

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2013
TOWN OF SAWMILLS REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
6:00 PM**

COUNCIL PRESENT

Bob Gibbs
Donnie Potter
Joe Wesson
Jeff Wilson
Johnny Wilson

STAFF PRESENT

Seth Eckard
Susan Nagle
Terry Taylor

COUNCIL ABSENT

Trena McRary Kirby

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

INVOCATION: Mayor Bob Gibbs gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Bob Gibbs led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPT AGENDA: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to adopt the agenda.

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

APPROVE SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to approve the September 17, 2013 regular meeting minutes.

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

PUBLIC HEARING: REZONING REQUEST ON GILLILAND LANE: Mayor Bob Gibbs cancelled the public hearing stating the applicant has withdrawn the rezoning request.

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

No one wished to speak.

UPDATES:

SAWMILLS FARMERS MARKET: Brittany Crump, Treasurer thanked the Council and Mayor for their support, stating this year was very successful.

Miss Crump stated the Farmers Market received grant money this year which was used to help advertise and make it possible for them to accept SNAP, and EBT payments.

No Council action was required.

COLLECTION SITE FOR DEBRIS RESULTING FROM A NATURAL DISASTER:

Administrator Eckard stated that a representative from the state will meet him here on November 7, 2013 to look at Sawmills Municipal Park as a possible collection site for debris resulting from a natural disaster.

No Council action was required.

RECOGNITIONS:

RECYCLE REWARDS WINNER: Town Administrator Seth Eckard announced Clement Dellinger as the October Recycle Rewards winner. A credit of twenty-eight dollars (\$28.00) will be added to Mr. Dellinger'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 Bob Gibbs announced Rebecca and Adam Johnson, from the 28630 zip code, and Mark and Angie Wilson, from the 28638 zip code, as the September yard of the month winners. Mayor Gibbs presented Mr. and Mrs. Johnson with their certificate and stated that Mr. and Mrs. Wilson's certificate would be available at the Town Hall for pick up.

No Council action was required.

PLANNING MATTERS:

TOWN PLANNER APPOINTMENTS: Administrator Eckard stated that Town Planner Elinor Hiltz will need to be appointed as the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Housing Inspector, Watershed Administrator and Review Officer for the Town. Administrator Eckard also stated he will remain the alternate, and previous Planner Johnny Wear will need to be removed as the Review Officer.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to appoint Planner Hiltz as the Zoning Enforcement Officer, Housing Inspector, Watershed Administrator and Review Officer for the Town and to remove previous Planner Wear as the Review Officer. All were in favor.

CALL A PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT A TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 153.052 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES: Administrator Eckard stated the Planning Board reviewed section 153.052 of the Code of Ordinances and recommends Council call for a public hearing. The proposed amendments changes column two under minimum lot size (sf) to read “with public water and without public sewer” and changes column two under minimum density (dwelling units per acre) to read “with public water and without public sewer” which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town’s “Comprehensive Land Use Plan.”

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to call for a public hearing on November 19, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the Sawmills Town Hall to discuss a text amendment to section 153.052 of the Code of Ordinances. All were in favor.

CALL A PUBLIC HEARING TO ADOPT A TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 153.130 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES: Administrator Eckard stated the Planning Board reviewed section 153.130 of the Code of Ordinances and recommends Council call for a public hearing. The proposed amendment will increase the time limit on non-conforming use from 120 days to 365 days, which will make the Code of Ordinances consistent with the Town’s “Comprehensive Land Use Plan.”

Jeff Wilson made a motion, and Joe Wesson seconded, to call for a public hearing on November 19, 2013 at 6:00 pm at the Sawmills Town Hall to discuss a text amendment to section 153.130 of the Code of Ordinances. All were in favor.

FINANCIAL MATTERS:

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT: Town Administrator Eckard stated the enclosed Budget Ordinance Amendment is to transfer funds from the Capital Reserve to the General Fund in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. The monies will be expended on the new refuse truck.

Joe Wesson made a motion, and Donnie Potter seconded, to adopt a Budget Ordinance Amendment in the amount of sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) for the 2013-2014 fiscal year. All were in favor.

APPROVE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT DUFF DRIVE AREA SEWER PROJECT:

Administrator Eckard stated the enclosed contract with West Consultants, PLLC for engineering services is for the Duff Drive area Sanitary Sewer Community Development Block Grant Project.

Donnie Potter made a motion, and seconded Joe Wesson, to approve the contract for engineering services with West Consultants, PLLC as they meet the needs for this project. All were in favor.

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

Gerelene Blevins spoke regarding the text amendment to section 153.130 of the Town's Code of Ordinances.

UPDATES:

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT 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 MONTHLY 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 Sawmills Farmers Market is still open every Tuesday from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm until October 29th.
- The Town is taking bids until October 24th until 2:00 pm for the surplus of the old white Chevy S-10. So far, the Town has received three bids.
- The Southern Caldwell Historical Showcase will be held this Saturday, October 19th at 6:00 pm at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Administrator Eckard or the Caldwell County Heritage Museum in Lenoir.

- The Town has been working with the NC Department of Transportation on a drainage problem in front of April Drive on Sawmills School Road. The district engineer has evaluated the circumstances during the last rain and stated they would fix the problem within the next three weeks.
- Election Day is held on Tuesday, November 5th.
- Ham Day at Sawmills Volunteer Fire & Rescue will be held Saturday, November 2nd.
- The Annual Veterans Day Observance Ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 9th at 10:30 am.
- The Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:30 pm.
- The Sawmills Christmas Parade will be held on Saturday, December 7th. Line-up starts at 9:30 am and parade starts at 10:00 am.
- The employee Christmas party will be held on Friday, December 13th at the pond on Wilson's Farm.
- The Town has release of funds for engineering services for West Consultants, LLC on the Community Development Block Grant Sewer Project. Surveying has begun and the next step will be to obtain easements from all the appropriate property owners.
- Jerry Church, Town Manager in Granite Falls and myself, has been invited to ASU Wednesday, October 16th to speak to a class about being a Town Manager.

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

No one wished to speak.

ADJOURN: Mayor Gibbs asked for a motion to adjourn.

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