TUESDAY, MARCH 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: North Carolina State Representative Destin Hall 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 March 20, 2018 Agenda.

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

APPROVE FEBRUARY 20, 2018 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Johnnie Greene asked for a motion to approve the February 20, 2018 regular meeting minutes.

Keith Warren made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to approve the February 20, 2018 regular meeting minutes. All were in favor.

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

Terry Cannon spoke about how high the water and sewer rates are for his business and for his tenants at his rental properties.

Jeff Branch, Caldwell County Commissioner and resident of Sawmills, spoke regarding water and sewer rates. Mr. Branch stated that citizens of Sawmills are calling him, even though he has nothing to do with the rates for Sawmills, to complain to him and see if there is anything

he can do about the rates.

RECOGNITIONS:

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

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC HEARING: SIGN ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Johnny Greene asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

Joe Norman made a motion, and Rebecca Johnson seconded, to open the public hearing. All were in favor.

STAFF COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows 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.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Johnny Greene asked if anyone wished to speak on the voluntary annexation.

No one wished to speak

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Johnny Greene asked for a motion to close the public hearing.

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

COUNCIL ACTION: Joe Norman made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to approve the text amendment, as presented, and the text amendment is in the public interest because it supports the local economy by increasing advertising opportunities for entrepreneurial development. All were in favor.

FINANICIAL:

CALDWELL COUNTY DAV CHAPTER 6 DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Johnny Greene stated that the Caldwell County Dav Chapter 6 had requested a donation in the amount of one hundred dollars ($100.00).

Clay Wilson made a motion, and Keith Warren seconded, to give a donation in the amount of one hundred dollars ($100.00) to the Caldwell County Dav Chapter 6. All were in favor.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 392 DONATION REQUEST: Mayor Johnny Greene stated that the American Legion Post 392 had requested a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars ($200.00).

Keith Warren made a motion, and Clay Wilson seconded, to give a donation in the amount of two hundred dollars ($200.00) to the American Legion Post 392. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

MARCH 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 Brittian, 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 that she believes that Town Administrator Christopher Todd and Mr. McRary have agreed on a place for relocating the shipping container. The Town has determined which transport service will be utilized. Town Administrator Christopher Todd will have timeframe for the relocation ;
- Jose Montes, owner 4321 Cherokee Court. High grass/junk vehicles. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she spot checked property on March 8, 2018. There

was no cars in the cul-de-sac, which implied no remaining junk vehicles. However, no proper driveway has been installed. Small lot size and steep slopes 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 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 Leslie M. Meadows will continue to monitor;
- Jeremiah Taylor, owner of 4190 Duff Dr. Junked vehicles/outdoor storage/overgrown vegetation. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she spot checked the property on March 9, 2018. Both junked vehicles have been removed. The building materials and jugs of motor oil still need to be addressed. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she has left a voicemail for Mr. Taylor and will continue to monitor the cleanup;
- Jane Greene, owner of 4446 Villa Ln. Outdoor storage encroaching on neighbor. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she met onsite again with homeowner and various times with both parties involved. As of March 8, 2018, all large outdoor storage items have been removed from under the tractor trailer bed and along the back property line. The overgrown vegetation has cleared and piled for burning. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows stated that she will continue to monitor the property until the brush pile is burned, and to make sure no new items are brought back in. Town Planner Leslie M. Meadows also stated that the decision to require cover for the tractor trailer bed is temporarily postponed/waived.

No Council action was required.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE: Town Administrator Christopher Todd stated that he has spoken with DOT regarding the sleeves for the Highway 321 expansion project and will have more information for Council at the April 5, 2018, budget meeting.

Town Administrator Christopher Todd also stated that he received the official letter regarding the funding for the GIS Water System on Friday, March 16, 2018.

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 and he is trying to do something about the water and sewer rates.

Jeff Wilson wanted to thank everyone for coming out and he is trying to do something about the water and sewer rates.

Rebecca Johnson wanted to thank everyone for coming out and wanted everyone to know

Council is working on the water and sewer rates.

Keith Warren wanted to thank everyone for coming out and he will try his best to do what he can to get the water and sewer rates settled.

Joe Norman wanted to thank everyone for coming out and Council is trying to do all they can concerning the water and sewer rates.

Mayor Johnnie Greene wanted to make the public aware of the next budget meeting on April 5, 2018, beginning at 5:00pm in Council chambers.

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.

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Johnnie Greene, Mayor Julie A. Good, Town Clerk