

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Blowing Rock**  
**Board of Commissioners**  
**Regular Meeting-August 9, 2011**

The Town of Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners met in regular session on Tuesday, August 9, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. The meeting took place in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Commissioners Albert Yount, Phillip Pickett, Tommy Klutz, Doug Matheson, and Jim Steele. Others in attendance were Town Manager Scott Hildebran, Town Attorney Allen Moseley, Town Engineer Doug Chapman, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock, Public Works Director Mike Wilcox, Police Chief Eric Brown, Finance Director Nicole Norman, Parks & 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.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made to approve the minutes for meetings held on April 11, July 12 including closed session minutes, and August 4, 2011 by Commissioner Pickett, seconded by Commissioner Klutz. Unanimously approved.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Chamber of Commerce – Art in the Park/WinterFest Dates**

Town Manager Hildebran presented Council with a request from Charles Hardin, Executive Director of the Blowing Rock Chamber of Commerce for approval of dates for the following 2012 events:

1) 2012 Art in the Park

- May 12
- June 16
- July 14
- August 11
- September 8
- October 6

2) 2012 WinterFest – Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> through Sunday January 29<sup>th</sup>. Use of any facility/park would be coordinated with the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Hildebran advised the Town would obtain copies of certificates of insurance and Special Events Hold Harmless Agreements prior to the events.

Without further comment, Commissioner Pickett made a motion to approve the proposed Art in the Park dates as well as WinterFest dates for 2012 as requested. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klutz. Unanimously approved. **2012 Art in the Park/WinterFest Dates – Exhibit A**

## **2. Blowing Rock American Legion – Termination of Lease Agreement**

Town Manager Hildebran stated that on April 15, 1952, Blowing Rock American Legion Post #256 leased a parcel of land located off Wallingford Street from the Town for the construction of a Legion Hall and parking facility for their use. The term of the lease was for 99 years.

In the past year, the Town and the American Legion Post #256 held on-going discussions regarding the future of the building including operations and maintenance.

Mr. Hildebran advised that Council had directed Mayor Lawrence and Mayor Pro-tem Yount, with the assistance of Ms. Ginny Stevens, to work with Post Commander Ron Oberle to develop framework for termination of the lease with the property reverting back to the Town.

Based on the discussions, the following termination of lease conditions were agreed upon and would continue until March 21, 2051:

1. Town agreed to name the facility the “Blowing Rock American Legion Building”.
2. Town agreed to Post #256 continuing use of the facility for its regular meetings and related functions.
3. Town agreed that other long-term users of the facility such as the Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts, Historical Society, and non-denominational organizations such as Alcoholics Anonymous could continue to use the facility.
4. Post #256 shall retain exclusive access to the closet space for storage of club supplies.
5. Post #256 reserves the right to wall space for the purpose of hanging plaques, photographs, or decorations to recognize the Legion’s contributions to the community and country.
6. The Town shall maintain the building’s upkeep, utilities, insurance, etc. and shall be entitled to provide a substitute facility for use by the parties.

Mayor Lawrence suggested that staff look at the feasibility of changing the E-911 service address for the American Legion building to 256 Wallingford Street in honor of American Legion Post 256.

Mr. Hildebran presented Council with a Termination of Lease Agreement drafted by Town Attorney Allen Moseley, for their consideration.

Commissioner Yount inquired if the Town Engineer had inspected the building for any major structural problems. Mr. Chapman responded that he and a structural engineer

had checked the building recently and had not found any major structural problems, however; the building was in need of minor repairs and updates.

Mr. Vernon Dunn, President of The Rotary Club of Blowing Rock stated that the Rotary Club would be willing to aid with a portion of the renovations of the American Legion Building. He further remarked that the Rotary Club had always been very active in the community and mentioned several projects they had helped fund.

Mayor Lawrence thanked Mr. Dunn and the Rotary Club for their support. With no further discussion, Commissioner Matheson made a motion to accept the Termination of Lease Agreement as presented, seconded by Commissioner Steele. Unanimously approved. **Blowing Rock American Legion – Termination of Lease Agreement – Exhibit B**

### **3. Reschedule November 8, 2011 Town Council Regular Meeting Date**

Town Manager Hildebran stated that due to the Town election being held on Tuesday, November 8, 2011 in the Town Council Chambers, he recommended that the regular Town Council meeting date be rescheduled. Town Manager Hildebran mentioned Monday, November 7, 2011, Wednesday, November 9, 2011 or Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. as potential dates to be considered.

Commissioner Steele suggested the meeting be rescheduled to a date after the election. Commissioner Klutz made a motion to reschedule the regular meeting from November 8<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, November 15, 2011 at 5:00 p.m. The motion received a second from Commissioner Matheson. Unanimously approved.

### **4. NCDOT Bridge Inspection Agreement ( Resolution #2011-09)**

Town Manager Hildebran presented resolution #2011-09 executing a municipal agreement with the NC Department of Transportation for a bridge inspection for Cornish Road.

According to Mr. Hildebran, the U.S. Surface Transportation Assistance Act requires that municipal bridges be inspected every two years. NCDOT as in past years, through the Federal Highway Administration, would cover 80% of the costs of the inspections. NCDOT also estimated a cost of \$2,600 per municipal bridge inspection, with NCDOT Federal-aid covering \$2,080 and the Town covering \$520 per bridge.

Mr. Hildebran stated the anticipated completion date for the inspection would be by June 2012.

Commissioner Steele asked if Mr. Hildebran anticipated the cost for the bridge inspections to increase. Mr. Hildebran advised the inspection fee had been the same amount for several years.

Commissioner Pickett made a motion to approve NCDOT Bridge Inspection Agreement (Resolution #2011-09) as presented. Commissioner Klutz seconded the motion.

Unanimously approved. **NCDOT Bridge Inspection Agreement (Resolution #2011-09) – Exhibit C**

**5. NCDOT Construction Utility Agreement – Valley Boulevard (US 321)**

Town Manager Hildebran recommended this item be postponed until the September 2011 Council meeting due to negotiations of final terms/conditions of the utility agreement being incomplete at this time.

Commissioner Steele made a motion to postpone the NCDOT Construction Utility Agreement – Valley Blvd. (US 321) until the September meeting as recommended by Town Manager Hildebran. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Klutz. Unanimously approved.

**SPEAKERS FROM THE FLOOR**

Ms. Regina Pelsmaeker of 426 Wallingford Street spoke regarding the Council meetings beginning at 5:00 p.m. She asked that Council consider changing the time to accommodate those who worked and could not be at the meeting by 5:00 p.m.

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS**

Town Manager Hildebran reminded everyone of the Community Service Day to be held August 20, 2011. Commissioner Steele remarked that Community Service Day was a large fund raiser and encouraged everyone to attend. He stated funds that were generated during the event were distributed back into the community in various ways such as scholarships. Mayor Lawrence also encouraged the community to attend Groovy Nights an event that coincides with the Community Service Day. The event would be held on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> and was open to the public.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

**MAYOR** \_\_\_\_\_  
**J.B. Lawrence**

**ATTEST** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Sharon Greene, Town Clerk**

**ATTACHMENTS** (08-09-11)

2012 Art in the Park/WinterFest Dates – Exhibit A  
Blowing Rock American Legion – Termination of Lease Agreement – Exhibit B  
NCDOT Bridge Inspection Agreement (Resolution #2011-09) – Exhibit C