

MINUTES
Town of Blowing Rock
Board of Commissioners
Regular Meeting-February 8, 2011

The Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, February 8, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting took place at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Commissioners Albert Yount, Phil Pickett, Tommy Klutz, Doug Matheson, and Jim Steele. Others present were Town Manager Scott Hildebran, Town Attorney Allen Moseley, Town Engineer Doug Chapman, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock, Public Works Director Mike Wilcox, Finance Director Nicole Norman, Police Chief Eric Brown, Parks and Recreation Director Jennifer Brown, and Town Clerk Sharon Greene.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Police Captain Justin Wood was called forward to be recognized for the completion of an 11-week Management Development Program at the North Carolina Justice Academy. Mayor Lawrence presented Captain Wood with a certificate and offered congratulations to Mr. Wood on his accomplishment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Pickett made a motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting held on January 11, 2011 and minutes for the Council Retreat held January 16-18, 2011 as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Steele. Unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Mayview Madness-5K Road Race/Fun Run (October 22, 2011)

Town Manager Hildebran presented a request from the Blue Ridge Conservancy to hold their 12th Annual Blowing Rock Mayview Madness 5K Run/Fun Run on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Mr. Hildebran advised the High Country Conservancy would coordinate with the Police Department regarding traffic control and the town would also be provided with a certificate of insurance prior to the event.

A motion to approve the request was made by Commissioner Matheson, seconded by Commissioner Pickett. Unanimously approved.

Mayview Madness 5K Race/Fun Run – Exhibit A

2. Appointments to Volunteer Boards and Commissions

Based on discussions during the 2011 Retreat and a follow-up with prospective members, the proposed appointments to Town Boards and Commissions were:

- **Planning Board:** David Harwood, Doug Pegram, and Lisa Stripling - three-year terms ending in 2014
- **Board of Adjustment:** Charles Davant, Ron Oberle, and Thomas Drumheller (Alternate) - three-year terms ending in 2014
- **ABC Board:** Susie Greene- three-year term ending in 2014
- **TDA Board:** Lianne Mattar – three-year terms ending 2014, Kent Tarbutton – Chairperson one-year term

A motion was made by Commissioner Steele, seconded by Commissioner Pickett for approval of these appointments. Unanimously approved.

3. Tax Collectors 2010-11 Delinquent Report & Advertisement of Tax Liens Order

Town Manager Hildebran presented Council with the 2010-11 Delinquent Report and Advertisement of Tax Liens Order for approval. He mentioned the tax collection rate was currently at 95% and up slightly from the previous year. Per Tax Collector Greene's request, delinquent taxes would be advertised on **March 24, 2011**.

Commissioner Klutz made a motion to approve the 2010-11 Delinquent Report & Advertisement of Tax Liens Order as presented, seconded by Commissioner Pickett. Unanimously approved.

2010 -11 Delinquent Report & Advertisement of Tax Liens Order – Exhibit B

4. Tax Releases - #2010-01 - #2010-03

Mr. Hildebran presented Council with tax releases #2010-01, #2010-02, #2010-03 totaling \$1,531.63 for approval. He stated that according to Tax Collector Greene, the releases met the statutory requirements set forth in N.C.G.S. 105-381(b). A motion was made by Commissioner Pickett for approval of tax releases #2010-01, #2010-2 and #2010-03 as presented, seconded by Commissioner Klutz. Unanimously approved.

Tax Releases #2010-01-2010-03 – Exhibit C1, C2, & C3

SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR

None

OTHER

Mayor Lawrence stated he would be out of town during the next scheduled Council meeting on March 8th. He requested that the meeting be changed to **Tuesday, March 15th at 6:00 p.m.** with a reception for all volunteer board members to be held prior to the meeting at 5:00 p.m. A motion was made by Commissioner Pickett, seconded by Commissioner Steele to approve the change as requested by Mayor Lawrence.

Town Manager Hildebran stated that BRAHM needed approval from Council to sub-lease any portion of the museum to the TDA/Chamber of Commerce and for a gift shop should they decide to do so. Ms. JoAnn Mitchell was present to answer questions from Council regarding this issue. Commissioner Klutz asked if the proposed gift shop would be art oriented. Ms. Mitchell stated the gift shop would have various items pertaining to the history of the area as well as art, etc. Commissioner Yount asked for clarification regarding the Town having any financial interest in relationship to the proposed leases. Mr. Hildebran responded the town did not.

Commissioner Pickett made a motion for approval of sub-leasing the museum for a gift shop and to the TDA/Chamber of Commerce should they decide to do so. The motion received a second from Commissioner Yount. Unanimously approved.

Commissioner Yount stated there was a myth in town that Blowing Rock did not have any short-term rental properties. He asked that the record state; according to the NC Census Bureau, there were 1,656 single-family dwellings in town and 438 of those dwellings were available for short-term rental which was approximately 26 percent. Mr. Yount asked that Town Manager Hildebran clarify for the record during discussion at their Retreat what Council's stance was regarding this issue. Mr. Hildebran advised the consensus was to maintain the short-term rental policy currently in place, adopted in 1984 and to further educate the public on this issue via the Town Newsletter, media, etc.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Mr. Hildebran reminded Council of the Fire/Rescue dinner to be held the following Tuesday at Chetola Resort at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

MAYOR _____
J.B. Lawrence

ATTEST _____
Sharon Greene, Town Clerk

ATTACHMENTS (02-08-11)

Mayview Madness 5K Race/Fun Run – Exhibit A

2010 -11 Delinquent Report & Advertisement of Tax Liens Order – Exhibit B

Tax Releases #2010-01-2010-03 – Exhibit C-1, C-2, & C-3