

**TUESDAY, MAY 19, 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
Karen Clontz
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 removal of Agenda Item 9A: Town of Sawmills Protection of Restricted Data Policy.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to adopt the agenda with the removal of Agenda Item 9A: Town of Sawmills Protection of Restricted Data Policy. All were in favor.

APPROVE APRIL 21, 2015 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to approve the April 21, 2015 regular meeting minutes.

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

APPROVE APRIL 21, 2015 CLOSED SESSION MINUTES: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to approve the April 21, 2015 closed session minutes.

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

APPROVE APRIL 16, 2015 BUDGET RETREAT MINUTES: Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby asked for a motion to approve the April 16, 2015 budget retreat minutes.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins 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.

Joanne Miller thanked the Council for the donation of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for the Rock Creek Coon Club Fundraiser on April 17 and 18. The Club raised over six thousand five hundred dollars (\$6,500.00) for the Caldwell County Disabled Veterans Chapter 6.

J.D. Ward asked about a fence ordinance. Town Administrator Seth Eckard will follow up with the Planner about a fence ordinance.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Town Administrator Seth Eckard announced Chris and Nikki Poteet as the May Recycle Rewards winners. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to their sanitation bill and their certificate will be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

YARD OF THE MONTH WINNERS: Town Administrator Seth Eckard announced Jerry and Kathy Bowman, from the 28630 zip code, and William and Carolyn Weaver, from the 28638 zip code, as the May 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.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

PRESENTATION OF FY 2015-2016 BUDGET AND CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING: Town Administrator Seth Eckard presented to Council a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. Town Administrator Seth Eckard 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 2015-2016 totals two million five hundred eighty-six thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$2,586,350.00). A few highlights of the proposed budget include no property tax increase; no increases to the sanitation fee; no appropriation of General Fund unrestricted reserves will be made for the fiscal year. The Town will also maintain its current levels of service to the citizens and benefits for its employees. Council must hold a public hearing on June 16, 2015, to adopt the budget.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to hold a public hearing on June 16, 2015, to adopt the budget for FY 2015-2016. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION:

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR RESIGNATION LETTER: Town Administrator Seth Eckard read to Council his letter of resignation.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to accept Town Administrator Seth Eckard's letter of resignation. All were in favor.

PRESENTATION BY COG FOR ADMINISTRATOR RECRUITMENT: Anthony Starr, Executive Director, presented the Council options for choosing the next Town Administrator with the COG coordinating the process. The COG will narrow the candidates down to between eight (8) and ten (10) for final consideration. The COG will also do three (3) to five (5) final interviews. The cost for this process is two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00).

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Gerelene Blevins seconded, to have the COG help in the process of choosing a new Town Administrator. 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 made the following announcements:

- The Town's first Memorial Fireworks display will be held on May 25, 2015, at dusk.
- The Farmer's Market is going on every Tuesday from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, through September.
- May 17 through May 23 was National EMT Week.

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

Joe Wesson wanted to encourage everyone to come out to the Fireworks on Memorial Day and wanted to thank everyone for coming.

Jeff Wilson congratulated Town Administrator Seth Eckard on his new position.

Mayor Pro-Tem Trena McRary Kirby wanted to thank everyone for coming.

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

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to go into closed session at 6:41 pm.

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

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

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

Julie A Good, Town Clerk

Trena McRary Kirby,
Mayor Pro-Tem