

**Town of Blowing Rock
Tourism Development Authority
May 23, 2023**

The Blowing Rock Tourism Development Authority (TDA) held their budget public hearing on Tuesday, May 23, 2023, beginning at 3:30 p.m. Present were Chairman Dean Bullis, Members Kevin Walker, Pete Gherini and Zika Rea. Others present were Ex-officio Members Nicole Norman, TDA Executive Director Tracy Brown, Assistant Director Amanda Lugenbell, and Town Clerk Hilari Hubner, who recorded the minutes. Vice-Chair Greg Tarbutton was unable to attend the meeting.

Chairman Bullis opened the meeting to Public Hearing for questions or comments regarding the FY 23-24 Budget.

Topics discussed included:

- Reimbursement for Town Overhead Costs was discussed at length due to the proposed substantial increase to that line item. Member Rea made a motion to lower the amount to \$25,000 and a time study be conducted over the next year to see how much time Town staff spends on TDA related tasks for review and consideration during FY 24-25 Budget planning, seconded by Member Gherini. Unanimously approved.
- Executive Director Tracy Brown stated he had overlooked adding funds for a marketing survey and requested adding an additional \$8,000 for that cost to be recommended budget.

With no further questions or changes, the Members agreed to move forward with the proposed budget. The budget adopt will be on June 6, 2023 at 3:30 pm during the regular scheduled meeting.

Executive Session

At 4:15 p.m. Member Rea made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11 (6), seconded by Member Gherini. At 5:40 p.m. Member Rea made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Member Gherini. Unanimously approved.

Member Rea made a motion to give Mr. Brown and Amanda Lugenbell a 10% raise in pay for their annual salary. In addition, the Board gave Mr. Brown a 12.75% onetime bonus and Ms. Lugenbell a 8.5% onetime bonus, seconded by Member Gherini. Unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss Member Walker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m., seconded by Member Gherini. Unanimously approved.

TDA Chairman, Dean Bullis

Town Clerk, Hilari Hubner

Attachments

None