

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM**  
**JUNE 8, 2017**  
**9:30 A.M.**

Mayor Staton presided over the Council meeting on June 8, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Coletta, Dockendorf, Gooch, and Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Boleman. Council Member Brown was not present.

**MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Staton led the group in a moment of silent meditation. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**AGENDA APPROVAL/CHANGES**

Under *Special Reports, Item #7, Historic Landmarks Commission, and Item #8 - Computer Software*, were added to the agenda. With no further changes, Council Member Gooch made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Vice Mayor Weedman. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** – None

**PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2017/2018 Budget**

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to go into the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Coletta. Mayor Staton reported the notice of the public hearing was advertised in the local newspapers for a budget totaling \$2,051,210.00.

Vice Mayor Weedman complimented Budget Officer Jamerson on a very well prepared, detailed budget.

Mayor Staton stated Caroline Gunther, president of the Blue Ridge Humane Society, requested funding of \$10,000.00 for a joint BRHS/Henderson County Animal Shelter spay-neuter program initiative, to which he responded that, although our budget had not been formally adopted by the council, its content was settled and no funds would be available for the program. However, he left a final decision to the council. Because our policy has been not to donate to nonprofit organizations, the council rejected the request.

Mayor Staton invited public comments and questions, but no one responded.

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**ACTION – ADOPTION OF FY 2017/2018 BUDGET**

Council Member Gooch made a motion to adopt the FY 2017/2018 budget, seconded by Council Member Jamerson. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- May 1, 2017 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
- May 11, 2017 – Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Jamerson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Weedman and carried on a unanimous vote.

**Special Reports**

2. Administrator – Village Administrator Boleman

Village Administrator Boleman reviewed the May 2017 zoning report dated June 5, 2017, and the Village Administrator report dated June 8, 2017 (see attached reports).

Council Member Gooch and Village Administrator Boleman will attend a Water & Sewer Technical Advisory Committee meeting on June 19, 2017, at 2:00 p.m. at the Hendersonville City Operations Center.

Ms. Boleman asked for Council's approval to change the entry sign to the Village Hall and a directional sign to remove references to the Book Exchange, which is no longer in operation, and to indicate the existence of electric vehicle charging stations on the premises. Council agreed to change the signs.

3. Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of June 8, 2017, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 99.93%, with \$931,288.71 total collected (see attached report dated June 8, 2017). Mr. Weedman asked for Council's approval for the Tax Collector to proceed with foreclosure actions on delinquent accounts. Mr. Weedman made a motion to proceed with the foreclosure actions, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

4. Park Update – Council Member Brown

In Council Member Brown's absence, Mr. Don Farr presented a picture of the Nature Center showing exterior walls where steel panels will be installed, and he cautioned that we must make sure there are

no openings in the steel panels for children to get stuck. He stated \$25,000.00 has been budgeted in the FY 2017/18 budget for the displays and structures to support the displays in the Nature Center. Cost for the steel work to support the displays is \$16,000.00, which is under the budgeted amount.

Mr. Steve Jamerson reported on the construction of the Nature Center; staining will be done today, concrete is to be poured on Friday, and the project is under budget. Park Commissioner Wendy Bevel and Council Member Brown are working on the displays, construction of which should begin in July. A September completion of the building is anticipated.

5. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Ms. Marcia Caserio complimented Council on the park and its vision for the park. She is currently chairing the Foundation's trails funding efforts, which will provide funding to expand the trails from 1.4 miles to 2.8 miles. She spoke highly of Maurean Adams and Myra Grant and their efforts for the benefit of the park. She reported she has asked the Foundation board members to contribute to the trails campaign, and she expects 100 percent participation. She talked about the Richard Eppler contribution stating in his directives he wanted his gift used to raise more money to help with park improvements. In a previous meeting, the Foundation board passed on the concept that the board would match contributions to the park from the Eppler fund; gifts received, up to an aggregate of \$150,000.00, will be matched dollar-for-dollar, with Eppler funds. She reported that \$53,000.00 has already been raised in this campaign.

On August 12, 2017, at Kenmure Country Club, the Foundation will hold the *Feast & Frolic* event with *A Social Function* band. Tickets are \$150.00 per person to support the trails campaign.

6. Transportation Update – Council Member Dockendorf

Council Member Dockendorf gave an update on the following projects:

Kanuga Road – surveying is being done; another wreck with a fatality has occurred on the road.  
Boyd Drive bridge – the Village has a copy of plan; awaiting Valerie Penn's recommendation on the aesthetics. He will give Ms. Penn Council's recommendations.

7. Historic Landmarks Commission – Council Member Coletta

The Historic Landmarks Commission (Anne Coletta, chair, Sheryl Jamerson, Albert Gooch, Connie Backlund, and Don Wilson) will look into the Certified Local Government Program offered by the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office. This program allows local governments to participate in the national framework of historic preservation programs, making those local governments involved eligible for certain federal and state funds/grants. The Historic Landmarks Commission plans to see whether certification would be beneficial to the Village.

8. Computer Software – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported the current Harris Computer Solutions software is out of date and would cost approximately \$40,000.00 to upgrade. Mr. Weedman, Council Member Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker, and Deputy Village Clerk Orr reviewed two software companies – Edmunds & Associates and Munnis. It was recommended to go with Edmunds & Associates at an estimated cost of \$35,000.00, which sum has been budgeted in the 2017/2018 fiscal year. They will convert the current data to the new software. It was agreed by consensus to move forward with Edmunds & Associates.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** - None

**Other Business**

9. Mayor - Council Reports

Council Member Coletta reported the annual Ice Cream Social was a success and was well attended. Sixty-nine gallons of ice cream were consumed at the event. She thanked everyone that participated in the event.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported Jimmy Chandler has volunteered to head up the electric vehicle charging station. The electrical permit has been secured. Trace & Company will start on the parking lot next week.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that Tony Ray, Blue Ridge Fire Department's interim chief, will soon be leaving, as the board is in the final stages of the process of selecting a permanent fire chief to replace retired Chief Gary Brown.

Mayor Staton reported three council members terms end in December 2017. Council Member Coletta has advised that she has elected not to seek another term. Council Member Gooch and Council Member Jamerson have not yet indicated their plans. The period for candidates to file with the Board of Elections is from noon, July 7, 2017, to noon, July 21, 2017.

Council Member Jamerson reported the America in Bloom judges will be visiting the Park at Flat Rock today at 11:00 a.m. They will also visit Flat Rock Playhouse, St. John in the Wilderness, and after lunch at Hubba Hubba Smokehouse, Historic Flat Rock Office and the grounds of two historic homes.

**Public Comments** – Mr. Terry Hicks will step down as a member of the board of directors of the Flat Rock Park and Recreation Foundation when his current term expires on June 30, 2017. He thanked Council for the opportunity to serve on the board. Council thanked Mr. Hicks for his service, not only on the Foundation board, but to the Village of Flat Rock as well.

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

---

Michelle Parker, CMC  
Village Clerk

---

Robert V. Staton  
Mayor