

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Blowing Rock**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**November 10, 2015**

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting took place at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock, N.C. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Mayor Pro-tem Albert Yount and Council Members Dan Phillips, Sue Sweeting, Doug Matheson and Ray Pickett. Others in attendance were Town Manager Scott Fogleman, Town Attorney Allen Moseley, Town Engineer Doug Chapman, Planning Director Kevin Rothrock, Finance Director Nicole Norman, Public Works and Utilities Director Mike Wilcox, Police Chief Tony Jones, Building Inspector John Warren, Parks & Recreation Director Jennifer Brown and Town Clerk Sharon Greene.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and reminded everyone of the Veteran's Day Ceremony in Memorial Park November 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Council Member Pickett made a motion to approve the October 13, 2015, meeting minutes as written, seconded by Council Member Sweeting. Unanimously approved.

**SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS AND REPORTS**

**Highway 321 Report Valley Boulevard Construction Update**

Kipp Turner of Maymead Construction began his monthly update on the Highway 321 Widening Project by saying that wall construction continued across from Food Lion and Holiday Inn Express with hopes of completion by the end of November. Asphalt work continued with minimal closure of Ransom Street, Church Street, etc. Curb and gutter work had resumed across from Subway Restaurant from Ransom Street to Church Street.

Mr. Turner stated the widening crew tries to stay mindful of the businesses in the area and minimize the inconveniences they experience. He advised the construction crews appreciate their patience as well.

Mr. Turner advised that NCDOT is getting price options for the rock facing below Cliff Dwellers Inn in order to blend with the natural stone in that area.

Council Member Phillips expressed his appreciation to Mr. Turner for the extended hours the widening crews were working. He had noticed a couple of the workers who were not wearing their vests which made it difficult for them to be seen at night. He asked Mr. Turner to speak with the crews regarding the need for vests in order to remain safe.

Council Member Matheson asked about the business driveway accesses along the area with all of the paving and the steepness. Mr. Turner stated some of the accesses might

possibly be pushed further back according to NCDOT's standards to help reduce the steepness of the grade.

Mayor Lawrence thanked Mr. Turner for his update.

## **DISCUSSION AGENDA**

### **1. Streetscape Capital Improvement Design Considerations For Main Street**

Town Engineer Doug Chapman reviewed the overall layout of the remaining streetscape work to be completed on Main Street from Highway 221 to Morris Street with Council. He advised the approximate cost for the project would be \$665,000. According to Mr. Chapman, the plans would not be submitted to NCDOT until Council had reviewed them.

Council Member Matheson asked if pedestrian crosswalk signals were planned at the Sunset Drive and Main Street intersection. Mr. Chapman stated this would be the time to check the cost of adding pedestrian crosswalk signals and this would be investigated as they are not included in the projected cost estimates at this time.

Council Member Phillips expressed his concerns with some of the sidewalks along Main Street being different due to the areas that were not being replaced. Mr. Chapman stated there were areas of sidewalks that were in good shape and that also tied into old stonework walls in areas such as in front of the Martin House. Council Member Phillips stated he would like to see consistency in the sidewalks.

Council Member Pickett stated he thought the sidewalk in front of Memorial Park should be replaced due to its appearance and to help improve consistency.

Council Member Sweeting recommended the sidewalks along Main Street be uniform as well.

Town Engineer Chapman responded that he would check on the cost per square footage in order for the sidewalks to be consistent with one another and indicated that the project bids could be collected to indicate the cost differences.

Town Manager Fogleman mentioned the need to re-do the crosswalk at Laurel Lane and asked for Council's approval on getting a cost estimate for this. Council agreed.

Town Engineer Chapman also mentioned drainage problems in that area. Council suggested getting a cost estimate on fixing the drainage problems as well. **Streetscape Design Documents – Attachment A**

## **SPEAKER FROM THE FLOOR**

Charlie Sellers recommended that Council utilize engineering services other than McGill and Associates. He also recommended the areas currently covered by and planned to be pavers along the sidewalks on Main Street be made from stone. He thought it would blend better. In closing Mr. Sellers congratulated Mayor Lawrence on the recent election.

**ADJOURMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

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

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

**ATTACHMENTS**

[Streetscape Design Documents – Attachment A](#)