

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

June 12, 2017

Present Mayor George Holleman
Mayor Pro-Tem Kenny Poole
Commissioner Ronnie Robinette
Commissioner Edd Elliott, Jr.
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 Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to approve the minutes from June 5, 2017 regular meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to open the public hearing regarding adopting a unified zoning ordinance, unified zoning map and unified minimum housing ordinance for the Town and Alexander County. The motion passed unanimously. The Town Council and Alexander County Commissioners have agreed to combine planning and zoning services in order to provide quality and efficient customer service to the citizens. The result will be that the Town and County will have one unified zoning ordinance that will be administered by the Alexander County Planning and Development department at one location. With no further discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to close the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to repeal the existing Town of Taylorsville Zoning Ordinance effective July 1, 2017. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Poole and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to approve the adoption of the new Unified Zoning Ordinance combining the Town and Alexander County zoning ordinance effective July 1, 2017. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Robinette to adopt the official Alexander County/Town of Taylorsville zoning map effective July 1, 2017. See attachment A, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to vote to repeal the Town's minimum housing code ordinance effective June 12, 2017 and adopt Alexander County's minimum housing code by ordinance effective June 12, 2017 and allow Alexander County to enforce the code effective June 12, 2017. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to open the public hearing scheduled for the 2nd reading of the proposed FY 2017-2018 budget for the Town of Taylorsville. The motion was passed unanimously.

The Proposed Draft Budget is based on a tax rate of 34/100 Valuation. The Town of Taylorsville has not increased the property tax rate in 38 years. The Town Continually receives letters from the North Carolina Local Government Commission regarding low General Fund Cash reserves that are to be set aside for emergencies. A significant number of tree removals following Hurricane Juquin further reduced general fund balance. One Penny generates \$17,723.00 tax income at a 97% collection rate. As Town manager since June 2003 no budget has included a proposed property tax increase, however due to the disparity of our tax rate compared to other towns offering the same services and low fund balance, a proposed increase in the tax rate from 34cents per \$100.00 valuation to 40 cents per \$100.00 valuation is proposed. The estimated additional revenue of \$106,336.00 would be used for nothing other than restoring our general fund emergency fund balance. Our tax base has declined over the years some due to property being purchased by local government and churches, which do not pay property taxes. In 2009 there were 29 full time employees and now in 2017 there are 19 full time employees. The town has divided duties of retired personnel to remaining personnel in order to keep costs as low as possible while still getting the job done. The W&S fund will average a 3.5% rate increase to the W&S charges. In 1978 the town had only 2 pump stations and now in 2017 we have 38 to monitor. A part time employee will go to full time in the w&s dept in order to monitor the pump stations. There were no comments from citizens. A motion was made by Commissioner Robinette and seconded by Commissioner Elliott to exit the public hearing. The motion was passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Elliott and seconded by Commissioner Poole to approve the adoption of the FY 2017-2018 budget totaling \$4,024,257.00 with \$1,884,927 in the General Fund and \$2,139,330.00 in the W&S fund. The property tax rate for 2017 will .40 per \$100.00 valuation and the W&S rates will see a 3.5% increase effective June 12, 2017. See attachment B, which is hereby incorporated and made a part of these minutes. The motion was passed unanimously.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday August 1, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of Town Hall.

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Elliott made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Commissioner Robinette. The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Mayor

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Commissioner

Attest: _____
Yolanda T. Prince, Town Clerk