

**Minutes
Spruce Pine Town Council
March 28, 2016, 5:30 PM**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on March 28, 2016. Present were Mayor Darla Harding and Council Members James Acuff, Larry McKinney, and Rocky Buchanan. Staff in attendance included Richard Canipe, Darlene Johnson, Bill Summerlin and Dave Lindsey. Also attending was Jimmy Phillips, Rita Phillips, John Simmons, Beth Byerly, Cheech Gardner, Jan Godwin, Kay Goins Royer, Ron Royer, Jarrod Hughes, Lori Gilchrist, and David Purtell (Mitchell News-Journal).

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harding called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 PM. James Acuff gave the invocation. Larry McKinney led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Larry McKinney moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Larry McKinney moved to approve the minutes of the February 08, 2016 regular meeting. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2016 regular meeting. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2016 regular meeting. Larry McKinney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS

Darla noted that residents' meeting was not advertised well. She asked if anyone wished to speak. Lori Gilchrist stated that she was happy to be there. Darla clarified that each quarter, she hopes to focus one regular meeting on merchants, and one on residents. The next merchant's meeting will be April 25th. The date of May 23rd will focus on residents. The second meeting in June will be a regular meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA – NONE

ACTION AGENDA - NONE

FINANCE OFFICER

Dave Lindsey presented a property tax release for Emmaus Road Baptist Church in the amount of \$55.59. Rocky Buchanan moved to release the taxes as presented. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said release is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave distributed an Analysis of Current Year Tax Levy, showing the property tax collection rate at 92.70%. Said analysis is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave distributed the financial summary report from last meeting.

Dave Lindsey presented a General Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment for the Tech Grant from the Governor's Crime Commission. He explained the appropriation and revenue amounts of \$27,200. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the General Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment. Larry McKinney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said General Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes. The grant was used for laptops in police vehicles. Richard Canipe commended Officer Kelly Johnson for his work on these grants.

Dave Lindsey presented a Capital Project Ordinance for the construction of the new Police Department. He explained the appropriation and revenue amounts of \$672,403. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the Capital Project Ordinance. Larry McKinney seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said Capital Project Ordinance is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave Lindsay updated the Council on the Audit Contract with Laura Verla, CPA, for the budget year of 2016/17. Larry McKinney moved to approve the contract as presented. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried with all present in favor. Said contract is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

MANAGER'S UPDATE

- Richard Canipe noted that we would like to schedule the budget kick off meeting at the golf course on April 7 at 5:00 PM. The consensus of the Council was to approve the location and time.
- A maintenance agreement contract for the Hwy 226/19e intersection renovations has been received.
- Richard has a quote of \$84,000 to resurface Harris St. He has approached NCDOT for financial assistance and is waiting on an answer.
- An Appalachian Regional Commission application has been submitted for the bar screen project, a \$490,000 project. The grant would be a 70/30% grant.
- Jarrod Hughes, of J-Rods, requested that the Council consider changing the ordinance that prohibits having billiards in establishments that serve alcohol. He stated that billiards would help with the finances of the establishment. He noted that he would like to place 3-4 tables near the windows. Council expressed reservations about extending the privilege to other bar owners who might be interested. The Council scheduled a special meeting to be held on April 4th at 4:30 PM. Attorney Lloyd Hise and Chief Summerlin will be asked to attend. Cheech Gardner expressed interest in local billiards. John Simmons stated that J-Rods is a great establishment.
- Richard and Darla will attend funding meetings on Wednesday and Thursday in Morganton and Boone, respectively.
- Richard reminded the Council that Roger Wilson was at the last Council meeting concerning having the car show on Locust Street. James Acuff moved to notify the car show organizers that they can have their cars on Locust, but that they cannot close the street to general traffic. Darla Harding seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- A formal complaint has been received about Underwood and Weld's pumping out tank cars all hours of the day and night on Locust Street. The designated load out location is on Altapass Road. Richard hopes to meet with Steve Deyton of CSX. The noise is in violation of our noise ordinance.
- Rocky Buchanan moved to approve Floyd Styles to the Spruce Pine Housing Authority Board, joining Randy Bonner, John Keen and Diane Griffith. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jan Godwin asked again that the Council address the parking place restricted by a garbage can. Per Rocky, move the can.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ATTORNEY REQUESTS / COMMENTS

Monica Kritz sent a proclamation for a day of prayer on Thursday, May 5th. Mayor Harding read it aloud and moved to adopt the proclamation. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said proclamation is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion of Larry McKinney at 6:32 PM.

Darlene Johnson Butler, Town Clerk

Darla Harding, Mayor

Rocky Buchanan, Council Member

James Acuff, Council Member

Larry McKinney, Council Member