

**TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Joe Wesson
Gerelene Blevins
Jeff Wilson
Joe Norman
Keith Warren
Reed Lingerfelt

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Todd
Terry Taylor

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Joe Wesson called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Councilman Keith Warren gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Joe Wesson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to adopt the April 19, 2016 Agenda.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to adopt the April 19, 2016 agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE MARCH 22, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to approve the March 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

Gerelene Blevins made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to approve the March 22, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

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

Susan Holman signed up to speak regarding land use issues with a property adjacent to her own. Ms. Holman explained that a property adjacent to her own, which was operated by Caldwell Ready Mix, a concrete company, has been dumping debris at the edge of her property. Along with the debris, there is a walled storage area that holds water which creates a habitat for mosquitoes to breed during the warmer months. Ms. Holman explained that she contacted the Town originally in 2013 at which time she was assisted by the Town Planner, John Wear. The case was turned over to the Caldwell County offices, which helped Ms. Holman file a report with the EPA regarding the standing water and mosquito issue. She stated that while this all has been done, nothing has changed or come from the

report to the EPA, and the dumping and debris is still present. She asked for the town to reinvestigate if there was anything they could do to help her situation.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Joe Wesson announced Ms. Josephine Wilson, as the April Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to her sanitation bill. Mayor Joe Wesson stated that her certificate would be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

WPCOG PLANNER/CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER AGREEMENT: Mayor Joe Wesson stated that the current contract with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments (WPCOG) for planning services will expire on June 30, 2016 and will need to be renewed. The renewal of the services would be for thirty-three thousand three hundred seventy dollars (\$33,370) and would include planning services, code enforcement, and grant writing assistance for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to accept the contract with the WPCOG for a total of \$33,370 for planning services, code enforcement, and grant writing assistance for the Parks and Recreation Trust Fund Grant. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION:

MAGGIE LANE STREET PETITION: Mayor Joe Wesson asked Town Administrator Christopher Todd to discuss this item. Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated, the town has the ability to take over the maintenance responsibilities of private streets, through the Private Street Acceptance Procedure. Once accepted, a private street becomes a Town street in perpetuity. Maggie Lane is a private street accessed from Cahah Mountain Road. The owners have submitted a street petition for Council's review. Mr. Todd explained that council could discuss this issue during the next fiscal year budget retreat. No action was taken.

ADOPT OFFICIAL ZONING MAP: Mayor Joe Wesson asked Town Administrator Christopher Todd to discuss this item. Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated, the Town annually adopts an official zoning map that is signed by the acting Mayor and Town Clerk in case a property's legal zoning status is ever questioned. An official zoning map does not have to be adopted after each rezoning case, but can be adopted annually to make sure the official zoning map is current. No official zoning changes have been made to the

map. The map did have some general design issues addressed to allow for more ease of reading and understanding the contents.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to adopt the zoning map as presented as the official zoning map for Sawmills. All were in favor.

CALDWELL COUNTY RAILROAD COMMISSION MEMBER APPOINTMENT:

Mayor Joe Wesson stated a representative from each municipality serves a two (2) year term on the Caldwell County Railroad Commission. Joe Wesson is currently serving on the Caldwell County Railroad Commission. The term started on January 1, 2014 and lasts until December 31, 2016. The council will need to appoint a representative for January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to appoint Mayor Joe Wesson as the Sawmills representative for the Caldwell County Railroad Commission. All were in favor.

CODE RED PHONE SYSTEM POLICY: Mayor Joe Wesson stated The Town of Sawmills uses and operates an automated phone system called Code Red. This system allows the Town to quickly and reliably disseminate information to the citizens of Sawmills. At this point in time, in order to clarify the use of this system, a formal policy of use is being presented to the Town Council.

The draft policy reads as follows:

“Policy-

The Code Red phone system is operated by the Town of Sawmills with the purpose of disseminating accurate information to the citizens, businesses, and property owners of the town, in an efficient and effective manner. The primary goal of this information is to help ensure the aforementioned parties are aware of important town emergencies, business, and activities. This system is not intended to advertise the events of private and non-profit entities.

The following is an approved list of issues which the Code Red system can be used to notify users of the system.

1. Town sponsored community events
2. Town/regional emergencies
3. Water and/or sewer customer disruptions of service
4. The notification of town hall or town services temporary closings
5. Sawmills Fire Department officially sponsored community events.”

Reed Lingerfelt made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to adopt the Code Red Phone System Policy as presented. Reed Lingerfelt, Gerelene Blevins, Joe Norman, and Keith Warren were in favor. Jeff Wilson was opposed. The motion passed four to one.

UPDATES:

SBEA FEBRUARY PROGRESS REPORT: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that Sherry Long, from the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, has enclosed a progress report for the SBEA project 12-C-2443.

No Council action was required.

APRIL CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that there are three (3) code enforcement cases open:

- Steven Killian at 4801 Helton Road. Case has been given to Town Attorney
- Wendy Hadchin is the owner of a dilapidated house located at 4476 Sawmills School Road. Code Enforcement Officer Elinor Hiltz emailed the homeowner on February 18, 2016 and February 23, 2016 and has received no response on posting “for sale” signs or allowing a minimum housing inspection. On March 10, 2016 Code Enforcement Officer Elinor Hiltz drafted a letter about repairing the walls. On April 12, 2016 Code Enforcement Office Elinor Hiltz issued an additional nuisance letter.
- Tim Hart at 1940 Leah Drive #4. On April 12, 2016 Code Enforcement Office Elinor Hiltz issues an additional nuisance letter for the property owner to remove the mobile home.

No Council action was required.

COUNCIL COMMENT:

Mayor Joe Wesson asked if anyone on the Council had any questions or comments at this time.

Joe Norman stated that everything seems to be “inline” and going well in the town. Invited everyone to come back in May.

Keith Warren stated that it was a good meeting and appreciates everyone that came out. He wished everyone a good night and a safe trip home.

Gerelene Blevins stated that she was glad to see everyone at the meeting. She also explained that she understood there are issues with mosquitos in some places around town and that she too cared about the issue.

Jeff Wilson thanked everyone for coming out.

Reed Lingerfelt thanked everyone for coming out and their comments for council. Reed Lingerfelt wanted to thank Public Works and the office staff for all of the hard work they do for the town.

Mayor Joe Wesson stated that he would like to thank everyone for coming and would like to encourage more people to come out and participate and make comments because some of the best ideas come from the citizens. He stated that one of those ideas was the new Gazebo

the town recently purchased, and how he believed that it would be a beautiful addition to the town. Mayor Wesson also announced a Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was to be held Wednesday, April 27, 2016 at 4:00pm located in the Sawmills Town Hall.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to adjourn.

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

Julie A Good, Town Clerk

Joe Wesson, Mayor