

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2013
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Bob Gibbs
Donnie Potter
Trena McRary Kirby
Joe Wesson
Jeff Wilson
Johnny Wilson

STAFF PRESENT

Seth Eckard
Susan Nagle
Terry Taylor
Elinor Hiltz

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Bob Gibbs called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION: Pastor Ann Kelly gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Maci Annas, with Girl Scout Troop 10147, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Bob Gibbs asked for a motion to adopt the agenda with the following changes: change agenda item 10 to 6, agenda item 6 to 7, agenda item 7 to 8, agenda item 8 to 9 and agenda item 9 to 10.

Donnie Potter made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to adopt the agenda with changes. All were in favor.

APPROVE OCTOBER 15, 2013 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to approve the October 15, 2013 regular meeting minutes.

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

UPDATES:

NC DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION: Mayor Gibbs introduced Dean Ledbetter, Senior Planning Engineer for Division 11, with the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT).

Dean Ledbetter discussed the enclosed presentation concerning House Bill 817 signed into law on June 26, 2013. Mr. Ledbetter stated the purpose of this new legislation is to try to spend NCDOT money on the highest priority projects, which gives the most benefit for the most people.

No Council action was required.

GRANITE FALLS MIDDLE SCHOOL: Mayor Gibbs introduced Mr. Bill Schreiber, Principal at Granite Falls Middle School.

Mr. Schreiber stated he has encouraged his teachers to apply for grants and, with monies received, the students are working on many wonderful hands on projects this year. Mr. Schreiber thanked the Mayor and Council for the invitation to speak with them and for allowing the middle school to use the ball fields at the Veterans Park to play soccer and softball.

No Council action was required.

PUBLIC HEARING: AMEND SECTION 153.052 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated the Planning Board reviewed section 153.052 of the Code of Ordinances and recommends Council approve the attached amendments, which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town's "Comprehensive Land Use Plan."

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

There were no comments or questions.

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

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

COUNCIL ACTION: Donnie Potter made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to adopt the proposed amendments to section 153.052 of the Sawmills Code of Ordinances, which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town's "Comprehensive Land Use Plan." All were in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING: AMEND SECTION 153.130 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to open the public hearing.

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Town Planner Elinor Hiltz stated the Planning Board reviewed section 153.130 of the Code of Ordinances and recommends Council approve the attached amendments, which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town's "Comprehensive Land Use Plan."

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

There were no comments or questions.

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

Trena McRary Kirby made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to close the public hearing. All were in favor.

COUNCIL ACTION: Trena McRary Kirby made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to adopt the proposed amendments to section 153.130 of the Sawmills Code of Ordinances, which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town's "Comprehensive Land Use Plan." All were in favor.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Administrator Eckard announced Thomas Skinner as the November Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to Mr. Skinner's sanitation bill and his certificate will be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

YARD OF THE MONTH WINNERS: Mayor Gibbs announced Stephen and Kendra Winkler, from the 28630 zip code, and Judy Hart, from the 28638 zip code, as the September yard of the month winners. Mayor Gibbs stated that since the winners were not present, their certificates would be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

GIRL SCOUT TROOP 10147: Mayor Gibbs announced that on October 5, 2013, Girl Scout Troop 10147 cleaned up around 10 bags of trash and debris at the Sawmills Veterans Park. On November 9, 2013, the troop helped pass out programs at the Annual Veterans Day Observance Ceremony. Mayor Gibbs presented Tina Annas, Troop Leader and Maci Annas, Cadette Girl Scout, certificates of appreciation for their troop's participation and hard work.

No Council action was required.

PLANNING MATTERS:

ALTERNATE PLANNING BOARD MEMBER APPOINTMENT: Administrator Eckard stated the term of appointment for Alternate Planning Board member Martha Ann Warren has expired. Miss Warren has given consent to serve another term.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Jeff Wilson seconded, to re-appoint Miss Warren as an Alternate Planning Board member for the term of two-years. All were in favor.

DISCUSSION:

PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF CALDWELL COUNTY BUSINESS EXPOSE' MONTH: Administrator Eckard stated the enclosed Proclamation In Support of Caldwell County Business Expose' Month invites all municipalities in Caldwell County to proclaim November 2013 as Business Expose' Month.

Donnie Potter made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to adopt the Proclamation In Support of November 2013 as Caldwell County Business Expose' Month. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

UTILITY FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT: Administrator Eckard stated the enclosed Utility Fund Budget Amendment recognizes revenue and expenditure line items for Automated Solutions and the Rural Center Grant clawback provision.

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to approve the Utility Fund Budget Amendment in the amount of \$9,738.00. Six monthly payments of \$1,623.00 will be paid to the Rural Center and the Town will be reimbursed by Automated Solutions. All were in favor.

EMPLOYEE LONGEVITY PAY: Administrator Eckard stated the Town of Sawmills pays out an employee longevity pay the first pay period in December.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to approve disbursement of longevity pay for employees. All were in favor.

REQUEST FOR DONATION TO SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN:

Administrator Eckard stated the Shriners Hospital for Children has requested a donation in the amount of \$150.00 to help children.

Donnie Potter made a motion, and Trena McRary Kirby seconded, to donate \$150.00 to the Foothills Shrine Club. All were in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Gibbs asked if anyone wished to speak during public comment.

Reid Lingerfelt thanked the town for the Veterans Day Observance Ceremony and stated there is a need for restrooms there.

UPDATES:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT UPDATE AND MONTHLY

STATUS REPORT: Administrator Eckard stated Nancy Coley, Project Administrator with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments has enclosed an update on The Haystation, LLC.

The enclosed monthly status report for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) shows that all requirements are on schedule for the Haystation, LLC.

No Council action was required.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SEWER PROJECT UPDATE:

Administrator Eckard stated Lisa Helton, Program Administrator with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments has enclosed an update on the Community Development Block Grant Sewer Project.

CODE ENFORCEMENT MONTHLY REPORT: Administrator Eckard stated the enclosed report shows an update of the progress made throughout the Town by Planner Elinor Hiltz.

No Council action was required.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrator Eckard made the following announcements:

- The Duff Drive Area Sewer Project is about 3/4 complete with the surveying work and the next step is to acquire easements for the area. The Town will hold a community meeting for the people in the project area sometime in late January with a date to be announced.
- The Stamey Road Waterline Project is about 50 percent complete and should be completed about the second week in December.
- Baird Drive resurfacing is complete. They re-painted the parking spots and did the striping.
- Woodland Drive is about 50 percent complete.
- The Town is going to finish a little crack sealing in the Doe Run Subdivision, which should start in about two weeks.
- The Council did put some money in the budget this year for striping of Town roads. Public Works Supervisor Ronnie Coffey recommends waiting until spring to start that project when it warms up.
- Public Works Supervisor Coffey has been working on getting a material price list for a potential restroom project. He will have that information, hopefully with David Powell, to present at the Council Retreat.
- The tentative dates for a two-hour Strategic Planning Session, held at the Town Hall, is January 7, 2014; the Council Retreat to be held at the Economic Development Commission on February 11, 2014 and the Budget Workshops will be approved during the December Council meeting.
- The Town of Sawmills Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 6:30 pm. at the Farmers Market lot.
- The Town of Sawmills Annual Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2013. Line-up starts at 9:30 am on Helena Street. The parade starts at 10:00 am and ends at Pregis Corporation on US Highway 321-A.

- The Town of Sawmills employee Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 13, 2013 at Wilsons Pond at 6:30 pm. All employees, Council members, Planning Board members and their families are invited to attend. Please let Administrator Eckard know who will be attending so that we can get a head count for the food order.
- The Town of Sawmills is accepting gently worn coats for kids and adults until January 31, 2014.
- The week of December 16-20, 2013 is employee appreciation week and each Council member will choose a day to feed the employees either breakfast or lunch.
- The holiday office closing and trash pick-up schedule is available on the Town's website, Facebook page or in the lobby of the Town Hall.

COUNCIL COMMENT: Mayor Gibbs asked if anyone on the Council wished to speak.

No one wished to speak.

CLOSED SESSION: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (N.C.G.S. §143-318.11): Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Donnie Potter made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to go into closed session. All were in favor.

Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to come out of closed session and return to the regular meeting.

Trena McRary Kirby made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to come out of closed session and return to the regular meeting.

ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION: No Council action was taken.

ADJOURN: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to adjourn.

Trena McRary Kirby made a motion, and Johnny Wilson seconded, to adjourn the meeting. All were in favor.