

**Minutes  
Spruce Pine Town Council  
Monday, January 27, 2020**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on January 27, 2020. Present were Council Members James Acuff, Larry McKinney, Rocky Buchanan and Jackie Rensink. Staff in attendance included Richard Canipe, Libby Phillips, Kelly Johnson and Darlene Butler. Others attended, including Lynn Holler, Christy Hemenway and Corey Spiers (Mitchell News-Journal).

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jackie Rensink moved to approve the agenda as presented. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried with all present in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 13, 2020. James Acuff seconded the motion, which carried with all present in favor.

ACTION AGENDA

Jackie Rensink moved to adopt the Resolution Supporting Spruce Pine Main Street's Request for Contingency Funds for Repairs to the Toe River Pedestrian Bridge. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried with all present in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynn Holler advised the Council that she was frustrated that there was no better way to advise of a boil notice than Facebook. It is a safety issue. Richard responded that we are looking to purchase a system to implement telephone calls or texts. He noted that the state requires notification to affected customers, and that the Town notifies local news and radio stations in addition to Facebook.

TOWN MANAGER

Richard Canipe noted that tax collections are coming in.

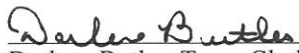
The sewer line projects for 19E near Biggerstaff Road and Locust Street are close to the bidding stage. There has been no update on the grant applications for police and public works vehicles.

The damage at Brad Ragan Park from the November freeze is covered by insurance and will be repaired soon.

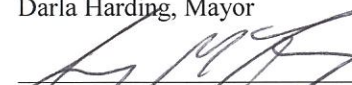
Officer Kelly Johnson noted that the drug dog is doing well. He will be going to Kentucky in March for training. He has a sponsor for the training, and is rooming with attendees from Yancey County. Food and gas will be the only town expenses.

ADJOURNMENT

Jackie Rensink moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 PM.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene Butler, Town Clerk

absent  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darla Harding, Mayor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Larry McKinney, Mayor Pro Tem

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rocky Buchanan, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
James Acuff, Council Member

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Rensink, Council Member

**RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF  
SPRUCE PINE,  
NORTH CAROLINA**

**WHEREAS**, the 1907 Charter of the Town of Spruce Pine measures the Town's area by measuring from the railroad depot; and

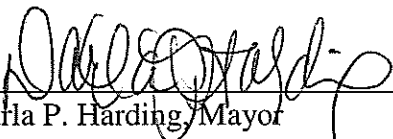
**WHEREAS**, the Toe River runs through the middle of Spruce Pine, providing water for our citizens' consumption, recreation, and livelihoods; and

**WHEREAS**, our pedestrian-only bridge spans the Toe River and railroad tracks, granting access to our heavily-used Riverside Park and Mayland Community College's up-and-coming Pinebridge facilities from our primary downtown district; and

**WHEREAS**, the bridge, built in 1940, is in need of repairs so that it may remain a vital literal and figurative link between commerce and recreation, and between bustling past and evolving future.

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Town Council of Spruce Pine supports the Spruce Pine Main Street request for \$500,000 in legislative contingency funds from the North Carolina House of Representatives and Senate to be applied to the bridge project.

**ADOPTED** this the twenty-seventh day of January, 2020.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darla P. Harding, Mayor

Attest:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darlene J. Butler, Town Clerk