

**MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 8, 2007**

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 5:06 p.m., Thursday, November 8, 2007, in the Council Chambers, 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Pro-Tem Lynne Mason presided. Council Members present were Bunk Spann, Janet Pepin, Rennie Brantz, and Dempsey Wilcox (arrived at 5:28 p.m.) Water Study Committee members present were Mary Ruth McRae, Patrick Beville, Pam Williamson, and Steve Owen. Staff members present were Greg Young-Town Manager, Kimberly Tester-Deputy Town Clerk, Rick Miller-Public Utilities Director, Andrea Gimlin-Program Coordinator I, Amy Davis-Finance Director, and John Spear-Development Services Director. Council Member-Elect Stephen Phillips was also present.

The purpose of this meeting was to review the actual versus calculated usage numbers for water allocations and to discuss possible amendments to the Water Conservation Ordinance.

REVIEW OF ACTUAL VS. CALCULATED USAGE NUMBERS FOR WATER ALLOCATION

Mayor Pro-Tem Mason welcomed all to the meeting and invited Public Utilities Director Rick Miller to begin discussion. Mr. Miller began by referring to the memo dated November 6, 2007 which reflects the projected water allocation for approved projects and the actual usage amount for each project. He pointed out several projects which do not exceed the projected allocation and projects which do exceed the projected allocation. Mr. Miller stated that after monitoring the actual usage for the projects, 108,879 gallons of the projected water allocation were not used. He also noted an additional 5,025 gallons of water from projects that did not materialize. He reminded the committee that 150,000 gallons were allocated for the 526 vacant lots within the town limits. Mr. Miller informed the committee that so far only 7,000 gallons of that allocation have been used leaving 143,000 gallons remaining. He calculated approximately 200,000 gallons of water remain for allocation by the Council. Mayor Pro-Tem Mason stated that the need exists to find water for an additional two years until 2011. After a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the committee, that with 200,000 gallons of water remaining, to set 50,000 gallons of water for allocation for the next four years, 2008 through 2011. Upon a motion by Council Member Spann, seconded by Committee Member Owen, the Water Study Committee moved to recommend that the Town Council allocate 50,000 gallons of water per year for the next four years, beginning January 1, 2008, that the Town set aside 10,000 gallons for allocation to in-town vacant lots for a three-year period beginning January 1, 2008, that the Town review actual water usage records annually beginning in November 2008, and that Ordinance 05-01 be extended from December 2009 until December 2011. Committee Member Williamson offered a friendly amendment, which was accepted by both Council Member Spann and Committee Member Owen, to note that the change in allocation recommended by the committee is the result of examining the actual versus projected use for projects for which water allocation was approved previously by the Town Council.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE AMENDMENT TO WATER CONSERVATION ORDINANCE

Public Utilities Director Rick Miller, referring to a memorandum dated November 6, 2007, stated that he recommends further investigation of the current Water and Sewer Ordinance requirements concerning water shortage conditions. He explained that in order to declare Stage II Water Shortage condition, the current ordinance requires that two storage tanks must drop to ten feet or less of storage. Mr. Miller stated that this requirement could put the Town in a critical position from which recovery would be very difficult. Furthermore, he stated that some of the requirements of the current ordinance may impose a financial hardship on the Town's customers. Mr. Miller stated that he would like time to evaluate information from the City of Hickory and the NC Department of Natural Resources regarding water shortage condition requirements in order to implement other changes to the Town of Boone's Water and Sewer Ordinance. Upon a motion by Committee Member Williamson, seconded by Committee Member McRae, the Water Study Committee moved to recommend to the Town Council to remove the language in the current Water and Sewer Ordinance that requires two storage tanks to drop to ten feet of storage

or less in order to declare Stage II Water Shortage conditions and to instruct Public Utilities Director Rick Miller to investigate information in order to update the requirements for water shortage conditions.

VOTE: Aye - All
 Nay - None

Upon a motion by Council Member Spann, seconded by Council Member Pepin, the Council moved to amend the agenda to take action on two items: setting a date for a Special Meeting of the Town Council and amending the Water and Sewer Ordinance regarding requirements for the declaration of water shortage conditions.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

Upon a motion by Committee Member Williamson, seconded by Committee Member Owen, the members of the Water Study Committee moved to adjourn at 6:13 p.m.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

Council Member Mason informed the Council that an invitation from the ASU Board of Trustees has been issued to the Council to attend a public information session regarding the proposed ASU College of Education. Upon a motion by Council Member Pepin, seconded by Council Member Spann, Council moved to set a Special Meeting of the Boone Town Council on Monday, November 19, 2007, from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center in order for members to attend a public information session on the proposed ASU College of Education.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay – None

Upon a motion by Council Member Brantz, seconded by Council Member Pepin, Council moved to make the following amendment to the Water and Sewer Ordinance:

Section 7-7. Specific Guidelines.

~~In the event a Stage II Water Shortage Condition is in effect and any two (2) Town elevated storage tanks drop to ten (10) feet or less of storage, then a Stage II Water Shortage may be proclaimed.~~ **When a Stage II Water Shortage Condition is declared and** in addition to the voluntary guidelines already in effect, it shall be unlawful to use water supplied by the Town water system in the following manner:

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay - None

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Council Member Brantz, seconded by Council Member Pepin, Council adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

VOTE: Aye – All
 Nay - None

Deputy Town Clerk

Mayor