

BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Special Meeting
Tuesday, January 17, 2017

The Town Council, with members Mayor Theresa Coletta, Ruth Banks, Judy Buchanan, Shannon Peterson, and Ron Powell present, held a regular meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2016, at the Burnsville Town Center. Also in attendance were town staff members Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Jon England, Chad Fox, Niles Howell, Jeanne Martin, and Ronnie Tipton; and town attorney Heather Hockaday. The Mayor, who presided, called the meeting to order, stating that the purpose of and the agenda for the meeting was to consider and possibly take action on the following matters:

1. Town of Burnsville's Personnel Policy
2. Using creativity, art, parking, etc. to revitalize the Town of Burnsville
3. Review of proposed updates to the zoning ordinance for permitted uses and sidewalk dining and sidewalk merchandise/displays/furnishings provisions
4. Closed session pursuant to NCGS 243-318.11(a)(3)

Town of Burnsville's Personnel Policy – The Town Council reviewed the town's proposed personnel policy, focusing on the topic of personal and parental leave. The proposed policy is eliminating personal leave, but 4 hours parental leave will remain. To be fair to all employees, including those who don't have parental responsibilities, Council agreed to the allotment of 12 hours personal leave, which would include 4 hours of parental leave. It was mentioned that employees only used an average of 12 personal leave hours last year, although 24 hours were permitted. Heather Hockaday will prepare text for the policy that will provide for this allotment.

Council also discussed the lunch hour policy, and directed that the first paragraph would clarify that overtime will be paid when 40 actually-worked hours have accumulated in a work week. It was also directed that emergency service workers shall be exempt from the policy.

Using Creativity, Art, Parking, etc. to Revitalize the Town of Burnsville - Council discussed available options for the revitalization of the Town of Burnsville now that construction on the bypass is complete:

1. Signage – The crew removed the town's signs when construction began, but they are in good shape, and could be refreshed and used as until something permanent is available. Signage will be critical as the spring season begins. Ronnie Tipton will connect with the D.O.T. engineer to explore placement opportunities. Denise Cook will give an update on TRAD signage at our next meeting.
2. Sidewalks - The mayor said downtown sidewalks are a priority and we should be allocating money towards them. The business owners have been struggling and will need our full support to help them recover.

Ron Powell gave an update on the proposed sidewalk project up Pensacola Road, for which he has already done a fair amount of work and federal funding is available (STIP program). He reminded Council that the project was prioritized #2 on the 2006 Walkability Study, which is the reason the focus is on that particular project now that priority #1 is complete. Judy Buchanan

expressed her concerns and said she was not in favor of the Pensacola Road project. Ruth Banks asked if the Town could apply for more than one project in this funding cycle. Shannon Peterson remarked that hopefully the County would contribute.

Theresa Coletta moved to prioritize existing sidewalks (north, south, east, west, and around the town square), update the Walkability Study and explore funding for this new priority. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried.

Ron Powell advised that he would not be responsible to report to Council any longer on the STIP project, and suggested that Ronnie Tipton be the contact.

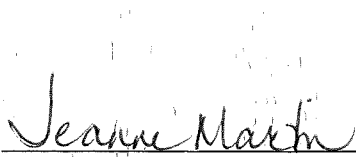
3. Review of proposed updates to the zoning ordinance for permitted uses and sidewalk dining and sidewalk merchandise/displays/furnishings provisions – Heather Hockaday updated Council on proposed revisions to the zoning ordinance and explained the rationale behind the sidewalk dining and merchandis/displays/furnishings provisions.

Judy Buchanan moved to set a public hearing for February 2, 2017 at 6 p.m. at the Burnsville Town Center on the zoning revisions and the sidewalk dining and sidewalk merchandise/displays/furnishings provisions. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.


4. Closed Session– Judy Buchanan moved to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3). Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.

Theresa Coletta moved to authorize the town attorney to negotiate with the taxpayer's attorney. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried.

There being no further business, Theresa Coletta moved to adjourn, and the motion carried.



Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk



Theresa Coletta, Mayor