

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
ASSEMBLY ROOM – VIA ZOOM
DECEMBER 10, 2020
9:30 A.M.

Mayor Weedman presided over the December 10, 2020, council meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Weedman were Council Members Carpenter, Coletta, Dethero, Gooch, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Christie.

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Weedman led the group in a moment of silent meditation. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Weedman mentioned the passing of former Mayor Ray Shaw, Jr.

COVID-19 Presentation – Mr. Steve Smith, Director, Henderson County Public Health Dept.

Council Member Coletta introduced Mr. Steve Smith, who presented a PowerPoint presentation on COVID-19 in Henderson County.

Mr. Smith mentioned testing falls in two categories: long-term care facilities, which are required to test, and outside community testing. There is also limited rapid testing.

Mr. Smith reported Pardee Hospital will receive 975 doses of aliquot (Michelle - I'm not sure what this word is) vaccines around December 14, 2020. Advent Health will receive Pfizer vaccines (require cold storage) the next week, and the Health Department will receive Moderna vaccines (do not require cold storage) later in December.

The first priority group 1A that will receive the vaccine are hospital staff and healthcare staff, i.e., healthcare workers, front line workers, EMS, long-term care facilities residents and staff.

The second priority group 1B are adults in the general population with the criteria of having two chronic health conditions. No doctor's note or order will be required to receive the vaccine.

Public Comments – None

Agenda Approval/Changes

Under *Consent Agenda – 2020 Discoveries and Releases*, Under *Council Organization – Accept Resignation of Sheryl Jamerson and Paige Posey*, and *Resolution No. 223, First Citizens Bank Signatory Resolution*, were added to the agenda. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to accept the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda

1. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- November 2, 2020 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
- November 12, 2020 – Council Meeting Minutes
- November 17, 2020 – Continued Council Meeting Minutes
- 2020 Discoveries and Releases

Council Minutes
December 10, 2020

Page Two

Council Organization

- **Accept Resignation of Sheryl Jamerson and Paige Posey** – Council Member Gooch made a motion to accept the resignations, seconded by Council Member Dethero. The vote carried unanimously. Mayor Weedman expressed appreciation for all the hard work both Sheryl Jamerson and Paige Posey did for the Village of Flat Rock.
- **Election of new Council Members** – Council Member Carpenter made the motion to appoint Pam Tiles to fill Sheryl Jamerson’s remaining unexpired term for District 1 ending December 9, 2021. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dethero and carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Dethero made the motion to appoint Susan Gregory to fill Paige Posey’s remaining unexpired term for District 2 ending December 9, 2021. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter and carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Weedman administered the Oath of Office as Council Member to Pam Tiles.

Mayor Weedman administered the Oath of Office as Council Member to Susan Gregory.

- **Appointment of Vice Mayor** – Council Member Carpenter nominated Council Member Coletta as Vice Mayor. Council Member Carpenter made the motion to appoint Council Member Coletta as Vice Mayor for a one-year term expiring in December 2021. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dethero. The vote carried a 5-yes, 1-no vote, motion carried.
- **Resolution No. 223 – First Citizens Bank Signatory Resolution**
The resolution is to remove Sheryl Jamerson as a signatory and replace by adding Susan Gregory as a signatory. Vice Mayor Coletta made the motion to accept Resolution No. 223, seconded by Council Member Carpenter. The vote carried unanimously. See attached copy.
- **Appointment of Budget Officer** – Mayor Weedman stated he would act as interim Budget Officer. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to appoint Mayor Nick Weedman as interim Budget Officer, seconded by Council Member Tiles. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Special Reports

2. Administration – Village Administrator Christie

Administrator Christie reviewed the November 2020 zoning report dated December 3, 2020, and the Village Administrator report dated December 3, 2020 (see attached reports).

Council Minutes December 10, 2020

Page Three

3. Park Update – Council Member Carpenter

Council Member Carpenter reported the Park Commission met on November 19, 2020, and the following was discussed:

The Commission is continuing to work on the Waiver Fee Policy and when it is complete the policy will be forwarded to Village Council for final approval.

Trail repairs and/or replacement - Park Ranger Wilkerson was asked to prepare a recommended priority order list of trail improvements. The trail located by Highland Golf Villas close to the playground was determined to be the highest priority.

Five cross country events were held in the Park in November and December from area schools.

Master plan for amphitheater and courtyard will be discussed in the joint meeting with the Foundation following this council meeting.

Will Garvey requested that a weather station be installed at the park. The Commission approved this request, and the funds are in the park budget.

Trail repairs due to the October flooding - John Wilkerson asked Trace & Co. to do the repairs but has not been given a start date.

Fred Thompson refurbished and improved twenty-two bluebird houses by adding predator guards and waterproofing the roofs.

4. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch gave the following report:

#GivingTuesday - \$2,455 with 22 donations

End of year letter was sent to donors before Thanksgiving, and a second mailing will be included in the December Village Record newsletter.

Friends of the Park – Totals from April 15th – November 30th was \$35,117 with 94 members. Automatic monthly recurring donations now total \$1,039 per month. There are four outstanding FRIEND pledges totaling \$3,500.

Marketing:

- Facebook has twenty-eight new likes and Giving Tuesday was the most popular post.
- Pardee in the Park sent out a thank you press release last week.
- Kids in Parks sign is at the printer in hopes of installing by the end of 2020 or early 2021.

**Council Minutes
December 10, 2020**

Page Four

5. Transportation Update – Council Member Coletta

- There was no French Broad River MPO meeting in December. There will be an TAC meeting via Zoom.
- Currently getting updated estimates on corrections with the Highland Lake Road project. The Village has received a contingent offer of \$105,025.00 to purchase right of way on the park property for the N. Highland Lake Road project. Council Member Coletta and Mayor Weedman met and feel there is not enough information at this point to make a final decision, and that amount is not a sufficient offer in dealing with the potential

damage and issues that will occur in the park. She will contact Danny Shuler, the NCDOT right-of-way agent, informing him by consensus the Village Council is not prepared to accept this offer at the present time.

- Due to the flooding, NCDOT has fixed West Blue Ridge Road with a temporary fix of gravel, and will be paving the road at some point. In Flat Rock Forest, Paula Place and Mary Place roads have been closed due to a collapsing culvert.

6. Tax Report – Mayor Weedman

Mayor Weedman reported that, as of December 9, 2020, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 66.7 percent with \$839,301.34 total collected (see attached report).

Old Business

7. Tree City USA Application – Council Member Carpenter

Council Member Carpenter reported the Park Commission passed a resolution to be submitted to Council to apply for the Tree City USA certification from the Arbor Day Foundation. There is no cost to apply, nor any cost to maintain. The Village will post Tree City USA signs and flags within the Village. There are four requirements in obtaining the certification:

1. Have a tree committee - Park Commission has agreed to oversee this requirement.
2. Allocate at least \$2/per capita towards maintaining trees, which includes removing kudzu and removing damaged and fallen trees in the Village and in the Park. These funds are already in the budget.
3. Committee in charge of overseeing trees – Park Commission will oversee.
4. Observance of National Arbor Day on April 30th. Park Commission will discuss at the January 2021 meeting.

Council Member Carpenter made the motion to approve submittal of the application for Tree City USA certification. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gregory and carried by unanimous vote.

Council Minutes December 10, 2020

Page Five

8. Speed Limit Change NC Hwy 225 – Council Member Carpenter

Council Member Carpenter mentioned in August that NCDOT was contacted asking about the possibility of conducting a study to reduce the speed limit through the business district on Highway 225. NCDOT prepared a study and recommended dropping the speed limit from 35mph to 25mph from Woodfield Inn Drive to north of the Flat Rock Playhouse. Ordinance No. 108 was presented to rescind the 35mph zone and reduce to 25mph the designated zone on Highway 225. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 108 (see attached copy), seconded by Council Member Coletta. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business

9. Resolution No. 221, Establishing a January – December 2021 Schedule of Public Meetings and Holidays – Mayor Weedman

Council Member Coletta made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 221, seconded by Council Member Carpenter. The motion carried by unanimous vote. See attached copy.

10. Resolution No. 222 – Waiving Compensation of the Mayor and Council Members

Council Member Carpenter made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 222, seconded by Council Member Tiles. The motion carried by unanimous vote. See attached copy.

Other Business

11. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Dethero mentioned the City of Hendersonville Water & Sewer is proceeding with the sewer system at the Halfway Tree Mobile Home Park.

Starr Teel contacted Council Member Dethero regarding the lack of parking within the Village, and Mr. Teel was informed the sons of the deceased Mr. Mansouri were not going to sell any land, just buildings. It was mentioned the land behind the Wrinkled Egg would be a great piece of property for additional parking.

Council Member Coletta gave a public health update reporting that NC is currently operating under Governor Cooper's Executive Order No. 181, a modified stay-at-home order effective Friday, December 11, 2020, at 5:00 p.m., that puts in place a 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m. curfew. The current Executive Order expires January 8, 2021, at 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Dethero made a motion to appoint Susan Gregory as the Council Member to the Historic Landmarks Commission, seconded by Council Member Carpenter. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Minutes
December 10, 2020

Page Six

Council Member Dethero made a motion to appoint Beverly Stoney Johnson as a member of the Historic Landmarks Commission, seconded by Council Member Gregory. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comments – Mayor Weedman read a public comment received via email from Victor Behoriam.

Adjournment

With no further discussions, at 11:07 a.m., Council Member Gooch made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Tiles.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Nick Weedman
Mayor