

MINUTES

Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners December 9, 2008

The Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on Tuesday, December 9, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting took place in the Council Chambers located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Commissioners Bobby Ball, Keith Tester, Phillip Pickett, Albert Yount. Others in attendance were Town Manager Scott Hildebran, Town Attorney Allen Moseley, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock, Public Works Director Johnny Lentz, Emergency Services Director Kent Graham, Finance Director Nicole Norman and Town Clerk Sharon Greene.

Commissioner Tommy Klutz was unable to attend due to a conflicting engagement.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Prior to the beginning of the meeting Council received a revised copy of the Draft minutes for the special meeting held on November 28, 2008 for their review.

A motion was received from Commissioner Tester to approve minutes for the regular meeting held on November 11, 2008 as well as the meeting on November 28th with changes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ball. Unanimously approved.

PRESENTATION

1. Winterfest 2009

Mr. Earl Horne was present to update Council of the upcoming 11th Annual Blowing Rock Winterfest to be held January 22nd through 25th, 2009. Mr. Horne advised the Winterfest committee had been working with Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Brown regarding the use of town property during this event. Mr. Horne also advised a dog show would be added to the list of events during Winterfest.

Mayor Lawrence inquired where the dog show would be held. Mr. Horne stated this event would be held at the American Legion building.

After further discussion regarding event locations a motion was made by Commissioner Ball to approve Winterfest 2009, seconded by Commissioner Tester. Unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Drought Update

Town Manager Hildebran advised the drought situation had not changed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. FY 2008-09 Audit - Contract

Town Manager Hildebran presented a contract with Combs, Tennant, & Carpenter, PC for the FY 2008-09 audit services for their consideration. Mr. Hildebran advised the fee had increased by \$2,500 from past years for a total of \$22,500 due to anticipated grant auditing requirements.

Commissioner Pickett made a motion to approve the contact as presented, seconded by Commissioner Ball. Unanimously approved.

FY 2008-09 Audit Contract – Exhibit A

2. Resolution of Support- Blowing Rock ABC Board (Res. #2008-12)

Per Council's request at the November Town Council meeting, a Resolution in support of the local ABC store was presented for approval.

Mr. Hildebran explained the North Carolina General Assembly Joint Legislative Program Evaluation Oversight Committee was evaluating the effectiveness of the NC Alcohol Beverage Control System, identifying improvement options, and the possibility of privatization.

According to Mr. Hildebran, the draft resolution would support the efforts to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the NC Alcohol Beverage Control System as long as a state system for the sale and distribution of spirituous liquor remains our local control and the state system continues to return the proceeds from these sales back into the community.

Mr. Hildebran also advised the Blowing Rock ABC Board had reviewed the draft resolution and was supportive of its adoption.

A motion to adopt Resolution #2008-12 was made by Commissioner Tester, seconded by Commissioner Pickett. Unanimously approved.

Resolution of Support –ABC Board #2008-12 – Exhibit B

3. Resolution of Support – Flat Top Manor Historical Designation (Res. #2008-13)

Town Manager Hildebran presented Council with Resolution #2008-13 endorsing the nomination of Flat Top Manor to the National Register of Historic Places by the Blue Ridge Parkway.

Mr. Hildebran stated the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce would also be adopting a similar resolution.

Commissioner Pickett made a motion to accept Resolution #2008-13 as written, seconded by Commissioner Yount. Unanimously approved.

Resolution of Support Flat Top Manor Historical Designation #2008-13 – Exhibit C

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

Mrs. Rita Davis incoming Chamber of Commerce President approached Council to introduce herself and to update Council on the Chamber's upcoming plans for the future. She asked for Council's support in these endeavors.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Town Manager Hildebran thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for their hard work during the recent Christmas in the Park and Parade.

He also reminded Council of the next Intergovernmental Retreat to be held on January 26, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Broyhill Conference Center in Boone, NC.

Commissioner Yount had questions regarding the Charter Cable TV Company and their recent increase in rates. Mr. Hildebran advised that in January 2007, the State of North Carolina had taken the cable TV franchise authority over throughout the state. He also advised that AT&T could possibly offer this service to the area in the near future.

Concluding this portion of the regular meeting, Commissioner Ball made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to N.C. G.S. 143.318.11(6) to discuss a personnel matter at 7:20 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Yount. Unanimously approved.

Upon reconvening the open session meeting at 7:50 p.m., a motion to grant a performance reward in the amount of \$2,500 plus five (5) additional days of paid vacation to the Town Manager Hildebran was made by Commissioner Pickett, seconded by Commissioner Ball. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, Commissioner Yount made a motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m., seconded by Commissioner Tester.

MAYOR _____
J.B. Lawrence

ATTEST _____
Sharon Greene, Town Clerk

Attachments (12-09-08)

FY 2008-09 Audit Contract – Exhibit A

Resolution of Support – ABC Board #2008-12 – Exhibit B

Resolution of Support – Flat Top Manor #2008-13 – Exhibit C