MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
MONDAY, JANUARY 26, 2009 5P.M.

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 5:05 p.m., Monday, January 26, 2009 in the Helen Powers-South Room at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Lynne Mason, Janet Pepin, and Stephen Phillips (arrived at 5:32 p.m.) Town Attorney Sam Furgiuele was also present. Staff members present were Town Manager Greg Young, Deputy Town Clerk Kim Brown, Development Services Director John Spear, Public Works Director Blake Brown, Fire Chief Reggie Hassler, and Police Chief Bill Post.

The purpose of the meeting was to conduct an intergovernmental retreat with officials from the Towns of Blowing Rock and Seven Devils, Watauga County, Appalachian State University, and NC Department of Transportation officials.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECTS IN WATAUGA COUNTY

1. Daniel Boone Parkway, Pre-TIP Study

Alena Cook, PE, of the NC DOT Transportation Planning Branch, presented a project summary for the proposed Daniel Boone Parkway. **(Copy of presentation summary permanently on file in the January 2009 Town Council meetings file.)** She stated that the next step in this process will be for the Boone Town Council and Watauga County Board of Commissioners to decide which option to endorse.

2. Watauga County Comprehensive Transportation Plan

Cooper Sellers, PE, of the NC DOT Transportation Planning Branch, presented a power-point regarding the definition and purpose of a Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP). **(Copy of power-point presentation permanently on file in the January 2009 Town Council meetings file.)** Mr. Sellers explained that a CTP is a "blue-print" plan for projects and helps in prioritizing projects within the county.

3. NCDOT Project Development Process

Drew Joyner, PE, of the NC DOT Project Development and Environmental Analysis Branch, presented a power-point presentation regarding the project development process used by the DOT. **(Copy of power-point presentation permanently on file in the January 2009 Town Council meetings file.)**

UPDATE ON CURRENT PROJECTS IN WATAUGA COUNTY

Mike Pettyjohn, PE, Division 11 Engineer, began by pointing out the effects of the current economic crisis on DOT projects statewide. He stated that a decrease in revenue, a decrease in the number of car sales, and increasing costs in fuel and asphalt materials are having a dramatic effect on current projects and programs which include resurfacing current roadways and upgrading secondary roads. Mr. Pettyjohn gave a brief update on the following on-going projects:

- $ NC Hwy 194 Improvements, Valle Crucis to Avery County
- $ East King Street Widening Project, Boone
- $ US Hwy 321 Widening, Blowing Rock.

He stated that funds for right-of-way acquisition have been frozen at this time, an action which affects both the King Street Widening Project and the Hwy 321 Widening Project. He stated that guardrails are being installed on a portion of NC Hwy 194. Trent Beaver, PE, Division Construction Engineer, presented a visual computerization on the changes proposed for the King Street Widening project. He noted that the presentation can be viewed via a link from the following website: www.regiond.org.

FUTURE MEETING TOPICS

It was the consensus of the group to schedule three intergovernmental retreats per year in late January, late May and September of each year.

With no other items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Deputy Clerk

Mayor