

BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Meeting – Tuesday, October 5, 2017

On October 5, 2017, the Burnsville Town Council, with members Mayor Theresa Coletta, Ruth Banks, Judy Buchanan, Shannon Peterson and Ron Powell present, held a regular meeting at the Burnsville Town Center. Also in attendance were town staff members Brian Buchanan, Leslie Crowder, Jon England, Chad Fox, Niles Howell, Ginger Johnson, Jeanne Martin and Ronnie Tipton; and visitors Warren Bare, Lucy Doll, David Grindstaff, Rhonda Higgins, Bunnie McIntosh, Jamie McMahan, Wanda Proffitt, Maurice Robinson, and others. The Mayor, who presided, stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business for the month of October, 2017.

- **Public Comment** – Maurice Robinson complained about what he considered to be “outrageously high” water bills and the mayor responded that good water is expensive for the town to provide. Councilor Ron Powell explained some of the factors that are considered when water rates are set.
- **Adoption of Agenda** – Judy Buchanan moved to adopt the agenda. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried.
- **Consideration of Minutes** – Available for review were minutes from the following meetings:
 - a. Special meeting held September 5, 2017
 - b. Closed session held September 5, 2017
 - c. Special meeting held September 19, 2017
 - d. Closed session held September 19, 2017

Ron Powell moved to adopt the minutes of the aforesaid meetings. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.

- **Recent Annexation of Property Owned by the Winter Star Co.** – With the subject property needing initial zoning, Judy Buchanan moved to hold a Zoning Hearing at 6:00 p.m. on November 2, 2017 at the Burnsville Town Center. Ron Powell seconded the motion, which carried.
- **Planning Board Report** – Harrison Tyner, Planning Board Chair, was absent from the meeting since the Planning Board hasn’t met in the past month.
- **Mayor’s Administrative Report**
 - a. Council Work Session will be held at 3:00 p.m. on October 17, 2017, at the Burnsville Town Center. The mayor recommended that the local hospital system issues and their effect on economic development be the focus at the meeting. She suggested inviting Susan Larson and Joy Boothe to provide an update on the facts and recent activities of a two-county coalition (SEARCH).
 - b. Council was reminded that the municipal election day is Tuesday, November 7th.
 - c. Following the election, the town’s organizational meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 28th at 7:00 p.m. at the Burnsville Town Center.
 - d. There will be no work sessions in November and December.

▪ **Department Updates:**

- a. Administration – Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
 1. Pursuant to GS 105-369(a), *Tax Delinquent Report* dated September 29, 2017 was provided as an update of uncollected revenues. A variety of collection efforts are underway, with every delinquent account receiving attention.
 2. Finance Issues:
 - a) The Budget vs. Actual dated October 3, 2017 has been furnished to Council, along with an overtime report.

- b. Fire Department – Chief Niles Howell
 1. Status of Property – Niles Howell reported on progress he is making with the USDA paperwork, mentioning that the contract with the architectural firm has been forwarded to Rural Development. The next step will be making contact with the Local Government Commission, which is a requirement on the application.
 2. Operations:
 - a) Council reviewed the Fire Department’s Monthly Update, which is attached to these minutes and by reference made a part hereof.
 3. Ladder Truck Storage – As we approach winter, accommodations need to be made for storage of the ladder truck, which is currently backed up in an unheated bay at the maintenance shed. After discussion of various options, Ronnie Tipton agreed to coordinate with Niles Howell and obtain quotes to either add on or close in an area where the truck is currently located. Ron Powell moved to approve an expenditure of up to \$30,000 for this purpose. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.

- c. Police Department - Chief Brian Buchanan reported:
 1. Council reviewed the department’s activity log for the month of September, 2017
 2. Available for consideration was *Ordinance Declaring a Road Closure for an Event: 2017 Halloween on the Square*. Judy Buchanan moved to adopt the aforesaid ordinance. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried.
 3. Councilors were asked to consider declaring surplus a 2005 Crown Victoria, Serial Number 2FAFP71W65X175692 . Ron Powell moved to declare the aforesaid vehicle as surplus property. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried. Councilors were told that the Board of Education has offered \$3,200 for the vehicle. Ron Powell moved to sell the aforesaid vehicle to the Board of Education for \$3,200. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.

- d. Public Works Department – Public Works Director Ronnie Tipton reported:
 1. An activity log was available for review.
 2. Councilors received copies of Armin Wessel’s plan for the handicapped bathroom at Town Hall.
 3. The Micaville water project is now complete, except for flushing by the contractor and installation of taps.
 4. The SCADA system upgrade/installation is now complete and functioning. This will be an immense help in viewing the entire system remotely.

- e. Town Center - Facility Manager Chad Fox provided a schedule of September events, and mentioned that the September fund raisers went well. It was noted that Mr. Fox was

recognized by the Literary Festival organizers for his expertise and willingness to work through difficult moments.

▪ **Council Members' Reports**

- a. Mayor Theresa Coletta – reminded Council of an upcoming workshop conducted by the Construction Professional Network Institute (CPNI) on downtown and Main Street visioning. This workshop will be held on October 12th from 10:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m., and again on October 13th from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at the Burnsville Town Center.

▪ **Updates from Advisory Boards and Non-Profits**

- a. Yancey County Economic Development Commission – Wanda Proffitt reported:
1. The Town Council is to be congratulated on the completion of the Micaville water line.
 2. There was a fundraiser for the gateway project in September. There was a good turnout and a follow-up meeting with Jack Mackie.
 3. Jamie McMahan will be the new Planning and Economic Development Commission director as of October 16th.

- **Proposed Memorandum of Understanding** – Jamie McMahan presented a Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Burnsville and Otway Development, LLC, and suggested Council might wish to enter closed session to discuss the terms of the aforesaid document. Judy Buchanan moved to enter closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5). The motion was seconded by Shannon Peterson and carried.

In open session, Ron Powell moved to adopt the aforesaid Memorandum of Understanding with modifications relating to occasional street closings. Ruth Banks seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

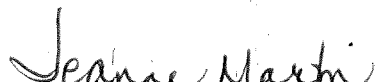
Aye

Ruth Banks
Judy Buchanan
Shannon Peterson
Ron Powell

Abstain (counts as an “aye”

Theresa Coletta

- **Next Regular Town Council Meeting** – The next Town Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 2, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., at the Burnsville Town Center to consider regular business for the month of November. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk



Theresa Coletta, Mayor