

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

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 August 21, 2018 Agenda, with an amendment, adding line item 9C, Demolition Funds.

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to adopt the amended August 21, 2018 Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE JULY 17, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the July 17, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to approve the July 17, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

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

Steve Hill, citizen of Sawmills, wanted to talk about zoning on Marcus Drive and dilapidated houses on Sawmills School Road.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Johnnie Greene announced Mr. Danny Malcolm as the August 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:

PROMISES OF HOPE DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that Promises of Hope had requested a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00).

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to give a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) to Promises of Hope. All were in favor.

CALDWELL COUNTY SCHOOLS DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that the Caldwell County Schools had requested a donation in the amount of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00).

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to give a donation in the amount of fourteen thousand dollars (\$14,000.00) to the Caldwell County Schools. All were in favor.

CREDIT CARD PURCHASES RESOLUTION AND POLICY: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Town needs to review its electronic purchasing policies in order to stay up to date with changes in the general statutes. A new updated policy outlining the specifics of purchases of materials, supplies and/or services for the Town, by authorized personnel.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Town of Sawmills to Engage in Electronic Payments as Defined by G.S. 159-28 or G.S. 115C-441. All were in favor.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to adopt the Resolution Authorizing Utilization of Credit Cards. All were in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT DONATION: Mayor Johnnie Greene stated that the Sawmills Volunteer Fire Department is celebrating its 60th Anniversary with an open house scheduled for September 16. In order to show support for the event, a donation of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) is recommended to help fund the open house and any auxiliary activated to the event.

Joe Normans made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to give a donation in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.00) to the Sawmills Volunteer Fire Department. All were

in favor.

DISCUSSION:

STREET REPAIR BID REVIEW: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the bid opening for Trojan Lane, Sigmon Drive, and Withers Drive street projects occurred on July 24, 2018. Three (3) bids were received:

Carolina Paving of Hickory, Inc	\$229,325.00
JT Russell and Sons, Inc	\$257,325.00
Evans Construction	\$280,932.50

The Town budgeted a total of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) for the paving projects, which is to include construction and engineering.

It is recommended for the Town Council to award the contract to Carolina Paving for only Withers Drive and Trojan Lane, along with only a portion of the proposed Sigmon Drive project in order to stay within the budgeted amount. The total estimated cost would be one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$185,000.00).

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to award the bid to Carolina Paving of Hickory, Inc., in the amount of one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$185,000.00) for Withers Drive and Trojan Lane, along with a portion of Sigmon Drive, if monies are available. All were in favor.

CODE ENFORCEMENT ORDINANCES: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Town Council received an overview of the town's nuisance ordinances during the July Council meeting. At that time, it was determined that the Code Enforcement Committee would discuss any need for the Council to amend the ordinance. The Code Enforcement Committee met and decided that the full Council needs to be part of the discussion regarding any amendment to the nuisance ordinance.

This matter is tabled to the September meeting.

DEMOLITION FUNDS: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Town of Sawmills solicited requests for proposals (RFPs) for nuisance abatement and demolition for the remainder of the 2018/2019 fiscal year. No complete RFPs were submitted by the bid deadline of August 7, 2018. Since that time, staff has been working to secure a completed RFO or project bid for needed nuisance abatement.

In order to expedite the process of contract approval for demolition, staff is asking for the ability to approve agreements for demolition, not to exceed the budgeted funding level of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00). Additionally, any agreement would be reviewed and approved by the Town Attorney.

Rebecca Johnson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to approve the Town Administrator to sign demolition agreements for the purpose of nuisance abatement, with agreements not to exceed the budgeted funding level set forth by the Town Council. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

AUGUST CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: There are twelve (12) code enforcement cases open:

- Teresa Annas Compton is the owner of a dilapidated house located at 4476 Sawmills School Road. The Town can move forward with contracting out abatement efforts (demo and removal) and require reimbursement in the form of a lien on the property;
- Jose Montes, owner 4321 Cherokee Court. High grass/junk vehicles. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spot checked property on June 14, 2018. Still no proper driveway has ever been installed. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that a letter was sent giving the owner thirty (30) days to install a driveway. The thirty (30) days are up on July 14, 2018, and homeowner will start to accrue fines if not compliant from that date;
- Janice Griffin, Trustee of Iona Griffin, 2148 Oaktree Ln. Abandoned, partially burned apartment building. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that the former Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows spoke with lead contractor Lewis Miller, of Lewis Miller Construction on March 8, 2018. Mr. Miller stated that he is still waiting for the report from the structural engineer to determine what's salvageable of what remains of the burnt structure. Once cleared to begin reconstruction, Mr. Miller anticipates six (6) to eight (8) months for completion. Town Planner Becca Bleich will continue to monitor;
- Midland IRA, owner of 5711 Dream View Point. Nonconforming accessory structure. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spot checked property in April. An accessory structure has been placed on the property before the principal structure has been constructed. Letter was sent on May 23, 2018 with a deadline to remove structure by June 7, 2018;
- Chun Walker, owner of 4125 Shoun Dr. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleich stated that she spot checked property on August 9, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that the property is a little overgrown but not terrible. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that she will continue to monitor the property;
- Sandra Parlier, daughter of the owner of 4380 Sawmills School Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Sandra contacted Town Planner Becca Bleigh requesting extension on foreclosure process. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a letter was sent on August 7, 2018, explaining the foreclosure process was initiated by Caldwell County

- but the nuisance violations would need to be abated within fifteen (15) days. Deadline is August 22, 2017;
- Chaney Carter, owner of 4361 Sawmills School Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV 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 Becca Bleigh stated that a lien will be placed on the property for the cost of the mowing;
 - Timberline Lumber Company, Inc., owner of 4219 US Highway 321A. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 19, 2018, with a deadline of August 3, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleigh also stated that an additional letter was sent by Town Attorney Terry Taylor on August 2, 2018 with a deadline of August 17, 2018;
 - Andrew and Bridget Dehart, owners of 4036 US Highway 321A. Rubbish. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 24, 2018, with a deadline of August 8, 2018. Town Planner stated that the property has been cleaned. Case closed;
 - Cody South, owner of 4163 Horseshoe Bend Rd. Livestock (horses). Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that this complaint was for insufficient amount of land to have horses. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 24, 2018, with a deadline of August 8, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that the horses have been moved. Case closed;
 - Robert Hollar, owner of 2615 Mission Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that there was vegetation on the fence encroaching onto the neighbor's property. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 24, 2018, with a deadline of August 8, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that she missed a call from the property owner requesting clarification and she called back and left a voicemail explaining the issue. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that she has not heard back from the owner. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that she will continue to monitor;
 - Gladys Green, registered owner of 2624 Mission Rd. Overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that a NOV letter was sent on July 24, 2018, with a deadline of August 8, 2018. Town Planner Becca Bleigh stated that the letter was returned as undeliverable.

No Council action was required.

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

Clay Wilson wanted to thank everyone for coming out.

Jeff Wilson wanted to thank everyone for coming out.

Keith Warren wanted to thank everyone for coming out.

Mayor Johnnie Greene wanted to thank everyone for coming out and hoped everyone would come back.

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

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

Johnnie Greene, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk