

**Minutes**  
**Spruce Pine Town Council**  
**June 27, 2016, 5:30 PM**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on June 27, 2016. Present were Mayor Darla Harding and Council Members James Acuff, Larry McKinney, and Rocky Buchanan. Staff in attendance included Richard Canipe, Darlene Johnson Butler, Michael Briggs and Dave Lindsey. Also attending were Josh Boone, Libby Phillips, Jimmy Phillips, Jackie Rensink, Jeff Harding and David Purtell (Mitchell News-Journal).

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the minutes of the June 13, 2016 regular meeting. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE 2016/17 BUDGET

Mayor Darla Harding opened the public hearing to hear comments on the proposed budget for fiscal year 2016/17. Libby Phillips thanked Council for all their support for Spruce Pine Main Street. With no further comments, the public hearing was closed.

DISCUSSION/VOTE TO ADOPT THE BUDGET

Larry McKinney moved to adopt the 2016/17 Budget Ordinance for the Town of Spruce Pine as presented. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said ordinance is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

APPOINTMENTS - NONE

CONSENT AGENDA – NONE

ACTION AGENDA - NONE

MANAGER'S UPDATE

- Richard Canipe reported that the playground equipment is ordered. We will order mulch in July.
- The BBQ Festival will be on July 16 and 17 in Riverside Park.
- The Kiwanis' Fourth of July Parade will be at 5:00 Monday. Council will participate in the parade.

FINANCE

Finance Officer Dave Lindsey presented a property tax release for Lodie Pitman, as the property was foreclosed on last year. The taxes to be released total \$212.67. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the property tax release. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said release is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave Lindsey presented a projected financial summary for the fiscal year 2015/16. Said report is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave Lindsey presented a General Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment increasing appropriations for cost of elections, fire department, public works, Powell Bill, parks and recreation, cemetery and library for a total of \$113,842. Appropriations for admin, economics, public building and sanitation were decreased by a total of \$17,776. To provide the additional revenue for the increases, revenues for real property taxes, vehicle taxes, sales tax, ABC distribution, and old town hall rental were increased by \$96,066. Larry McKinney moved to approve the General Fund Budget Ordinance Amendment. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said budget amendment is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

Dave presented a Water/Sewer Budget Amendment increasing appropriations for water & sewer admin and water expense by \$29,385. The amendment decreased appropriations for sewer expense by \$1695. To provide the additional revenues for the increased appropriations, revenues were increased by \$27,690. Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the Water & Sewer

Budget amendment as presented. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Said budget amendment is incorporated by reference and attached to these minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Josh Boone presented a check for \$3000 that the Spruce Pine Fire and Rescue collected for repairs to Riverside Park. The Council expressed their thanks. Josh mentioned that several persons had inquired about the need for a wheel chair swing, which the Town will look into.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/ATTORNEY REQUESTS / COMMENTS

Mayor Harding mentioned Jason Kritz, who attended last meeting. His event, Walk for Jesus, will be held on July 9<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM at First Baptist. Walkers will be on sidewalks where available.

Mayor Harding outlined the process for filling the vacant seat on the Town Council. Applications were solicited, and from those received, each Council Member was asked to write down his or her three top choices. Town Clerk Darlene Butler tallied the choices, with Jackie Rensink receiving four votes, Sandy Blankenbaker receiving two, and one each for Halley Burleson, John Boone, Ron Royer, Roger Burleson, Gregg Henline, and John Pendley. Larry McKinney moved to appoint Jackie Rensink to the vacant council seat. The motion was seconded by both Rocky Buchanan and James Acuff, and passed unanimously. Ms. Rensink stated that she would be honored to serve. She will be sworn in at the next meeting. A mayor pro tem will be selected at the same meeting. Mayor Harding expressed the Council's appreciation for all the applicants, and their hope that they will serve the town in other capacities.

In response to Rocky Buchanan's question, Richard Canipe noted that he has no update on when NCDOT will begin improvements to the 19E/226 intersection.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by motion of Larry McKinney at 6:01 PM.

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Darlene Johnson Butler, Town Clerk

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Darla Harding, Mayor

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Rocky Buchanan, Council Member

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James Acuff, Council Member

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Larry McKinney, Council Member