

**TOWN OF WEBSTER**  
**MINUTES**  
**OCTOBER 5, 2010**

The Board of Commissioners for the Town of Webster met for its regularly scheduled meeting at 1411 Webster Road.

**Members Present:** Mayor Larry Phillips, Commissioner Billie Bryson, Commissioner Jean Davenport, Commissioner Rick Fulton, Commissioner Allan Grant, and Commissioner Mark Jamison.

**Others Present:** Louise Stephens; Susan Leveille, Chair of Planning Board; Kim Lay, Attorney; Nick Breedlove with The Sylva Herald; Officers Chip Hall and Lt. Kim Hooper of the Jackson County Sheriff's Department.

**Agenda-**Mayor Phillips called the meeting to order at 7:00pm with a call for additional Agenda items. The two officers from JC Sheriff's Department were added as special guests to speak. Commissioner Grant provided a motion for approval of the amended Agenda while Commissioner Fulton provided the second. The motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes-**Mayor Phillips called for approval of the Minutes as presented. Commissioner Fulton provided said motion while Commissioner Jamison gave the second. The motion carried.

**Approval of Financial Report-**Commissioner Bryson presented the financial report noting that \$10,565.52 was deposited while \$4,577.58 was listed as expenditures. The total checking balanced at \$142,802.68 with \$61,939.56 currently held in a CD. Powell Bill funds showed a balance of \$51,405.18. There being no discussion of the budget, Commissioner Davenport made a motion for approval of the report as presented. Commissioner Fulton provided the second and the motion carried unanimous support.

**Agenda Format Change-**Mayor Phillips asked that we change the Agenda format to allow discussion initiated through the Traffic and Safety Committee. All agreed.

**GUESTS:** Jackson County Sheriff's Deputies: Chip Hall and Lt. Kim Hooper

Mayor Phillips thanked the officers for being in attendance to discuss the ongoing problem of speeding traffic in Webster. He further noted that letters had been sent to several agencies requesting support with the traffic issues and cited the statistics recently compiled by Commissioner Grant where 129 crashes had been reported on HWY 116 and HWY 441 going toward HWY 107 within the past five years. Of those numbers, 29 involved speeds in excess of 45mph. Thoughts generated during this discussion included the following:

- Deputies have been hired to work part-time to which Lt Hooper noted that tickets are being issued for violations. Lt Hooper noted that law enforcement is trying to use a combination of warnings as well as citations although within the last 4-5 months, more

citations were being given for speeds greater than 15mph over the speed limit. SCC students and Webster residents have been guilty of traffic violations.

- Officer Hall suggested a speed device with a flashing light could be used to gain a motorist's attention while traveling through Webster. This type of device could be purchased for a cost of \$2500-\$10,000 depending on sophistication.
- Lt Hooper informed the Board that one unit was set aside for traffic both day and night. He stated that he would encourage these units to try to be visible on HWY 116 in Webster as well as along North River Road.
- A traffic speed trailer from the Sheriff's Department could be placed in a dominant position with the town for slow down reminders.
- The JCSD night and day shift are currently patrolling within the areas earlier noted as troublesome spots for speeding.
- A website was given to the Commissioners whereby information could be obtained for speed control devices.
- The Highway Patrol was discussed as the most appropriate agency in traffic control and both officers encouraged the Board to work closely with that agency.

Following the discussion, Mayor Phillips thanked Officer Hall and Lt. Hooper for being in attendance and being attentive to our problem.

The meeting continued with **Committee Reports:**

1. The Greenway Committee-a quorum was not present at the last meeting so no official business was conducted. The Judaculla Project is ahead of schedule and the walking trail at SMES is currently in limbo as the school superintendent's office reviews the plans.
2. The Planning Board-Chairman Leveille reported that the revision of Ordinances was progressing and a document should be forthcoming by the end of the year 2010. She further announced that upon completion of the project that new members would need to be in place. Chairman Leveille will be resigning after 11-12 years on the Board as will other members who have served for several years. Other ideas discussed:
  - The idea of moving to 7 members was discussed with both pros and cons of the smaller number.
  - The idea of combining the Planning Board with the Board of Adjustment was also discussed. The issue will be one to resolve at the first of 2011.
  - The inclusion of a member from SCC was brought forth
  - Southwestern Community College and a Business District were discussed where the Town would not try to regulate SCC's affairs. A business district would allow the town to apply for funds not currently available to them.
  - A mutually beneficial relationship could be reached between the Town of Webster and SCC.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Power Wash for Town Hall-Mayor Phillips had received a new bid of \$290 to power wash the Town Hall from John Hortson. Mr. Hortson no longer carries insurance for such work, but Attorney Lay informed the Board that the insurance that Webster currently has would cover this work. Commissioner Davenport made a motion to accept this bid proposal. Commissioner Grant provided the second and the motion gained unanimous support.
2. Deputies' Contracts-These contracts are now in place, per Mayor Phillips.
3. Code of Ethics-Commissioner Davenport distributed a copy of the code adopted by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners for our review and possible adoption.
4. Call for approval of Minutes from Retreat: Mayor Phillips called for approval of the Minutes from the Retreat. Commissioner Fulton expressed his concern that an open office might be a service that the Town of Webster did not need. Mayor Phillips added that he would like to see our Town Hall paid for at the end of the commissioners' four-year term. There being no further discussion about the Retreat Minutes, Commissioner Grant provided a motion for approval as presented while Commissioner Jamison provided a second. The motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. November Meeting-Commissioner Davenport, also Town Clerk, will be working the Polls on November 2, 2010 which is the next scheduled meeting date. After a brief discussion, the Board decided to move the November meeting to the second Tuesday of the month-November 9, 2010. An announcement will be posted at the Town Hall and placed in The Sylva Herald.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm with a motion from Commissioner Jamison and a second from Commissioner Fulton.

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Larry Phillips, Mayor

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Jean W Davenport, Clerk

**TOWN OF WEBSTER**  
**AGENDA**  
**NOVEMBER 9, 2010**

1. Call to Order/Call for Agenda Items/Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes
3. Approval of Financial Report
4. Auditor's Report
5. Old Business:
  - Power Wash Town Hall
  - Adoption of Code of Ethics
  - Other
6. Zoning Administrator's Report
7. Committee Reports:
  - The Greenway Committee
  - The Planning Board
  - The Traffic and Safety Committee
8. New Business:
  - Other
9. Adjournment