

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Blowing Rock**  
**Town Council Special Meeting**  
**May 21, 2020**

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council held a special meeting on Thursday, May 21, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting took place at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock, N.C. Present were Mayor Charlie Sellers, Mayor Pro-Tem Sue Sweeting and Council Members Albert Yount, David Harwood, Council Member Matheson and Virginia Powell. Others in attendance were Town Manager Shane Fox, Town Attorney Allen Moseley and Town Clerk Hilari Hubner who recorded the minutes.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Sellers called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**TOPICS DISCUSSED**

- 14-Day Quarantine – Council discussed and agreed to follow suit with Watauga County in lifting the quarantine restrictions for returning second homeowners and visitors.
- Short-Term Rentals – Council discussed and the consensus was to follow suit with the county and lift restrictions which will allow for short term rentals to resume renting at 50% occupancy
- AppalCART – Manager Fox advised discussions had been had between him, AppalCART and Council Member Matheson as to how to proceed with the route this summer. Due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 they felt it was best not to have the shuttle route this summer. The shuttle will presumably resume in 2021.
- Restaurants and Dining – Council discussed and agreed to allow each restaurant within Town limits: one public parking spot for curb side pick-up (the preference would be a end of the row space), allow up to 25% of their onsite private parking (no public spaces) to be used toward seating for the 50% occupancy for dining (but still follow all the social distancing guidelines set by the Governor's restrictions). Allow restaurants to provide coverage in the form of portable tents (no larger than 12x12). All with this with the understanding this is during Phase two and will be revisited and changes could be made if something doesn't work.
- Recreation – Council discussed Summer Camp with the strict COVID-19 restrictions as well as not being able to utilize Blowing Rock School it would be difficult to operate. The consensus among Council was it would be best not to have summer camp. Council Member Yount made a motion to refund the money to anyone who has prepaid for summer camp, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem

Sweeting. Unanimously approved. Council discussed options to open the pool with the given restrictions. Council Member Matheson advised he would like to have the pool open. The consensus among Council was to allow staff make the decision how to proceed with the pool operation. Manager Fox advised he would keep Council updated. Council discussed the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival and due to large crowds, the parade draws the consensus was to cancel the parade.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, Mayor Pro-Tem Sweeting made a motion to adjourn at 5:10 p.m., seconded by Council Member Matheson. Unanimously approved.

**MAYOR** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Charlie Sellers**

**ATTEST** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Hilari Hubner, Town Clerk**