

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

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

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher Todd
Terry Taylor
Julie A Good

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

INVOCATION: Pastor Don Ingle 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 February 20, 2018 Agenda.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to adopt the February 20, 2018 Agenda. All were in favor.

APPROVE JANUARY 16, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the January 16, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to approve the January 16, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE JANUARY 18, 2018 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the January 18, 2018 special meeting minutes.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to approve the January 18, 2018 special meeting minutes. All were in favor.

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

No one wished to speak.

RECOGNITIONS:

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

No Council action was required.

SAWMILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT AWARDS: Mayor Johnnie Greene, on behalf of the Town Council, presented plaques of appreciation to the following:

Firefighter of the Year:	Grant Newton
First Responder of the Year:	Christy Bumgarner
Officers of the Year:	Chief David Price Keith Gibbons

No Council action was required.

DISCUSSION:

AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE WASTE-WATER TREATMENT SERVICES: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the Town of Sawmills Waste-Water Agreement with the City of Lenoir has expired. A new agreement has been drafted and reviewed by staff. The new agreement is sufficient to meet the sewer needs through the life of the agreement. The main aspects of the agreement are:

- The agreement would be effective until February 2033
- The maximum gallons per day is to negotiated every five (5) years
- The current maximum gallons per day in the agreement is two hundred fifty thousand (250,000)

- The Town of Sawmills is currently sending fifty thousand (50,000) gallons per day to be disposed of by the City of Lenoir
- The new agreement would put in place a tiered billing structure

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to approve the Agreement to Purchase Waste-Water Treatment Services from the City of Lenoir for the amount of three dollars and seventy-eight cents (\$3.78) per one thousand gallons up to two hundred fifty thousand (250,000) gallons of metered waste-water services per day. All were in favor.

No council action needed.

PLANNING:

RECOMMENDATION FOR PLANNING BOARD ETJ VACANT SEAT: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that due to the recent annexation of ETJ Planning Board Member Clyde Miller's property and home into the Town limits, there is a vacant seat for an out of town "ETJ" member. The Town has received a Planning Board application from Richard Miller who is willing to serve in the position.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to ask Caldwell County Board of Commissioners to appoint Richard Miller to the vacant ETJ Planning Board seat. All were in favor.

PRESENTATION OF PROPOSED SIGN ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT AND CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that currently, the Town of Sawmills' sign regulations only allow for one (1) ground sign per lot, in the Highway Business (H-B) and General Manufacturing (G-M) zoning districts, with a maximum sign height of twenty (20) feet. As such enterprises are allowed only one (1) such sign the Planning and Development Committee and Planning Board are in favor of an amendment to the Town's sign regulations that would increase the maximum ground sign height requirement for H-B and G-M districts from twenty (20) feet to thirty (30) feet.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to call for a public hearing for proposed sign ordinance text amendment at the regularly scheduled March 20, 2018 Town of Sawmills Council meeting. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

FEBRUARY CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that there are seven (7) 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;
- Carolyn Bray/Robyn Brittan, owner of 2570 Baker Cir. Abandoned mobile home. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated in order to move forward a final Notice of Violation packet from the Town Attorney's office to set a hearing date will be needed before the Town can contract out the abatement efforts (demo and removal) and require reimbursement in the form of a lien on the property;
- John "Jody" McRary and neighbors, Jody Drive. Outdoor storage/junk vehicles in ROW/freight container. This is a non-conforming use, Impressive Auto, encroaching on neighborhood and blocking street for Fire & Rescue/Trash Pick-up. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated she spot checked the property on February 8, 2018. A code enforcement committee meeting was held on December 28, 2017 for this matter. It was decided that the Town would look into the cost of relocating the shipping container for the landowner, in order to avoid any ordinance amendments that could result in the influx of these containers in residential areas. The landowner has two (2) possible new locations, but the Town has yet to find an affordable, insured mode of transportation for relocation;
- Jose Montes, owner 4321 Cherokee Court. High grass/junk vehicles. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she spot checked property on February 8, 2018. There was one (1) tagged car in the cul-de-sac. There was some kind of yard work in progress which could be the process of preparing to install a proper driveway? Small lot size and steep slope are limiting factors;
- Janice Griffin, Trustee of Iona Griffin, 2148 Oaktree Ln. Abandoned, partially burned apartment building. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she received an update from landowner's attorney on February 5, 2018. Lewis Miller Construction is almost finished with the demolition and removal of only the damaged portions. The plan is to repair/rebuild based off what is left salvageable. A structural engineer has been hired to certify that what remains of the structure is sound enough to begin reconstruction. A Caldwell County Building permit was obtained on January 10, 2018 without getting a building permit from the Town;
- Jeremiah Taylor, owner of 4190 Duff Dr. Junked vehicles/outdoor storage/overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated she spot checked the property on February 8, 2018. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she left a telephone message with the landowner asking him to report back on his intentions before the February 20, 2018 Council meeting. The landowner had originally stated that the one (1) car would be removed immediately and the truck frame would have to be reattached before it could be moved. Landowner returned the telephone call on February 20, 2018 and stated that he had to find the titles to the vehicles before they could be removed by a towing company. Landowner has found those titles and is in the process of making arrangements for the vehicles to be towed;
- Jane Greene, owner of 4446 Villa Ln. Outdoor storage encroaching on neighbor. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she has discussed the items for removal

and/or relocation. Landowners grandson will be performing the work, and has agreed to contact Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows once the work is completed, hopefully by the end of February. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she will continue to monitor for progress.

No Council action was required.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that her had spoken to Anthony Starr of the WPCOG and Mr. Starr stated he had enjoyed the presentation that he had done for the Council during the February 9, 2018, Budget Retreat and he is working on the notes for the Council had asked for about the presentation.

Town Administrator Christopher Todd also stated that the Town had applied for two (2) grants for a GIS inspired project (one (1) grant for water and one (1) grant for sewer) that would put water and sewer lines on a GIS site. The Town did get approved for the water grant and the Town's portion would be between thirty-five hundred dollars (\$3,500.00) and four thousand dollars (\$4,000.00). If the Town would like to go ahead with the sewer portion without a grant the cost would be approximately twenty-seven thousand dollars (\$27,000.00).

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

Clay Wilson stated the he has received a telephone call from Mrs. Wright, the principal at Sawmills Elementary School, thanking the Town and Council for the donation that they receive every year.

Jeff Wilson wanted to thank everyone for coming out and he hoped everyone is enjoying the nice February weather.

Rebecca Johnson wanted to thank everyone for coming out and hoped to see everyone at the next meeting.

Keith Warren stated that he appreciated everyone coming out.

Joe Norman wanted to thank everyone for coming out and hoped everyone had a safe trip home. Joe Norman also stated that he hoped everyone enjoyed the weather while it lasts.

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

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

Johnnie Greene, Mayor

Julie A. Good, Town Clerk