

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
ASSEMBLY ROOM
JULY 13, 2017
9:30 A.M.**

Mayor Staton presided over the Council meeting on July 13, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Brown, Coletta, Gooch, and Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Boleman. Council Member Dockendorf 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

Foundation presentation - Vice Chairman Judy Petersen was added to the agenda after *Agenda Approval/Changes*. With no further changes, Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Foundation Vice Chairman Judy Petersen presented to Council a check for \$53,320.37, which represents transfer of donor funds for park capital improvements for the period April 1– June 30, 2017.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Interim Fire Chief Tony Ray of Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue reported that his board is in negotiations with final candidates for fire chief, and a new chief should be in place by the end of August. He introduced and recognized Mr. Will Sheehan as the new Deputy Fire Chief, a well-deserved promotion from within the department. Well known to the Council and staff, Will has served for years as the fire department’s liaison with the village. With the appointment of a new fire chief, Mr. Ray will return to his home on the east coast. Council thanked him for his services as interim chief following the retirement of long-time chief Gary Brown last year.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. The consent agenda consisted of the following:
 - May 30, 2017 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
 - June 8, 2017 – Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Gooch made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coletta and carried on a unanimous vote.

Special Reports

2. Administrator – Village Administrator Boleman reviewed the June 2017 zoning report dated July 10, 2017, and the Village Administrator report dated July 13, 2017 (see attached reports).

Ms. Boleman advised that Sign Crafters quoted a cost of \$380.00 to change the entry sign to the Village Hall and a directional sign at the end of the sidewalk by removing references to the Book Exchange, and to indicate the existence of an electric vehicle charging station. That work had previously been authorized by the Council.

Ms. Boleman mentioned the possibility of Mr. Kerry Lindsey's filing an application for a new phase of his PMUD (Planned Mixed Use Development). She explained in two or three previous council terms, the council had asked Mr. Lindsey to update the master plan to reflect development to date, and that work to that end had been undertaken but never completed. She informed him that, prior to accepting an application to start a new phase of his PMUD, he must submit that updated master plan and review the plan with Council prior to its hearing the next application. Council agreed.

She suggested a council planning workshop be scheduled in September or October to review council responsibility lists, park activities, and village needs. Council agreed, and she will determine a date.

3. Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of July 13, 2017, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 99.97%, with \$931,724.47 total collected (see attached report dated July 12, 2017), with one property in Staton Woods that remains delinquent. Council previously directed the start of foreclosure proceedings on that property to enforce collection.

Mr. Weedman presented the Tax Settlement for FY 2016/2017 required by law to be approved by Council. He then made a motion to approve the FY 2016/2017 Tax Settlement, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

4. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown discussed the need to amend park rules with respect to vehicles left unattended in the park after hours. Current rules provide that such vehicles may be towed if left unattended in the park overnight, while our current practice is to tow vehicles left unattended in the park after the park has closed. Mayor Staton advised that the ordinance by which park rules were enacted provided for amendments of the rules by resolution adopted by the Council. He will have an appropriate ordinance available for adoption at the next council meeting.

The Nature Center structure has been completed, exterior work is in process, and interior signage is in design. She hopes to have everything finished for a September dedication.

Volunteers will be starting a survey in the park by the end of the year, and a training workshop will be held the end of July.

5. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch reported the newly elected officers for the Foundation board are: Duncan Fraser, President; Judy Petersen, Vice President; Paige Willms, Secretary; and Jan Egolf, Treasurer.

The trails fundraising campaign is progressing. The *Feast & Frolic* event at Kenmure Country Club is scheduled for August 12, 2017. Tickets are \$150.00 per person. Since Duncan Fraser was not present, Mr. Gooch reported that Mr. Fraser will give the annual financial report to Council at the next council meeting.

6. Transportation Update – Council Member Dockendorf

In Council Member Dockendorf's absence, and in view of the proposed Boyd Drive bridge's appearing later on the agenda, there was no transportation report.

Old Business – None

New Business

7. Carl Shaw, CPA FY 2016/2017 Audit Contract – Council Member Coletta

Council Member Coletta reported the audit committee will hold its first meeting on July 26, 2017, to start the audit. She made a motion to approve the FY 2016/2017 audit contract with Mr. Shaw, for \$11,400.00. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jamerson and carried on a unanimous vote.

8. Alcohol Sales on Sunday Ordinance – Administrator Boleman

Administrator Boleman reported the General Assembly passed Senate Bill No. 155, which allows restaurants, if enabled by local ordinance, to begin sales of alcohol at 10:00 a.m. instead of 12:00 noon on Sundays. The bill was signed by the Governor on June 30, 2017, and became effective immediately. The Hendersonville city council passed its ordinance on July 6, 2017. A draft Ordinance No. 99, An Ordinance Respecting Hours of Certain Sunday Alcohol Sales, was reviewed by Council. After revisions of the draft were agreed to, Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 99, as amended, seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

9. Boyd Drive Bridge – Valerie Penn

Mayor Staton called on Ms. Valerie Penn to discuss NCDOT plans for the replacement of the Boyd Drive Bridge over Memminger Creek. Ms. Penn provided a power point presentation on the proposed bridge design, NCDOT standards, manuals and procedures, historic properties, and other matters related to the project. Ms. Penn, who was joined by approximately twenty residents of Flat Rock Forest and adjoining communities affected by the Boyd Drive bridge project, expressed her concerns

that NCDOT's representatives, in plans for a new bridge, have failed to abide by their own guidelines with respect to historic preservation, environmental concerns, and aesthetics; that they have ignored the project's effect on historic Boyd Drive contributing properties and the village's designation as an historic district; that implementation of the project as planned will result in the removal of mature trees, native vegetation and other natural features and change the area's visual characteristics; and that the footprint and height of the replacement bridge are greater than the existing bridge and appear to be far in excess of that necessary for public safety.

Ms. Penn and other residents urged the Council to join them in their plea to NCDOT to reconsider the design of the replacement bridge and to listen to their sincere historic preservation, environmental and aesthetic concerns for their neighborhood and the village.

Other Business

10. Mayor - Council Reports

Council Member Gooch is Council's representative on the Henderson County Water and Sewer Advisory Committee, which consists of eleven members. He and Administrator Boleman attended the first meeting, at which the plan for the organization was presented. The plan will be adopted at the next meeting. He stated the committee's purpose is to keep county commissioners and municipal councilmen advised of matters relating to water and sewer services, and to provide advice and guidance to the city in its operation of existing sewer and water systems, as well as the expansion of services throughout the county.

Council Member Jamerson gave a current financial update for the recently ended fiscal year, which included a highlight of a reduction of \$79,000.00 in expenses from the previous fiscal year.

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 11:33 a.m.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor