



MINUTES

TOWN OF UNICOI BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN MEETING

Monday February 20, 2017

Called to Order: 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Lynch

Invocation: Bob Sahli

Pledge of Allegiance: Jeff Linville

Member
Mayor Johnny Lynch
Vice-Mayor Hopson
Aldерwoman Bullen
Alderman Cooper
Alderman Linville

Members Absent: None

Staff Present:
Mike Housewright, City Recorder
Lois Shults – Davis, Attorney
Sarah Jennings, Director of Parks and Recreation
Tina M. Wilcox, Executive Aide / Court Clerk
Andy Slagle, Safety Officer's

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Hopson and seconded by Alderman Linville to approve the January 16, 2017 minutes as presented.

The roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

A motion was made by Alderman Linville and seconded by Alderman Bullen to approve the January 26, 2017 minutes as presented.

The roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

Special Presentation:

- Beth, a representative for the Animal Shelter, wanted to advise the board of this year's budget, and that they need to request an increase for the first time in the amount of \$4500 from each donation provider. The shelter is planning a golf fundraiser event in March. Looking to get the national software. Donations are also needed to help purchase a newer van, washing machine, food, and cat litter.

- Dewayne Casey: Approached the board with his concern for the appearance of the tire store located on at 3801 Unicoi Drive. He and many other concerned citizens would like to see it cleaned up. It is an eye sore to the church and the public. There is no petition yet, would like to begin one. Wanted to know if there is anything the town could do or if the town had a Property Maintenance Ordinance in place. City Recorder, Housewright stated the town would be happy to get a property maintenance ordinance in place. Mr. Casey also wanted to know if the tire store concerns could also fall in environmental due to all the burning and possible habitation for mosquito larvae. Anything the town could do with the above concerns of the citizens of Unicoi would be highly appreciated.

Opportunities for Citizens to Address the Board:

- Bob Sahli: Made reference to the Ambulance Service that took well over 25 minutes to arrive at his resident's on his personal behalf a few months ago and how his wife and self was very concerned for his well-being.
- Debra Perry: Requested to remove the two Resolutions on the Agenda Resolutions 2017 – 261 & 2017 – 262: Mayor Lynch asks for Ms. Perry to sit down, this discussion will be on the table to discuss on the agenda later on in the meeting.

Old Business: None

Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

- Consideration of approval for Resolution 2017 – 261: Resolution for the Authorization of Capital Outlay Note.
Mrs. Perry's concern is for the bond and sewer note. Also ask for the board to please read Section 5 within the Resolutions 2017 – 261.
Alderswoman, Bullen ask in what year was the sewer bond Mayor stated 2005 and the Recorder stated 2008. Alderswoman, Bullen then ask for the year to please be repeated, due to two different years given.
- Alderswoman Bullen said the move opens the door for a town property tax. Approval of the resolution came in a split vote of three to two, with Alderswoman Bullen and Alderman Cooper opposed. Dissatisfaction with the resolution was also expressed by several of the more than 50 people filled town hall

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Hopson and seconded by Alderman Linville to adopt the Resolution 2017 – 261:. The roll call vote was three to two Mayor Lynch, Vice Mayor Doug Hopson and Alderman Linville voted in favor of the motion, with Alderswoman Bullen and Alderman Cooper voted against, made motion to oppose. Motion passed.

- Consideration of approval for Resolution 2017 – 262: Resolution for the Approval of the POWER Grant MHK match.
A motion was made by Alderman Cooper and seconded by Vice-Mayor Hopson to adopt the Resolution 2017 – 262:

The roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

Reports of Officers and Committees:

- **Economic Development Board Report, Mayor Lynch:** Director, Tyler Engle report is attached.
- **Disaster / Emergency Plan & Railroad Safety Report, Vice-Mayor Hopson:** Nothing to report.
- **Clean-Up Committee & Business Alliance Reports, Alderman Linville:** Mr. Casey tire store needs cleanup.
- **Municipal Court, Tina M. Wilcox:** Docket report attached.
- **Unicoi Business Alliance Report – Mr. Harkins:** The Business Alliance has adopted the Fiddlers & Fiddleheads Festival on Saturday April 29th . We have many bands scheduled and still have openings for more vendors. Friday April 28th the hill climb and Saturday the festival.

- **History Committee Report – Pat Lynch:** The History Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month. The Valentine’s Day dinner the committee put on went over very well. The Easter egg hunt at the cabin is the next event in April on Friday the 14th.

Mike Langley: Stated as a group we in the history committee decided we wanted to do more "history" stuff versus just being meeting and event planners. I put together a presentation on the Liberty Bond program started in 1917 during World War 1 and gave it to the DAR chapter in Erwin. The reason was that we have some original Liberty Bond posters from 1917 that are really beautiful and I did some research on where they came from. I learned that the program was the first ever "mass marketing" program in the US that eventually involved over 25 million people and raised over \$19 billion dollars for the war effort (more than half the cost of the war). It was the prototype for the "War Bond" drive of WW 2, which was also hugely successful. My presentation is a power point and we will be bringing our posters to the meeting.

- **Mountain Harvest Kitchen Report, Mike:** Still on schedule. Searching for a director. The bid packages for equipment will be going out soon.
- **Human Resources Report – Vice-Mayor Hopson:** Nothing to report.
- **The Planning Commission Report, Vice-Mayor Hopson:** Wiseman property has been placed on hold and the Tolley property subdivision is scheduled for next month’s agenda.
- **Decorating Committee Report, Pat Lynch:** No Report.
- **Animal Welfare Board Report, Billy Harkins:** Report Attached. Kenneth Garland, announced the Golf Fundraiser at the Elks Club on May 5th to help purchase 2 new computers. The shelter’s audit is done by Rodefer Moss & Co, PLLC Travis Bishop
- **911 Board Report, Mayor Lynch:** Mr. Sahli spoke of the ambulance service earlier. Nothing more to Report.
- **Parks & Recreation, Sarah Jennings:** Report is attached.
- **Recorder’s Report, Mike Housewright:** Marbleton Road, guardrail will be installed soon. This year’s Strategic Planning Retreat is on Wednesday March 8th – Friday March 10th.
- **Financial Reports for January 2017, Mike Housewright:** Report is attached.

A motion was made by Alderman Cooper to approve the financial report as presented and was seconded by Vice-Mayor Hopson. The roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

Announcements: None

Adjournment:

There being no further business Mayor Lynch called for a motion to adjourn at 6:53 p.m. Vice-Mayor Hopson made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Alderman Linville.

The vote was unanimous in favor.

Mayor Johnny Lynch

Mike Housewright, City Recorder