

**MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL JULY
14, 2010**

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 6:10 p.m., Wednesday, July 14, 2010, in the Council Chambers, 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Lynne Mason, Stephen Phillips, Rennie Brantz, and Jamie Leigh. Staff members present were Town Manager Greg Young, Deputy Town Clerk Kim Brown, Public Works Director Blake Brown, and Planning Director Bill Bailey. Town Attorney Sam Furgiuele was present.

DISCUSSION OF FENCING OPTIONS - U4020 PROJECT

Town Manager Greg Young requested direction from the Council regarding the fencing for the U-4020 project. He explained that the fencing is required and that the option originally discussed was a green, vinyl-coated fencing. Public Works Director Blake Brown presented some examples of fencing options for the Council to consider. He stated that the NC DOT had set aside \$30,000 for fencing and that the Town must pay for the remaining cost for fencing. He stated that the cost for fencing for the project is estimated at \$85,000. Mr. Young stated that the Council can choose to allocate the money for the fencing from the sidewalk fund or the general fund. Upon a motion by Council Member Brantz, seconded by Council Member Mason, Council selected the Majestic by Montage II Series fencing option in black for the U-4020 project.

VOTE:Aye - All

Nay - None

Absent - 1 (Ball)

PRESENTATION OF BOARD/COMMITTEE/TASK FORCE REPORTS

§ ABC Board - Candy Winebarger, Chair

Ms. Winebarger presented sales figures from the Boone ABC Store (**copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk's office**). She informed the Council of the recently adopted "ABC Reform Act" by the state legislature which requires ethics training for ABC boards and promotes better transparency.

§ Affordable Housing Task Force - Lynne Mason, Chair

Ms. Mason presented a report on the activities of the Affordable Housing Task Force (**copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk's office**).

§ Board of Adjustment - Richard Crepeau, Chair

Planning Director Bill Bailey stated that as a result of similar cases being considered repeatedly by the Board of Adjustment, the Planning Staff is reviewing zoning codes to determine if any changes may be warranted. He also stated that attendance issues are becoming a concern. Mr. Bailey indicated that since a number of positions remain unfilled, it is becoming increasingly difficult to secure a quorum for meetings. Council directed Mr. Bailey to contact the County Clerk to determine the status of ETJ appointments by the Watauga County Board of Commissioners. Town Attorney Sam Furgiuele explained that the NC General Assembly recently changed the law in regard to the type of evidence that can be considered and that a training session for BOA members has been scheduled for August.

§ Boone Housing Authority - Sam Furgiuele, Chair

Mr. Furgiuele presented a report of recent projects that have received funding grants (**copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk's office**).

§ Community Appearance Commission - Adrian Tait, Chair

Mr. Tait presented an update on the following projects recently undertaken by the CAC:

Downtown Streetscape Plan, review of lighting standards, and review of commercial appearance standards. He stated that the review of lighting and commercial appearance standards is continuing and that the CAC is considering the use of social media outlets such as a website or the use of FaceBook.

§ **Fourth of July Planning Committee - Mayor Clawson, Chair**

Mayor Clawson stated that the 2010 4th of July festivities were a great success. She then listed the active members of the committee. Mayor Clawson pointed out that the grand-opening of the Clawson-Burnley Park coincided with the July 4th festivities. She stated that the theme of this year’s parade was the celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway and that Gene Redmon served as the Grand Marshal. She thanked everyone involved in the festivities.

Mayor Clawson declared a break at 7:36 p.m. Council reconvened at 7:44 p.m.

§ **Greenway, Parks, and Gardens Committee - Mike Curcio, Chair**

Bunk Spann presented a report summarizing the activities of the Greenway, Parks, and Gardens Committee for the past year **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**.

§ **Historic Preservation Commission - Betty Bond, Chair**

Betty Bond presented a brief summary of the celebration events for the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway. She stated that the HPC benefitted greatly from the work of intern Jules Oroukin during the past year, especially with developing a history of the downtown area and the Grand Boulevard area. Ms. Bond stated that the HPC was an advocate for the purchase of the Downtown Boone Post Office. She also informed the Council that the HPC is planning a charrette for August 18, 2010, from 4:00-8:00 p.m. to be held in the following locations: Downtown Post Office, Watauga Library, Jones House, and High Country Press front room. Ms. Bond invited all to attend the charrette and announced that Janet Pepin will be the facilitator.

§ **Jones House Advisory Board - Beth Carrin, Chair**

Carolyn Travis presented a report detailing the activities of the Jones House from the past year **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**.

§ **Outside Agency Funding Committee - Rennie Brantz, Chair**

Mr. Brantz listed the members of the committee and stated that the group had met on June 9, 2010 to consider funding requests from various organizations. He presented the funding amount recommended for each agency:

Agency	Amount Recommended
Children’s Playhouse	\$4,000
Hospitality House	\$17,000
Hunger & Health Coalition	\$22,000
OASIS	\$10,000
Western Youth Network	\$5,000
Children’s Council	\$5,600
App. Regional Library – Watauga County Library	\$15,000
Watauga Arts Council	\$7,000
Mountain Alliance	\$10,000
Watauga County Emergency Rescue Squad	\$12,500
W.A.M.Y. Family Resource Center	-
Watauga County Project on Aging	-
Appalachian Institute for Renewable	-

Energy	
Watauga County Parks & Recreation	-

Mr. Brantz explained that some funding requests were not recommended due to incomplete applications or missing information. He stated that the committee decided that some requests should be considered using other funding resources.

§ **Planning Commission - Bunk Spann, Chair**

Mr. Spann stated that the Planning Commission is strongly committed to the 2006 Comprehensive Plan and the Land Use Master Plan. He requested that the Planning Commission be forwarded the minutes from the Town Council meetings so that it can be better informed. Mr. Spann stated that an upcoming project for the Planning Commission is the creation of a Smart Growth Overlay that offers incentives for using Smart Growth principles. Planning Director Bill Bailey pointed out the work undertaken by the Density Sub-Committee. Mr. Spann then presented some information regarding the work of the Density Sub-Committee **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**.

§ **Tourism Development Authority - Jim Wooten, Chair**

Doug Uzelac presented the following list of activities of the TDA Board:

- Support of an increase of the Occupancy Tax from 3% to 6%
- Merging of operations with the Watauga County TDA
- Marketing promotion of the seasons of the High Country, including a joint ad campaign with the Watauga County TDA and the Blowing Rock TDA for a vacation promotion entitled: “A Cool Vacation - Look Up”
- Marketing campaign on Visit-NC website
- Participation and promotion of the 75th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Parkway
- Use of social media resources
- Sports marketing

§ **Transportation Committee - Blake Brown, Chair**

Mr. Brown listed the members of the Transportation Committee. He presented a report summarizing the activities of the committee from the past year **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**.

§ **Tree Board - Adrian Tait, Chair**

Mr. Tait stated that the main activity of the Tree Board in the past year was the adoption of the Urban Forestry Management Plan.

§ **Water Study Committee - Mayor Loretta Clawson, Chair**

Mayor Clawson listed the members of the Water Study Committee. She presented a report of the activities of the committee from the past year **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**.

§ **Water Conservation Subcommittee - Bunk Spann, Chair**

Mayor Clawson presented a report of the activities of the subcommittee from the past year **(copy of report permanently on file in the Clerk’s office)**. Mr. Spann urged the Council to continue water conservation efforts and to include water conservation in long-range planning.

Mayor Clawson announced the upcoming “Grand-Opening” of the new Watauga High School on July 30th and the “Grand-Opening” of the Super Wal Mart in September.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other items for consideration, Mayor Clawson adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Deputy Town Clerk

Mayor