

**BURNSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Special Meeting – Tuesday, September 5, 2017**  
**(To conduct regular business for the month of September, 2017)**

On September 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, Jeanne Martin and Ronnie Tipton; and visitors Warren Bare, Kevin Braswell, Lucy Doll, David Grindstaff, Laura Maher, Bunnie McIntosh, Danny McIntosh, Jamie McMahan, Wanda Proffitt, and others. The Mayor, who presided, stated that the purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business for the month of August, 2017.

- **Public Comment** – Lucy Doll spoke about the upcoming Literary Festival and provided programs. She mentioned that Jamie McMahan will be the emcee at the banquet.
- **Adoption of Agenda** – Judy Buchanan moved to adopt the agenda, with Warren Bare’s parking issues moved to Item #11, following Department Updates. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried.
- **Consideration of Minutes** – Available for review were minutes from the following meetings:
  - a. Closed Session held July 19, 2017
  - b. Special meeting held August 8, 2017

Judy Buchanan moved to adopt the minutes of the aforesaid meetings. Ruth Banks seconded the motion, which carried.

- **Public Hearing on Request for Annexation – The Winter Star Co.** – Judy Buchanan moved to leave the meeting agenda and enter the Public Hearing. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried. Wanda Proffitt spoke on behalf of the annexation of the subject property, which is now known as *The Burnsville Business Park*. With no further comments, Judy Buchanan moved to close the public hearing and return to the meeting agenda. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.
- **Council Action on Annexation Request** – Ron Powell moved to annex the Burnsville Business Park. Ruth Banks seconded the motion. In discussion, Theresa Coletta said she was in favor of annexation, but there were some things that should be discussed in closed session regarding economic development with Wanda Proffitt. Ron Powell, favoring further discussion at this month’s work session, withdrew his motion.
- **Appeal to Sign Ordinance** – Kevin Braswell (BB’s Overstock Liquidation) requested reconsideration of ordinances that do not allow animated, inflatable signs because his operation is in a building that is offset from Main Street and the business’s visibility is a challenge. Because there is nothing keeping Mr. Braswell from complying with the sign ordinance, a document to which every other business must comply, Ron Powell moved to require Mr. Braswell to abide by the ordinance as written. Shannon Peterson seconded the motion, which carried.

- **Planning Board Report** – Harrison Tyner, Chair, of the Planning Board, was not available to report.
- **Consideration of Resolution Honoring Ruth Ray Bailey Gibbs** – Available for review was *Resolution Honoring Ruth Ray Bailey Gibbs*. Ron Powell moved to adopt the aforesaid Resolution. The motion was seconded by Ruth Banks and carried.

- **Mayor’s Administrative Report**

- a. Elevator report – There was a discussion of available options for the elevator and handicapped rest room project at the Town Hall. Ron Powell said he would probably recuse himself on this issue since he probably will be bidding on it. Judy Buchanan moved to authorize Ronnie Tipton to move forward on a cost estimate from Armin Wessel and McGill Associates for the administration of the project. Later Councilor Buchanan withdrew her motion and moved to table the issue until the monthly work session, when rough estimates may be available. Ruth Banks seconded the motion. Voting was as follows:

| <u>Ayes</u>      | <u>Noes</u> | <u>Recused</u> |
|------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Ruth Banks       |             | Ron Powell     |
| Judy Buchanan    |             |                |
| Theresa Coletta  |             |                |
| Shannon Peterson |             |                |

- b. Vacancy on High Country Council of Government’s RTAC (Rural Transportation Authority Committee) – Council heard that Johnny Riddle represents Yancey County and most of the projects are county projects. It was agreed that the appointment would be postponed until December, when a new Council would be in place.
- c. Council Work Session – The work session this month will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. at the Town Center. The Mayor asked that future work sessions be reserved for focusing on just a few issues rather than ordinary business. This month’s focus will be annexation and the elevator/rest room project.

- **Department Updates:**

- a. Administration – Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk/Tax Collector
  1. Pursuant to GS 105-369(a), *Tax Delinquent Report* dated September 5, 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 September 5, 2017 was 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 he is awaiting a response from UCB. The contract with the architect has been received.
  2. Operations:
    - a) Council reviewed the Fire Department’s Monthly Update, which is attached to these minutes and by reference made a part hereof.

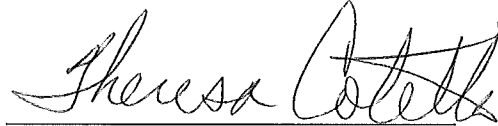
- c. Police Department - Chief Brian Buchanan reported:
    1. Council reviewed the department's activity log for the month of August, 2017
    2. Available for consideration was *Ordinance Declaring a Road Closure for an Event: 2017 Mt. Mitchell Toy Run*. Judy Buchanan moved to adopt the aforesaid ordinance. Theresa Coletta seconded the motion, which carried.
  
  - d. Public Works Department – Public Works Director Ronnie Tipton reported:
    1. An activity log was available for review.
    2. Pedestrian Plan update – STIP funding is available for municipalities that already have a Pedestrian Plan. In order to obtain a higher score on an application for sidewalk projects, the Town may want to update its existing Plan. McGill Associates will provide an estimate for the update, and according to David Graham at High Country COG, grant money is available for the update as well.
    3. A SCADA system upgrade/installation is underway.
    4. We have been notified of a cost increase of 2.74% by Republic Services for sanitation services, which will be discussed with them along with the issue of our recycle program.
  
  - e. Town Center - Facility Manager Chad Fox provided a schedule of September events, some of which are annual, and others that are new. The schedule included the Literary Festival, the Taste of the Blue Ridge dinner, Piecemakers Quilt Guild (with Barbara Webster), a fund raiser for the Town of Burnsville's Gateway Project, and a bee keeping seminar during Old Timey Days at the end of the month.
- **Council Members' Reports** - No reports were available.
  
  - **Updates from Advisory Boards and Non-Profits**
    - a. Yancey County Economic Development Commission – Wanda Proffitt reported:
      1. The *Farm to Fork* event was successful and the Biltmore chefs have agreed to participate again next year.
      2. There will be a fund raiser for the Gateway Project on September 17<sup>th</sup> at the Town Center. Pig and Grits will prepare the meal; tickets will be \$50/plate. Jack Mackey will present an update on the project.
    - b. ABC Board – The most recent audit was available for review, which was summarized by R. L McIntosh. He commended Brian Franklin for his excellent work as Manager.
    - c. High Country Council of Governments – minutes and financials were available for review.
  
  - **Next Regular Town Council Meeting** – The next Town Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 5, 2017 at 6:00 p.m., at the Burnsville Town Center to consider regular business for the month of September.
  
  - **Closed Session** – Pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a)(5), Council entered closed session.
- Theresa Coletta moved to pursue the timeline and plan for economic development as explained by Warren Bare, obtain cost estimates for sidewalk improvements, and work together to formalize an agreement. Ron Powell seconded the motion, which carried.

Ron Powell moved to authorize Ronnie Tipton to contract with a vendor to do core sampling on the vacant lot next to McDonald's for the benefit of the ABC Board. Judy Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.



Jeanne Martin, Town Clerk



Theresa Coletta, Mayor