

**TUESDAY, JUNE 21, 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
Julie A Good

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

INVOCATION: Associate Reverend Rick Crouse 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 June 21, 2016 Agenda with the addition of Agenda Item 10D: Planning Board Application.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to adopt the June 21, 2016 agenda with the addition of Agenda Item 10D: Planning Board Application. All were in favor.

APPROVE MAY 17, 2016 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to approve the May 17, 2016 regular meeting minutes.

Gerelene Blevins made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to approve the May 17, 2016 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

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

No one wished to speak.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Mayor Joe Wesson announced Ms. Claudia Ward-Eller, as the June Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to her sanitation bill.

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC HEARING: FY 2016-2017 BUDGET:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

Reed Lingerfelt made a motion, Keith Warren seconded, to open the public hearing. All were in favor.

STAFF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the budget is balanced as required by the NC Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The Town's overall budget for FY 2016-2017 totals two million nine hundred ninety-two thousand six dollars (\$2,992,006.00). A few highlights of the proposed budget include no property tax increase; minor increases of the water and sewer rates; no appropriation of General Fund unrestricted reserves will be made for the fiscal year; an appropriation of Water and Sewer Fund reserves will be made this fiscal year; maintains current level of services; maintains current levels of benefits for employees. The Town will also maintain its current levels of service to the citizens.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Joe Wesson asked if anyone wished to speak on the FY 2016-2017 Budget.

No one wished to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to close the public hearing. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ACTION: Joe Norman made a motion, and Reed Lingerfelt seconded, to adopt the FY 2016-2017 Budget. The vote passed 4 to 1 with Jeff Wilson being the only Council Member opposed.

DISCUSSION:

STORMWATER DISCHARGE PROGRAM AGREEMENT: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that the current agreement between the City of Lenoir and the Town of Sawmills for the Storm Water Discharge Program needs to be renewed. The renewal Agreement will cover the period of July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017. The cost the Town will pay the City of Lenoir to continue responsibility of the plan is \$13,104.93 (thirteen thousand one hundred four dollars and ninety-three cents).

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to adopt the renewal Agreement with the City of Lenoir in the amount of \$13,104.93 (thirteen thousand, one hundred four dollars and ninety-three cents). All were in favor.

FOUTH AMENDMENT TO TOWN OF SAWMILLS LICENSING AGREEMENT: Town Administrator Christopher Todd 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, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Joe Norman seconded, to adopt the Fourth Amendment to Town of Sawmills Licensing Agreement. All were in favor.

PLANNING MATTERS:

MARBLESTONE DRIVE MINOR SUBDIVISION: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that Frank Crowell, the owner of a 5.4 acre lot at the end of Marblestone Drive in the Hayes Mill Landing subdivision, would like to divide his property into three (3) lots. The Subdivision Review Board reviewed the plat on June 9, 2016 and recommended approval with two (2) conditions:

- Add a statement on the plat that owners of Lot A and Lot B will be responsible for maintenance on the shared driveway;
- Add the words "Public Row" to Marblestone Drive.

Both conditions have been met on the plat.

Staff and Subdivision Review Board have reviewed all state and local requirements for this subdivision and believe that, with proposed conditions of approval, this subdivision meets all requirements.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Reed Lingerfelt seconded, to approve Marblestone Drive Lots A, B, C Final Plat. All were in favor.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS ETJ POSITION APPOINTMENT: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that the Board of Adjustments has a vacancy for an ETJ member seat.

This item is tabled until the July 19, 2016 regular Council meeting.

PLANNING BOARD STAGGERING TERMS AND APPOINTMENTS: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that The Planning and Administration departments propose to stagger the Planning Board terms. Currently, four (4) out of five (5) members' terms expire at the same time. If the terms are staggered, there is a potential for more consistency on the Board. Each term will last three (3) years. The following is a suggested way to stagger the terms:

Initial term ending September 2017	Initial term ending September 2018
In-Town member (Vacant)	In-Town member (Steve Duncan)
ETJ Member (Ryan Wilson)	In-Town Member (David Powell)
	ETJ Member (Clyde Miller)

Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that she has contacted all Board Members.

ETJ members will need to be appointed by the Caldwell County Commissioners at their July 18, 2016 meeting.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to approve the terms and names for Planning Board and stagger the terms as presented to Council. All were in favor.

PLANNING BOARD APPLICATION: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that the Planning Board currently has an "In-Town" vacant position. There is an application on file for the Planning Board for an in-town resident submitted by William Kelly Price.

Gerelene Blevins made a motion, and Reed Lingerfelt seconded, to appoint Mr. William Kelly Price to the "In-Town" vacant Planning Board seat. All were in favor.

UPDATES:

JUNE CODE ENFORCEMENT REPORT: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated that there are fourteen (14) code enforcement cases open:

- Teresa Annas Compton is the owner of a dilapidated house located at 4476 Sawmills School Road. Town Planner Elinor Hiltz will restart code enforcement process with new owner;
- Charles Hagaman, owner of 1940 Leah Drive #4. Sent letter to remove the mobile home by the end of June;

- Peter Rowe, owner of 4016 and 4017 Cloninger Way. Need code enforcement meeting for burned out house;
- Larry Griffin, owner of 2173 Oaktree Lane, Apartment #2. Need code enforcement meeting for dead animal nuisance complaint and minimum housing complaint;
- Larry Griffin, owner of 2165 Oaktree Lane. Need to inspect;
- Larry Griffin, owner of 2165 Oaktree Lane. Need code enforcement meeting for unfinished repairs and exposed wires;
- Wanda and Richard Greene at 4205 Trojan Lane. High grass. Need to inspect;
- David and Amy Dula at 2303 O J Lane. High grass. Need to inspect;
- John Wilcox, owner of Lot #6 on Ellen Street. High grass. Need to inspect;
- Jane Greene at 4446 Villa Lane. Junk in yard. Inspected and complaint was verified. Need code enforcement meeting to send letter;
- Casey Lynn Wallace, owner of 3950-1 Walters MHP Drive. Minimum housing violations found on May 19, 2016 inspection. Need code enforcement meeting;
- Troy Wilson, owner of 4497 Diamond Street. High grass was confirmed on May 19, 2016 inspection. Roof also needs to be repaired. Need code enforcement meeting;
- Caldwell Ready Mix at 2823 Mission Road. Meet with complainant on her property. Mosquito pond is a nuisance violation. Need code enforcement meeting;
- Randall Hamby at 3632 Coble Dairy Road. Falling trees in zoning buffer. Case is tentatively closed. Trees have been planted. Town Planner Elinor Hiltz will meet with Mr. Hamby on June 28, 2016 on site to discuss the zoning code.

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 wanted to thank everyone for coming. Joe Norman also stated that the Council worked hard on the budget, no one likes to pay anymore for anything, including Council, but sometimes you have to keep the Town a float. Joe Norman also stated that personally he would like to see the entire Town have sewer, paved streets and everything out there that is within the Town's means to do it. The Council is working slowly but surely toward that goal.

Keith Warren stated that it was good to see everyone out. Keith Warren also stated that he was with Joe Norman and would like to see the whole Town with sewer, but it takes time. The Town is doing what it can with what it has. Keith Warren stated that he appreciated everyone coming and to be careful going home.

Gerelene Blevins stated that she wanted to thank everyone for coming out tonight and in the budget she stated that she was against the Town Car.

Jeff Wilson stated that he would like to thank everyone for coming out.

Reed Lingerfelt stated that he would like to thank everyone for coming and stated he wished we could get more people to the meetings. Reed Lingerfelt also stated that to be a “small” town we have a good budget and the Council worked well on it. Reed Lingerfelt stated it was his first budget session and it was a good learning process.

Mayor Joe Wesson stated that he wanted to commend Council for all the hard work that they put in on this budget, also the staff members. Mayor Joe Wesson stated that everyone has worked well together and there are more citizens coming out to the meetings. Which is a good thing. Mayor Joe Wesson wanted to say again that the Council gets their best ideas from the citizens.

Mayor Joe Wesson wanted to recognize Brandon Adams, a rising senior at South Caldwell High School. Brandon Adams is the grandson of Councilman Reed Lingerfelt. Brandon recently went to Asheville to the North Carolina High School Fire Challenge where his team placed 1st. This is the second year that Brandon has gone to the North Carolina High School Fire Challenge and his team has placed both years.

Chief Sam Smith, retired Captain with the Lenoir Fire Department and now Chief with the Hibriten High School Fire Academy, was present with Brandon Adams. Hibriten High School is the only high school in Caldwell County that offers the Fire Academy so all high school students who want this course take it at Hibriten High School. This course has been offered for the last four (4) years. Chief Smith wanted Brandon to know he was proud of him.

CLOSED SESSION: ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE: Mayor Joe Wesson asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to go into Closed Session at 6: 37 pm. All were in favor.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Reed Lingerfelt seconded, to come out of Closed Session at 7:03 pm. All were in favor.

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

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

Julie A Good, Town Clerk

Joe Wesson, Mayor