

TOWN OF WEBSTER

Minutes for January 6, 2016 Board Meeting



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

MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioner Billie Bryson, Commissioner Danell Moses, Commissioner Larry Phillips, and Mayor Tracy Rodes

MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioner Allan Grant

OTHERS PRESENT: Jason Farmer of *The Sylva Herald*, Michele Smith, Will Morgan, Leigh Anne Young, Janice Blanton

GENERAL MEETING

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Rodes asked to amend the agenda to include selection of a vice mayor and making board appointments. Commissioner Phillips motioned to approve agenda as amended; Commissioner Bryson seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes for the December 2 board meeting and December 16 special meeting were presented for review. Commissioner Bryson indicated that the meeting on December 2 was called to order by then Vice-Mayor Rodes instead of Mayor Nick Breedlove. Commissioner Phillips motioned to approve the minutes as amended; Commissioner Bryson seconded. Motion carried.

Informal Comments by Public

Commissioner Blanton indicated that the Webster Cemetery was still a mess and that something should be done. After discussion, it was decided that the Webster Cemetery board would need to take action: Commissioner Moses indicated she would notify Louise Stephens.

Mayor Rodes introduced Leigh Anne Young as being interested in serving as a commissioner: she indicated she had also spoken to Robert Edwards, a recent WCU retiree suggested by Janice Blanton, who said he would also consider being a commissioner but was unable to attend the meeting because of a family illness.

Consent Agenda

Financial Report

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

Beginning town fund balance per November report:	\$121,730.41
Deposits	13,884.32
Cleared expenditures totaled	2,823.43
Checking balance Macon	70,197.91
CD 0001 balance	25,611.61
CD 1681 balance	36,981.78
Ending town fund balance	\$132,791.30

Moses requested that the board allow the movement of funds as follows:

AMOUNT	FROM	TO
\$20.00	MISCELLANEOUS	Bonding Fees

Commissioner Phillips provided a motion for approval of the movement of budget funds with Commissioner Bryson providing a second. The motion carried. Commissioner Phillips provided a motion to approve the financial report and Commissioner Bryson provided a second. The motion carried.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Rodes reported that the town had received a letter from Mack Cowan thanking us for inviting his father, Oliven Cowan, to the Veterans' Day event.

Mayor Rodes asked that everyone update their contact information with Moses.

A joint commissioner meeting will be held on February 1 at the Senior Center. Attendees will be Bryson, Phillips, Rodes, Moses, and Young.

Email from census bureau was received asking to update the information for our community. While the report is not due back to the Census Bureau until March, Rodes wanted to decide what we need to report and how.

Justin Woodard will come to a future meeting to discuss updates and upcoming projects for spring.



The basement is leaking. Moses asked if any contractors live in Webster: she will contact Mike Ashe to see if he would be willing to look or if he would have a suggestion.

Council Member's Reports

Commissioner Phillips asked how officers were scheduled. Moses responded that they have been asked to work early mornings, late afternoons, and be positioned at different locations. Phillips asked if we could pursue a mutual agreement with the county or Town of Sylva to work a better solution to meet the town's fire and law enforcement needs.

Moses said that she heard that DeVeere had walked away from the R-5000 project.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Signage Ordinance
 - a. Moses said that she thought the planning board came up with the parameters of 70' high with nothing digital. The planning board is on hiatus until something was decided about the land use plan. Rodes suggested that we should go ahead and finalize the sign ordinance because SCC will soon need to erect signage.
 - a. Janice Blanton has indicated she would work on the land use plan with an estimated date of completion being in March or April.
 1. Moses will provide Blanton the example and materials she had gathered.
 - b. Janice Blanton mentioned that the DOT should be contacted about the shrubbery that was destroyed when they removed the sign and landscaping for the road project.
 - b. Commissioner Phillips indicated we might be moving the cart before the horse. He suggested that we may wait to see what SCC comes up with then decide. Rodes suggested we look at the county ordinances to see if we need anything more stringent. Smith said we may also want to look at the town of Sylva's ordinances. Moses suggested we call a meeting of the planning board to disseminate this information: she will contact them.
 - a. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Moses call a meeting of the planning board. Commissioner Bryson seconded.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Appointment of a Vice-Mayor
 - c. Mayor Rodes indicated that Moses had said she would serve as Vice-Mayor.
 - d. Commissioner Bryson said she thought that during the last meeting we had selected Commissioner Phillips to be the Vice-Mayor. Phillips indicated he was not interested in the position. Bryson said that Moses had too many jobs and has already filled her obligations by being on the town board, being the secretary, being the treasurer and the finance officer.
 - e. Rodes indicated that since Moses already works on the budget, a second person should be appointed to help work on the budget. She asked if Bryson would be interested serving in that capacity. She said she would.
 - a. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Moses be appointed as the Vice Mayor. Bryson declined to second and indicated she was against that. The motion was tabled until the next meeting.
2. Appointments to boards
 - a. The TWSA board: Rodes is willing to serve on this board and thinks the work would be interesting.
 - b. Moses said that whoever does TWSA should be appointed on Southwest Commission RPO and whoever served as Vice Mayor should be appointed to the other board.
 - c. Moses clarified that there are three positions: TWSA, Southwest Commission RPO, and the Jackson County Planning Committee. She suggested the mayor take the TWSA and Jackson County Planning Committee and whoever is appointed as Vice-Mayor should take the RPO position.
 - a. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Rodes be appointed to the TWSA board. Commissioner Bryson seconded. Motion passed.
 - b. The Jackson County Planning Board appointment was tabled until Rodes contacts Breedlove for clarification.



- c. Rodes asked if Moses would be available to go to the RPO meeting on January 25. Moses said she was available but thought it was ridiculous to fill out paperwork and attend a meeting if the appointment could then be undone at the next meeting and given to the then appointed Vice Mayor. Moses said she would go to the meeting and would not vote nor would not file paperwork until the issue was decided.
- d. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Moses be temporarily appointed to the RPO board. Commissioner Bryson seconded. Motion passed.
3. New Board Member Representation
- a. Mayor Rodes passed out a sheet introducing Robert Edwards to the board since he couldn't be present. Leigh Anne Young introduced herself and said she was willing to serve Webster in the capacity of commissioner to make sure it's a vibrant and relevant community.
- a. Commissioner Bryson suggested tabling the appointment and waiting until next month so that Edwards and Young can both attend.
- b. Moses said she thought since Young was present and had reached out to the town instead of being called, the town should nominate her to serve as commissioner and ask Edwards to serve on the planning board or board of adjustments.
- c. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Young be appointed to the Town Board. Commissioner Moses seconded. Motion passed.
4. Change Meeting Date
- a. Moses asked if the board could meet another time/day. After discussion, the decision was to leave the meeting day/time the same.
5. Discuss Land Use Plan Development
- a. Janice Blanton said she would volunteer to prepare, with the board's assistance, a land use plan. She indicated she would not charge the town for her service.
- b. The plan will include goals and the town's vision for how the town will move forward.
- c. Moses provided Blanton with two examples and support materials along with a list of different agencies that might offer assistance. She also said that she thought Blanton should be paid for her time. She said we should schedule our annual planning workshop and devote an hour to just working on the Land Use Plan with Blanton.
- a. **MOTION:** Commissioner Phillips moved that Blanton be hired to complete the Land Use Plan. Commissioner Moses seconded. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Commissioner Phillips motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Bryson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Tracy Rodes, Mayor

Danell Moses, Town Clerk