

**AMENDED
TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 2019
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Mayor Johnnie Greene
Keith Warren
Rebecca Johnson
Joe Norman
Clay Wilson
Jeff Wilson

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Todd
Terry Taylor
Julie A Good

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Johnnie Greene called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Pastor Devin Severt gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Johnnie Greene led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to adopt the April 16, 2019 Agenda.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to adopt the April 16, 2019 Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 19, 2019 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the March 19, 2019 regular meeting minutes.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to approve the March 19, 2019 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 19, 2019 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the March 19, 2019 closed session minutes.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to approve the March 19, 2019 closed session minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 26, 2019 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the March 26, 2019 special meeting minutes.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to approve the March 26, 2019 special meeting minutes. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

Tom Blanton of Russell Dr stated that he was present at the March 26, 2019 special meeting and wanted to speak to Council regarding contracting a deputy. Mr. Blanton stated that a Town this size should have its own police force and the proposal from the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department is a good first step in that direction.

Diane Blanton of Russell Dr stated that she was disappointed with the Council for not adding the Caldwell County Sheriff's Department proposal for a part-time deputy to the budget for this year. Mrs. Blanton also stated that she was not happy about that the Town is considering dropping recycle from the Town's services.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Johnnie Greene announced Mr. Paul Blair as the April Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of thirty-two dollars (\$32.00) will be added to his sanitation bill.

No Council action was required.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

BAD DEBT WRITE OFF: Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that the Town had a list of 2015 accounts that have gone unpaid for Utility and Sanitation services. The Town does not expect to collect payment for these accounts and recommends that Council approve the write off of the accounts. The total amount of these accounts is five thousand four hundred two dollars and eleven cents (\$5,402.11). Mayor Johnnie Greene also advised Council that included in the list are thirty-five (35) accounts the Town has submitted to the NC Debt Setoff Program for Collection. Mayor Johnnie Greene stated the Town had recovered five thousand five hundred twenty-eight dollars and thirty-five cents (\$5,528.35) from previous years. There are sufficient funds in the budget to cover this.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to approve staff to write off the 2015 list of bad debts accounts in the amount of five thousand four hundred two dollars and eleven cents (\$5,402.11). All were in favor.

PLANNING MATTERS:

RE-APPOINTMENT PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS: Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that there are two (2) seats on the Planning Board that expired in September 1, 2018. Steve Duncan and David Powell have both agreed to serve another term.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to reappoint Steve Duncan and David Powell to another term on the Planning Board. All were in favor.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT VACANCIES: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Sawmills Board of Adjustments has an in town vacant seat due to Board Member Todd Hess moving out of the city limits and there is an out of town seat vacant. Alternate Board Member Reed Lingerfelt has agreed to be a permanent Board Member.

Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that there is an out of town permanent seat and an alternate seat vacant if Council knows of anyone in the public that wants to serve.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to appoint Reed Lingerfelt from Alternate Board of Adjustment Member to Board Member. All were in favor.

WPCOG PLANNER/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AGREEMENT:

Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that the current contract with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) for planning services will expire on June 30, 2019 and will need to be renewed. The renewal of the services would be for twenty-three thousand seven hundred thirty dollars (\$23,730.00) and billed in twelve (12) monthly payments of one thousand nine hundred seventy-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$1,977.50).

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to accept the contract with the WPCOG for a total of twenty-three thousand seven hundred thirty dollars (\$23,730.00). All were in favor.

WPCOG STORM WATER DISCHARGE PROGRAM AGREEMENT: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the current agreement between the City of Lenoir and the Town of Sawmills for storm water discharge expires on June 30, 2019. The City of Lenoir will no longer be offering a Storm Water program. The Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) will offer a Storm Water Discharge Program. The Storm Water Discharge Program between the WPCOG and the Town of Sawmills will be effective July 1, 2019 and expire June 30, 2021. The cost the Town would pay the WPCOG to continue responsibility of the plan is in the amount of twenty-three thousand six hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$23,698.00).

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to approve the Storm Water Discharge Program Agreement covering the period of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021 in the amount of twenty-three thousand six hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$23,698.00). All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

APRIL CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: There are four (4) code enforcement cases open:

- Chaney Carter, owner of 4361 Sawmills School Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner stated that a letter was sent on July 19, 2018, with a deadline of August 3, 2018. Town Planner stated that the nuisance was abated by the Town on August 10, 2018. Town Planner stated that a lien will be placed on the property for the cost of the mowing;
- Jessie Kristian Smith, 4215 Trojan Ln. Fowl running loose. Town Planner received a written complaint from adjacent property owner stating that resident at 4215 Trojan Ln had approximately one (1) to fifteen (15) chickens and six (6) ducks running loose. Traveling public along Trojan Ln are consistently having to stop to wait on ducks to cross the road or sunning in the road. School buses have needed to blow horns to get them to move. Also, the chickens are digging up the neighbor's property. Town Planner stated that a certified letter was sent to home owner on February 21, 2019. Town Planner stated that she visited the site and there were fowl running loose in the back yard and roosting. There are also materials accumulation surrounding the home, which looks as though property owners are building a fence;
- Carolyn Bray/Robyn Brittan, 2570 Baker Circle. Abandoned mobile home. Town Planner Hunter Nestor states that he is working with Town Attorney Terry Taylor to abate;
- Horror Fields, Kiser-Sawmills, Helena St. Fence/buffer. Town Planner Hunter Nestor stated that a complaint was received on April 10, 2019. Town Planner Hunter Nestor stated that the property is not in compliance with the conditions set in CUP. Town Planner Hunter Nestor stated that a NOV letter was sent out on April 11, 2019, with a deadline of May 10, 2019.

No Council action was required.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Lights at Baird Park are up and running and that the lights look and work great.

COUNCIL COMMENT: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked if anyone on the Council had any questions or comments at this time.

Joe Norman stated wanted to thank everyone for coming out and he hoped everyone came back.

Keith Warren wanted to thank everyone for coming out.

Rebecca Johnson wanted to thank everyone for coming out and hoped everyone would come back.

Jeff Wilson wanted to let everyone know that the April meeting would be his last meeting.

Jeff Wilson stated that he and his wife are moving out of state. Jeff Wilson wanted to thank everyone for the experience he has had during his time on the Sawmills Town Council.

CLOSED SESSION: ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to go into closed session at approximately 6:24 pm. All were in favor.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to come out of closed session at approximately 6:36pm. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to adjourn.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:37pm.

Johnnie Greene, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk