

MINUTES

Blowing Rock Board of Commissioners

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

The Mayor and Board of Commissioners for the Town of Blowing Rock met in special session on Wednesday, June 27, 2001 at 4:00 p.m. Present were Mayor J. B Lawrence, Commissioners Barbara Ball, Michael Sweeting, Charles Travis, and Rita Wiseman. Commissioner Lentz was out of town and unable to attend. Also present were Town Manager Don Holycross, Town Engineer Marion Rothrock, and Assistant Town Clerk Sharon Greene.

Budget Amendments FY 2000-2001:

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order, with the first agenda item being the approval of amendments made to the budget for fiscal year 2001/2002. The motion to approve these amendments was made by Rita Wiseman and seconded by Barbara Ball. All members were in favor.

Storie Street Waterline Easement:

Next item heard by the Board was discussion concerning an easement on Storie Street to service a fire hydrant in that area. The hydrant is now serviced by lines located on private property owned by Bilmar Development. Conditional Use Permit No. 2001-06 was issued to Mr. Robert Menees with the anticipation of building one retail unit and one residential unit on the Morris Street property. A stipulation on his C.U.P was easements would be needed from Storie Street property owners to run a water line to service the hydrant. The property owners were in agreement to grant easements for this purpose with one exception. One property owner would like for the town to pave the full width and one full length of Storie Street and include the parking lot located in front of the Southmarke property. According to the Public Works Director Johnny Lentz, the estimated fee for this would be \$7,000.

Mr. Holycross spoke with Marcus Hickman, Fire Chief to discuss the necessity of this hydrant. Chief Hickman stated that the Fire Department would like for the hydrant to remain, but it was not crucial that it stay. With this in mind, the Board decided it would not be feasible to spend \$7,000 for the paving in order to attain the easements. Rita Wiseman made a motion that the hydrant be taken out and the waterline easement requirement attached to C.U.P. 2001-06, also be removed. Barbara Ball seconded her motion. With dissenting votes from Board members Charlie Travis and Michael Sweeting, Mayor Lawrence voted in favor of the motion brought forth. The motion passed.

North Main Street Sidewalk:

The next item of discussion was the North Main Street sidewalk project. The cost of this project was estimated at \$327,000. The feasibility of the Town's share of the cost for this project was discussed at length. Some Board members felt that the sidewalk would be a nice addition and used by visitors as well as residents of the town. Other Board members felt the taxpayers' portion of the cost of this project would be better spent in another area of town, such as 221 to Bass Lake or Ransom Street. No action could be taken on this project, until an amended agreement is received from D.O.T.

King's Ransom Subdivision:

Revised plans were submitted to the Town on this project eliminating part of the garages that were on the original plan. The Board needed to decide if this change was of any significance in changing the C.U.P. The Board agreed this would have no significance on C.U.P. # 2001-01.

Raw Water Intake Update:

Mr. Holycross gave the Board an update on the raw water intake. He presented the Board with two locations for the new raw water intake in the Middle Fork of the New River. The first alternative would be in the Middle Fork near Aho Road. However, this location would require the relocation of our wastewater discharge so that it is downstream from the new water intake. State guidelines require that there be five miles of separation of wastewater discharge and raw water intake.

The second option was to install a new raw water intake in the Middle Fork near Payne Branch Road. This would meet the state guidelines and our wastewater discharge would not have to be relocated. This option would also provide a better water supply and be easier to operate and maintain. The Council instructed Mr. Holycross to proceed with the second alternative.

Their being no further agenda items, Rita Wiseman made the motion to move into Executive Session and was seconded by Michael Sweeting. The motion passed.

MAYOR: _____

J.B. LAWRENCE

Assistant Town Clerk