

## **REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING**

June 3, 2014

Present: Mayor George B. Holleman

Mayor Pro-Tem Kenny Poole

Commissioner Edd Elliott, Jr.

Commissioner Ronnie Robinette

Commissioner Jack I. Lerner

The regular meeting was opened for business by Mayor Holleman at 5:30 p.m. The invocation was given by Mayor Holleman. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the minutes as presented for the May 6, 2014 regular scheduled meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

There were no comments in open forum.

Chief of Police Tony Jones tendered his formal resignation as Chief of the Taylorsville Police Department effective May 26, 2014. He accepted the position as Chief of Police in Blowing Rock. Town Manager David Odom promoted Captain Dennis James to acting Chief of the Taylorsville Police Department effective June 4, 2014 and Chief effective July 1, 2014. The entire Town Board expressed their full support of Chief Dennis James. Lt. Doug Bowman will be promoted to Captain, effective 6-4-14.

Mayor Holleman opened the 1<sup>st</sup> public hearing on the reading of the proposed fiscal budget for 2014-2015. Town Manager David Odom gave an overview of the proposed budget and individual departments. The General Fund budget totals \$1,718,310 and is balanced with a property tax rate of 35 cents per \$100 valuation. The proposed budget reflects an estimated 7.1% increase in revenue. The majority of the increase is to an improvement in sales tax revenue. As a word of caution this reflects increased cost of goods and provisions rather than a significant change in consumer spending. Citizens are not buying more, simply paying more. Real Property values are flat to receding, the true impact of the revaluation cycle will be known by December 2014. The Board is advised that a double digit decrease in Town of Taylorville property values should be expected 10% or greater. Values for real property were established in 2007 and the entire economy has changed since 2008. Expenditures for the 2014/2015 General Fund total \$1,718,310 a 3.2% increase from the amount budgeted for Fiscal Year 2013/2014. All Budgeted Funds for full time employee wages-longevity-performance will result in a 2.0% increase. Also included in the proposed budget is a performance bonus of 2% in July and (2%) in December, a decrease to fund a possible incentive program in the future. The Majority of the costs associated with the adjustment are funded by retirement of employees and increased apprentice contract and part-time workers. It should also be noted that a flat hourly rate for inmate supervision, and part-time, non-apprentice employees, will maintain \$12.75 per hour.

The budget for the Water & Sewer Fund totals \$1,885,878 an increase of 14.8%. This amount includes a 10 cent/1000 for residential rate increase due to ongoing water and sewer improvements, cost increases in wastewater treatment, system upgrades, and major replacement projects. The majority of our customers who use less than 5,000 gallons per month will see an average monthly increase of less than \$.80 cents per month. High use account will bear the majority of the proposed rate increase due to the increasing block rate schedule.

Expenditures for the Water & Sewer Fund total \$1,885,878. The amount represents direct Town Council actions to continue improvements to public infrastructure, ongoing grants, and expansion of water and sewer capacity, and diffuser replacement in two basins at the sewer plant. The Town replaced air diffusers in 2008 they operate 24-7-365 and they just like a set of tires wear out. This repair alone will exceed an estimated \$75,000. The water and sewer fund struggled to remain self-sufficient for decades; today the enterprise fund is viable, productive, and essential service, thanks to the hard work and dedication of the current Town Board.

In conclusion, the total proposed balanced budget totals \$3,604,188.00 for the general fund, enterprise fund and all on-going grants and capital improvement projects.

With no comments or discussion the public hearing was closed.

Mayor Holleman opened the second public hearing regarding the re-zoning of 2 annexed pieces of property into the town limits. The properties are outside the Town's planning jurisdiction and since they have been annexed they must be given a municipal zoning classification. The first property, Taylorsville Dialysis is located at 24 Hwy 16 South and consists of 1.64 acres and the current county zoning is Highway Commercial but will need to be changed to town zoning of B-4 Highway Business. The second property is Brushy Mtn. Golf Course located at 103 Golf Course Lane consisting of 1.13 acres. The current county zoning is R-20 residential but will need to be changed to town zoning of R-3 Suburban Residential to be consistent with the proposed use. There were no comments or discussion in the public hearing and the hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the zoning change for Taylorsville Dialysis Center to B-4 Highway Business and to change Brushy Mtn. Golf Course to R-3 Suburban Residential as recommended. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to amend up the Millersville project budget ordinance by a total of \$12,800.00. There was a pipe cost increase of \$9500.00 and also a NCDHNR fee increase of \$3300.00 due to the increase in the size of the overall project. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### Staff Reports:

David Robinette, Public Works Director gave an update on the public works department, the ongoing work associated with the Millersville project and the Water Efficiency project.

Chief Dennis James gave a report on the police department activity for the month of May. A suicide subject was apprehended on three forks church road; Stg. Elder and Officer Hamby attended SERT training; a sex offender was at 1st Baptist Church and removed; the sweepstakes locations will have to be shutdown per the NC Legislature.

David Odom, Town Manager recognized Andrew Ferguson for his help in reviewing documents for the Town on an as needed contracted basis.

The next public hearing for the reading of the proposed budget will be June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 5:30 pm in the council chambers.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

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Mayor

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

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Commissioner

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk