

MINUTES
BEECH MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL
August 19, 2008

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rick Owen called the regular meeting of the Beech Mountain Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Other Council Members present were Gil Adams, Pete Chamberlin, Randy Corn and Alan Holcombe. Also present were Town Manager Michael Boaz and Town Attorney David Paletta. There were a number of interested parties in the audience.

II. Invocation – Charlie Burluson opened the meeting with a prayer.

III. Pledge of Allegiance – All present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

IV. Adoption of Agenda – The Agenda was accepted as presented.

V. Approval of the Minutes –

a. July 18, 2008 Regular Minutes – Councilman Corn asked for more clarification of **VI. b.** After much discussion, Councilman Corn made a motion to ask the staff to review the tapes, tabling the discussion until September 9th. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. July 18, 2008 Closed Session Minutes – Councilman Chamberlin moved to approve the Closed Session Minutes of July 18, 2008 as submitted. Councilman Corn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VI. Public Comment – Mrs. Renee Castiglione, 104 Wild Turkey Lane, indicated that she was in favor of the proposed purchase of property by the Buckeye Lake Recreation Center for parking.

VII. Old Business –

a. Noise Ordinance Amendment – Mayor Owen indicated that the Town had received complaints about the loud sirens from the Beech Mountain Club's weather alert systems at the golf course and swimming pool areas. After much discussion, the Council agreed to take no action at this time. Brian Barnes, Club General Manager, was asked to check into the possibility of lowering the sound level.

b. Approve Loan Agreement with BB&T – Mr. Boaz presented a proposal from BB&T to finance the Phase I Distribution System Improvements. The loan was in the amount of \$915,600 with an annual payment of \$111,261.42 for 10 years with a rate of 3.71%. After a

brief discussion, Councilman Chamberlin moved to approve the Agreement. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

c. Position Classification Plan – Councilman Corn indicated that the Council should look over the report on the Volunteer Fire Department from Springsted, Inc. before moving on the Town's position classification study. Councilman Chamberlin moved to table the discussion until the September 9th Council meeting. Councilman Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

VIII. New Business –

a. Rules of Procedure for Advisory Boards – Councilman Adams moved to approve the Rules of Procedure for the Boards and Commissions, as well as a set of rules for the Board of Adjustment. Councilman Corn noted that that the Board of Adjustment had a stricter set of rules to follow. Mr. Barnes, speaking as a member of the Planning Board, asked that the members be given some orientation as to the rules and regulations. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Request for Change of Speed Limit – Councilman Corn asked about the speed control device that the Council approved three months ago for the area by the Beech Mountain Club tennis courts on Lake Road. Mr. Boaz reported that the speed devices were to be installed this week. The Council agreed that the speed devices on Lake Road would be in place from May 1st to October 31st. Mr. Boaz indicated that he had received a request for a lower speed limit, 15 mph, on Clubhouse Road and Lake Road. After further discussion, the Council agreed that the speed limit for the Town should remain the same on all roads.

c. Schedule Public Hearing – Councilman Chamberlin moved to set the Public Hearing for Planning and Zoning Section 600 regarding the Board of Adjustment, their powers and duties, and the requirements that must be met for variances and appeals, for 6:00 p.m. September 9, 2008 in the Town Hall Council Chambers. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

d. Water Plant PER – Mr. Boaz reported that he had received a proposal from Hayes, Seay, Mattern & Mattern, Inc. (HSMM) for a Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) for the Buckeye Water Treatment Plant. Mr. Boaz further noted that the cost for this service would be \$27,500 and that Mr. Paletta had reviewed the agreement. Councilman Corn moved to approve the water plant PER Agreement. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

e. Amendment to the Personnel Policy – Mr. Boaz reported that the Town had negotiated with Jennifer Brokerick to be the Interim Parks and Recreation Director. Mr. Boaz indicated that the negotiation prompted the Proposed Personnel Policy amendment that would pay an employee serving in an interim position 60% of the difference between the permanent salary and the minimum of the grade to which they were temporarily assigned. Councilman Corn moved to accept the policy if the employee makes less than the minimum at the grade to which they are temporarily assigned. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

f. Avery County and Watauga County Vehicle Tax Settlement – Councilman Chamberlin moved to approve the Avery and Watauga Counties vehicle tax settlements for 2007 as presented. Vice Mayor Adams seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

g. Budget Amendments – Councilman Corn moved to approve the Water Distribution Systems Improvement Budget Transfer request from contingency to construction in the amount of \$17,500. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Councilman Corn moved to approve the Lake Coffey Dam Capital Project Budget Amendment from the water and sewer fund to construction cost in the amount of \$90,600. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Council agreed to table the discussion until August 26th when the meeting will be reconvened.

h. Approve Generator Bid – Tabled for Closed Session with the Town Attorney.

IX. Town Manager's Report – Michael Boaz – 1) Mr. Boaz requested Council approval to be out of Town from September 21st through the 25th to attend the ICMA conference in Richmond. Council agreed. 2) Davis, Martin, Powell has reported that the plans for the Lake Coffey Dam project are expected to be approved within the next two weeks. 3) Eggers Construction is ready to install the pressure reducing stations. 4) Mr. Boaz reported that Moretz Paving had indicated that they would start paving on North Pinnacle Ridge tomorrow and should be able to pave the Town Hall parking lot on Thursday. 5) Garry McKinney will be retiring from the Town on September 30th. Mr. McKinney has worked on the mountain for 39 years. Mr. Boaz report was accepted as submitted.

X. Closed Session – On a motion by Councilman Holcombe, seconded by Councilman Corn, the Council voted to go into Closed Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss Attorney/Client matters NCGS 143-318.11. Councilman Chamberlin moved to come out of Closed Session at 8:00 p.m. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. No action was taken.

XI. Other Business – After a brief discussion, Councilman Chamberlin moved to approve the bid from Comp Electric for the generator project. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XII. Recessed – Having no other business to come before the Council, Councilman Holcombe moved to recess the meeting until August 26, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. at the Beech Mountain Volunteer Fire Department, Station #2. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XIII. Reconvened – Mayor Owen reconvened the August 19, 2008 Regular Meeting to order at the Beech Mountain Volunteer Fire Department Station #2 at 2:00 p.m. Other Council Members present were Gil Adams, Pete Chamberlin, Randy Corn and Alan Holcombe. Also present were Town Manager Michael Boaz, Ed Burchins and Dale Johnson-Raney of Springsted and a number of Beech Mountain Volunteer Fire Department members.

XIV. Presentation of Fire Study Report – Ed Burchins and Dale Johnson-Raney of Springsted, Inc. presented a draft of the feasibility study for the Volunteer Fire Department. After a brief discussion, the Council asked that the study be refined and presented at the September 9, 2008 Town Council meeting.

XV. Resolution 08-09-03 – Councilman Holcombe moved to approve Resolution 08-09-03 honoring the service of Garry McKinney to the Town and Beech Mountain. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

XVI. Budget Amendments – Councilman Corn moved to approve the revised Water and Sewer Fund Budget Amendment with the gain on the sale of fixed assets, \$16,000, to taps and system maintenance capital outlay. Councilman Chamberlin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Councilman Chamberlin moved to approve the Water Distribution Systems Improvements Budget Transfer from Contingency of \$14,000 to Construction Cost. Councilman Corn seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

XVII. Adjourned – Councilman Corn moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Councilman Holcombe seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Minutes approved by Town Council on September 9, 2008

Mayor

ATTEST:

Town Clerk