Debnam: Chair, Jackson County Board of Commissioners
5. Old Business:
 - Sidewalk Maintenance-Mr. Blair Spangler
 - DOT and sidewalk repair
 - Town of Webster welcome sign
 - Other
6. Committee Reports:
 - The Greenway Committee
 - The Planning Board
 - The Traffic and Safety Committee
 - TWSA
7. New Business:
 - Other
8. Adjournment

TOWN OF WEBSTER
PUBLIC HEARING for BUDGET 2011-2012
JUNE 9, 2011

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Webster met on June 9, 2011 at 1411 Webster Road for a Public Hearing regarding the Budget for 2011-2012. Mayor Phillips called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30PM.

Members Present: Mayor Larry Phillips, Commissioner Billie Bryson, Commissioner Jean Davenport, and Commissioner Allan Grant.

Members Absent: Commissioner Rick Fulton (work obligations)

Others Present: Attorney Kim Lay; Nick Breedlove with The Sylva Herald; Susan Leveille; Chair of The Planning Board; Louise Stephens; and community members Betty Crook, Francis Lowe; and Art Ellick

Mayor Phillips opened the Public Hearing with the announcement that Commissioner Mark Jamison had given him a letter that afternoon stating his resignation from the Board of Commissioners for the Town of Webster. Mayor Phillips read the letter openly to the Board and assembled audience.

Following that announcement Mayor Phillips presented recently received information from the state showing that the Town of Webster may not be receiving Powell Bill funds any longer as it does not have any streets to maintain. This new legislation would be effective if it is included in the final budget and would affect seven small towns including Webster. Current Powell Bill funds would remain in Webster's coffers.

Mayor Phillips presented a report from Louise Stephens and the Webster Cemetery Board showing their fiscal position.

A public comment from Susan Leveille was received. She asked that the Board include funds for training for the new clerk/finance officer position.

Board members reviewed the presented budget and made adjustments to display actual figures recently obtained on liability insurance, NCLM membership dues, and fire protection.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:00PM.

Larry Phillips, Mayor

Jean W Davenport, Clerk