

**TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2015
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Trena McRary Kirby
Joe Wesson
Jeff Wilson
Johnny Wilson
Gerelene Blevins

STAFF PRESENT

Seth Eckard
Julie Good
Terry Taylor

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Councilman Joe Wesson gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of Agenda Item 9B: Appointment of Interim Town Administrator.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to adopt the agenda with the addition of Agenda Item 9B: Appointment of Interim Town Administrator. All were in favor.

APPROVE MAY 19, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to approve the May 19, 2015 regular meeting minutes.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to approve the minutes. All were in favor.

APPROVE May 19, 2015 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to approve the May 19, 2015 closed session minutes.

Gerelene Blevins made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to approve the minutes. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Town Administrator Seth Eckard announced Grace Parsons as the June Recycle Rewards winners. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to her sanitation bill. Mrs. Parsons was present to accept her certificate.

No Council action was required.

YARD OF THE MONTH WINNERS: Town Administrator Seth Eckard announced Howard and Mary Nell Benfield, from the 28630 zip code, and Joyce Fox, from the 28638 zip code, as the June Yard of the Month winners. Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that both certificates would be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC HEARING: ADOPT PROPOSED FY 2015-2016 BUDGET:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Pro Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

Joe Wesson made a motion, Gerelene Blevins seconded, to open the public hearing. All were in favor.

STAFF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated the proposed FY 2015-2016 budget was enclosed.

Johnny Wilson wanted the citizens of Sawmills to know that the item Interlocal Transfer to Caldwell County in the amount of \$280,000.00 (two hundred eighty thousand dollars) under General Fund Expenditures was not something that the Town willingly gives to Caldwell County. Caldwell County gives the Town no choice but to pay this amount.

Joe Wesson stated that all in all the Town has a good budget and the Town is doing good things for the citizens. The Council and Town continues to move forward with budgets like this one.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked if anyone wished to speak on the proposed FY 2015-2016 budget.

No one wished to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Pro Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to close the public hearing. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ACTION: Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to adopt the proposed FY 2015-2016 budget. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION:

THIRD AMENDMENT TO TOWN OF SAWMILLS LICENSING AGREEMENT: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that the current licensing agreement between the Town of Sawmills and the Sawmills Optimist needs to be renewed. The renewal licensing agreement will cover the period of July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Johnny Wilson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to adopt the Third Amendment to Town of Sawmills Licensing Agreement. All were in favor.

APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that Council needed to have an Interim Town Administrator until a new Town Administrator is hired.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to have Finance Officer, Karen Clontz, as Interim Town Administrator until a new Town Administrator is hired. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL:

APPROVE UPDATE TO BANK SIGNATURE CARDS: Town Administrator stated that due to his resignation there needed to be new signature cards on file at the bank. The bank requires a new signature card to be on file whenever there are changes in the staff and/or Council. The signature cards will authorize Karen Clontz, Mayor Pro Tem Trena McRary Kirby, Johnny Wilson and Joe Wesson to sign on behalf of the Town regarding banking transactions. The Town requires 2 (two) signatures for accounts payable checks and the safety deposit box.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to have new signature cards on file at the bank giving Karen Clontz, Mayor Pro Tem Trena McRary Kirby, Johnny Wilson and Joe Wesson authorization regarding all banking transactions.

AMENDED PROJECT ORDINANCE 2012 DUFF DRIVE PROJECT: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that during the April 21, 2015 Council meeting, an updated project ordinance for the 2012 Duff Drive Project was presented, and approved, reflecting the increased finds granted to the Town for construction costs. Included in the

total was the amount of \$32,500.00 (thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars) for planning as requested by the NC Department of Commerce (DoC). However, DoC decided not to approve the additional funding and a new project ordinance will need to be approved in the amount of \$1,054,601.89 (one million fifty-four thousand six hundred one dollars and eighty-nine cents).

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to approve the amended project ordinance 2012 Duff Drive project in the amount of \$1,054,601.89 (one million fifty-four thousand six hundred one dollars and eighty-nine cents). All were in favor.

PLANNING:

APPOINT REVIEW OFFICER: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that due to his resignation there needed to be a Review Officer in the office to work with the Town Planner in the signing of permits and plats. The Review Officer will sign the permits and plats in the event the Town Planner is not available and only after the Town Planner has reviewed the documents.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to make Town Clerk Julie Good the Review Officer for the Town. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked if anyone had any questions or comments at this time.

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT: Town Administrator Seth Eckard stated that this was his last meeting as Town Administrator for the Town of Sawmills and “it has been an honor and his pleasure to serve the Town Council and the Citizens of Sawmills.

COUNCIL COMMENT: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked if anyone on the Council had any questions or comments at this time.

Gerelene Blevins told Town Administrator Seth Eckard that he had done a super job for the Town of Sawmills and the Town has enjoyed having Town Administrator Seth Eckard here.

Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby thanked Town Administrator Seth Eckard for the job he has done for the Town and wanted to thank everyone for coming.

Johnny Wilson gave Town Administrator a wholehearted thank you for the job he has done for the Town.

Jeff Wilson congratulated Town Administrator Seth on his new job and thanked him for the job he had done for the Town.

Joe Wesson presented Town Administrator Seth Eckard with a plaque for his service with the Town of Sawmills and also thanked everyone for coming.

CLOSED SESSION: ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to go into closed session at 6:19 pm.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to come out of closed session at 7:30 pm.

SPECIAL MEETING DATES: Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, that a Special Meeting is scheduled on July 15 at 5:30 pm in Council Chambers, a Special Meeting is scheduled August 4, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the EDC Building and a Special Meeting is scheduled on August 5, 2015 at 5:30 pm at the EDC Building. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ADJOURN: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to adjourn.

Gerelene Blevins made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.

Julie A Good, Town Clerk

Trena McRary Kirby,
Mayor Pro-Tem