

MINUTES
Town of Blowing Rock
Town Council Budget Work Session
May 25, 2016

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council continued their annual budget work session on Wednesday, May 25, 2016. The work session was held at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Mayor Pro-Tem Albert Yount, Council Members Jim Steele, Sue Sweeting, Doug Matheson, and Ray Pickett. Others in attendance were Town Manager Scott Fogleman, Finance Officer Nicole Norman, Town Engineer Doug Chapman, Town Clerk Sharon Greene and Interim Town Clerk Hilari Hubner.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Town Engineer Doug Chapman updated Council via a power point presentation on Capital Projects areas such as Roads, Streetscape & Pedestrian, Parks & Recreation, Water and Sewer. **Bond Capital Projects Engineer's Update – Attachment A**

Mr. Chapman advised the Main Street Streetscape was almost complete as well as the Laurel Lane sidewalk replacement. He discussed the Greenway Court drainage project with Council, stating three informal bids had been received on the project and reviewed the process that was needed to repair the problem.

Town Manager Fogleman stated the Sunset Drive and Main Street utility conversion study was nearing completion, possibly being finalized in June. He recommended that Council hold a separate work session to discuss the study when needed.

Included in Mr. Chapman's presentation were photos of road failure repairs that were needed on Dogwood Lane. He advised that construction would most likely begin in July or August to repair the problem. Other areas of less severity were also discussed.

Mr. Chapman discussed culvert replacements needed on Church Street and Dogwood Lane as well as other areas in Town.

Mr. Chapman advised there were approximately 18,000 feet of ditchlines in Town that were in need of repair. He reviewed several options with Council and recommended that asphalt ditches be utilized.

Mr. Chapman reviewed the road resurfacing plan and stated the Town had completed a paving schedule in 2011 that was being used to prioritize the most needed areas to be resurfaced.

Mr. Chapman advised a survey had been completed pertaining to the Sunset Drive Streetscape plan and the next step would be for staff to request design concept proposals. Once that was completed, a detailed design plan would begin and construction would take place in 2018 after the second phase of the bond funding had been borrowed.

Mr. Chapman reviewed the timeline regarding the sidewalk to Bass Lake, stating construction would hopefully begin in 2017.

Mr. Chapman reviewed Parks and Recreation improvements to Memorial Park, Broyhill drainage repairs, etc.

Water and sewer projects were briefly discussed.

After Mr. Chapman's presentation, Town Manager Fogleman reviewed several line items in the proposed FY 2016-2017 Budget.

Mr. Fogleman stated that he continued to be in contact with the affected property owners regarding the Town Gateway and felt a resolution had been reached. Council consensus was for Mr. Fogleman to proceed to the next step in the process which is to have construction drawings commissioned following NCDOT's installation of sidewalks and stoplight mast arm poles in the project area.

Town Manager Fogleman stated that the Blowing Rock Village Foundation had proposed to pay for improvements to Laurel Lane and Council reviewed the concept drawings. Feedback included not installing new bulb outs on the east side of Main Street or the west side and updating the drawings to show the footprint of the recently completed sidewalk on the south side of Laurel Lane.

Mr. Fogleman briefly discussed the valve and hydrant maintenance program with Council as well as the automated meter program.

Mr. Fogleman then reviewed several potential topics for discussion during the planned mid-year retreat to be held in June.

In closing, Mr. Fogleman updated Council regarding possible changes to the Town's recycling program. Council Member Steele asked that Mr. Fogleman to check with other resort towns regarding their recycling programs in order to get a comparison.

ADJOURN

Council recessed the work session at 8:30 p.m.

MAYOR _____ **ATTEST** _____
J.B. Lawrence **Town Clerk, Sharon Greene**

ATTACHMENT

Bond Capital Projects Engineer's Update – Attachment A