

**MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL JULY
17, 2007**

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 4:41 p.m., Tuesday, July 17, 2007, in the Council Chambers, 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Bunk Spann, Dempsey Wilcox, Lynne Mason, Janet Pepin, and Rennie Brantz. Staff members present were Greg Young-Town Manager, Kimberly Tester-Deputy Town Clerk, Jim Byrne-Assistant to the Town Manager, Blake Brown-Public Services Director, John Spear-Development Services Director, and David Weakley-Environmental Planner.

The purpose of this meeting was to further discuss stormwater management issues.

Mayor Clawson welcomed all in attendance and invited Tony Dudley, of Watershed Concepts, to begin the discussion. Mr. Dudley presented a power-point presentation with information on developing policy statements that will outline the parameters of the Town's stormwater management. A copy of the power-point presentation is **permanently on file** at the Town Hall office. The seven policy recommendations are as follows:

1. Program Mission
2. Program Priorities
3. Extent, Scope, and Level of Service
4. Funding Philosophy
5. Enterprise Fund and General Fund Relationship
6. Local Government Coordination
7. Stormwater Utility Organizational Adjustments

Mr. Dudley stated that the first three items will be addressed during this meeting. The first policy recommendation introduced by Mr. Dudley was the development of a program mission that details guidelines for the program and will facilitate the development and implementation of a detailed program and funding strategy. He stated that a mission statement will help to educate the public about the purpose of a stormwater program. The second policy recommendation is the development of program priorities which are strategies for accomplishing the mission statement. Mr. Dudley stated that this policy issue will directly influence funding policies. The third policy recommendation is to determine the extent, scope and level of service. Mr. Dudley explained that one of the objectives in implementing a stormwater management utility is to enhance the day-to-day operation and long-term improvement of the systems of storm water sewers, inlets, outfalls, ditches, streams, and culverts that make up the storm drainage infrastructure in Boone. He further explained that the *extent* of the storm water management service area, the *scope* of the program, and the *level of service* are key issues in defining a stormwater management strategy. He stressed that each of these elements must be integrated in order to achieve the goals of effective day-to-day operation and long-term improvement of the stormwater system. The Council discussed the impending participation of Boone in the NPDES Phase II program. Town Manager Greg Young stated that the Town has met some of the standards necessary to qualify, such as population requirements. Mr. Dudley stated that the Town's water quality is rated as exceptional and that the water quality of most municipalities participating in the program is not rated as high. Council member Mason inquired as to whether a stormwater management program will be included in the provisions of the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) or be a separate program. Mr. Young stated that it could be organized either way, but that he anticipates that it will be coordinated between both the Development Services Department and the Public Works Department. He stated that some of the standards would relate to polices of the UDO. The Council discussed the need to understand the potential cost of planning and implementing a stormwater program. Council member Pepin asked about the cost of developing the seven policy papers. Mr. Dudley estimated the cost for consultant time to be approximately \$30,000. He suggested that the stormwater system be set up as a utility instead of being funded from the Town's General Fund. The Council requested that Mr. Dudley provide cost information from other areas with stormwater programs. Council Member Mason asked about the effect of a stormwater management system on flood insurance rates. Development Services Director John Spear stated that each step taken by the Town to improve stormwater management helps to reduce flood insurance rates. Assistant to the Manager Jim Byrne stated that by instituting a stormwater management system voluntarily, the Town may be eligible for more grants than it

would under a mandatory stormwater management order. He further pointed out that it is important to have an inventory of the Town’s current stormwater management measures. Council member Pepin stated she would prefer to have a stormwater plan designed with the Town’s priorities than to have a plan with limited priorities due to the costs involved. Public Services Director Blake Brown listed several upcoming projects within the town that could be included in a stormwater maintenance plan. Mr. Dudley explained several charts outlining the current stormwater fees in various towns throughout the state. Council member Wilcox asked how the fees are collected. Mr. Dudley stated that the preferable way is to collect the fees separately or with the other utility fees. He stated that fees could also be included with the property tax invoice. The Council discussed the ramifications of Appalachian State University participation in a stormwater management program. Mr. Dudley stated that there is not currently a precedent with university participation in municipal stormwater programs. He informed the Council of both North Carolina State University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, both of which have their own permitted stormwater management systems on campus. He stated that both universities are located in cities with stormwater management systems. Mr. Dudley stated that most other universities located in municipalities with stormwater management systems participate in the city-operated system. It was the consensus of the Town Council to proceed with developing a plan for the design and implementation of a stormwater management system. Town Manager Greg Young stated he would confer with Mr. Dudley and Town Staff to create a list of items needed for that endeavor and present it to the Council at a later date. A meeting was set for Tuesday, August 21, 2007, at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers to continue discussion of developing a stormwater management system.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussion, Mayor Clawson adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Deputy Town Clerk		Mayor