

**MINUTES – SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
April 26, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, May 26, 2018 in the Council Chambers located at 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Rennie Brantz presided. Council Members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Loretta Clawson, Lynne Mason, Sam Furgiuele, Connie Ulmer and Marshall Ashcraft. Town Attorney Allison Meade was in attendance. Staff present included Town Manager John Ward, Town Clerk Nicole Worley and Police Chief Dana Crawford. Several members of the Boone Police Department were also in attendance. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a public forum with the Boone Police Department.

PRESENTATION BY BOONE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief Dana Crawford welcomed all in attendance and introduced members of the department who were in attendance. He presented Council with a presentation titled "Beyond the Blue Lights" which is available to view online at <http://boonenc.iqm2.com/Citizens/FileOpen.aspx?Type=1&ID=1267&Inline=True>.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terri Niederhammer of the Hunger and Health Coalition spoke in support of the Boone Police Department, stating that the presence of officers in the area made guests feel welcome and ensured staff felt safe while working at night. She added that officers, particularly those who sit on the coalition's board of directors, show up anytime staff needs them.

Lisa Bottemly with the Community Care Clinic stated that she has been impressed with the attention the police department gives the Town of Boone. Ms. Bottemly added that the population served by the clinic was often misunderstood and that officers have been nothing but supportive and understanding. She applauded officers' participation in a monthly safety meeting held by the clinic noting that officers were always looking at new ways to keep the entire community safe.

Claudia and Ingrid Kraus of Project ID spoke in support of the police department and noted that the officers work hard to foster greater trust between the immigrant community and the department and to create relationships with the community so that Boone remains a friendly, safe place to live.

Marge McKinney of the NAACP stated that the organization had a good open relationship with the Boone Police Department and praised the department's participation in the "Coffee With a Cop" program, adding that it has improved relationships with members of the community.

Joseph Miller with High Country Crime Stoppers provided Council with information regarding the program, stating that the program depended on Boone Police Department in order to operate.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Mason thanked officers for their service and stated that the presentation helped to highlight the great job they do.

Council Member Clawson offered her thanks and added that she felt safe during Council meetings with officers present.

Council Member Furgiuele thanked the department for their work on the presentation and stated that the information provided was incredibly informative. He noted that he would like to make the forum an annual event.

Council Member Ulmer thanked the department for their service.

There being no further business, Mayor Brantz adjourned the special meeting at 8:59 p.m.

Nicole Worley, Town Clerk

Rennie Brantz, Mayor