

**Minutes
Spruce Pine Town Council
Monday, August 26, 2024**

A meeting of the Town Council was held on August 26, 2024. Present were Mayor Phillip Hise and Council Members Rocky Buchanan, Wayne Peight, and Jackie Rensink. Staff in attendance included Darlene Butler, Brooke Peterson, and Spencer Bost. Others attended, including Town Attorney Chad Donnahoo, Mariel Williams, Cynthia Sciacca, Tim Kearns, and Jeff Harding.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Phillip Hise called the regular meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Wayne Peight gave the invocation. Rocky Buchanan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jackie Rensink moved to approve the agenda after Mayor Phillip Hise noted the addition of discussing the current vacant council seat. Rocky Buchanan seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Wayne Peight moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 12, 2024. Jackie Rensink seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Hise requested a motion to enter into closed session, citing NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (3) – To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege. Rocky Buchanan moved to enter into closed session. Jackie Rensink seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Spencer Bost, Mariel Williams, Cynthia Sciacca, and Tim Kearns departed the board room.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

Mayor Phillip Hise moved to resume open session. No action was taken by the council during closed session. Spencer Bost, Mariel Williams, Cynthia Sciacca, Tim Kearns, and Jeff Harding returned to the board room.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

LIBRARY UPDATE

- Town Manager Darlene Butler advised the council this topic will need to be rescheduled.

BLUE RIDGE SNORKEL TRAIL – SPENCER BOST

- Mainstreet Director Spencer Bost discussed being placed on the map of the Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail. Riverside and Riverbend Parks will be added to their list of locations. Funding is available for signage. Spencer requested permission from the council to place the signs at Riverside and Riverbend Parks. The general consensus of the council thought this is a great concept for the town and agreed on the signage placement.

ACTION AGENDA

- Rocky Buchanan made a motion to approve the Spruce Pine Lions Club Charitable Solicitation Right of Way Application. Jackie Rensink seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- Jackie Rensink made a motion to approve the Spruce Pine Public Library's request to reappoint Luther Stroup as a board member. Wayne Peight seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- Rocky Buchanan moved to approve the application for providing water service at outside rates without annexation to John Keen at 459 Vaughn Rd. Wayne Peight seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- The Council discussed the vacant council seat and the process to fill that position. There will be an application process and the open position will be advertised in the Mitchell News Journal, on the town website, and on Facebook. Applications will be available at Town Hall and on the website. Applications will be accepted through the end of September. Attorney Donnahoo has reviewed the application and the council will be utilizing the same application as used in the past.

TOWN MANAGER

- ✓ Town Manager Darlene Butler updated the council on the current grant processes. Stormwater GIS Mapping by High Country is more than half way completed. Darlene is waiting on the date for the WithersRavenel kick off meeting. The Water and Sewer Asset Inventory and Assessments grant, Darlene will be meeting with the engineer around the first of September. The Streetscape grant will have the public engagement event on October 5th, in conjunction with the Rotary Club BBQ Festival. The engineers from WithersRavenel will present ideas for Oak and Locust for public input. CSX still has not responded.
- ✓ Darlene noted each council member received a copy of the draft personnel policies and requested that each of them stop by for specific questions.
- ✓ Darlene has reached out to High Country Engineering for a proposal to move forward with the demolition of the property at 116 South Dale Street, which involves removing asbestos.
- ✓ Darlene noted that the supplemental documentation has been submitted for the 226 South water line grant through the US Department of Commerce Economic Development for 1.3 million. She is hopeful a decision will be made soon.
- ✓ Darlene spoke with the paving company and they plan on beginning the second or third week of September. They will be paving the streets set in the budget for this year and also repairing where water and sewer line breaks have occurred.

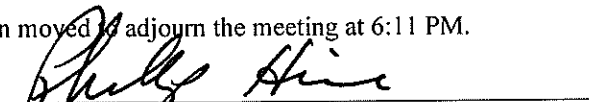
MAYOR/COUNCIL REQUESTS / COMMENTS

- Council Member Rocky Buchanan reminded the council of the upcoming yard sale taking place downtown this weekend on Saturday-August 31, 2024.

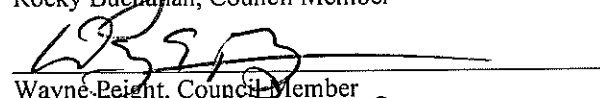
ADJOURNMENT

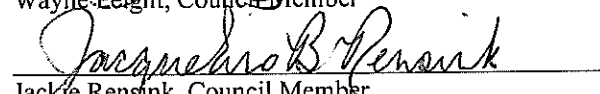
With no further business, Rocky Buchanan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 PM.


Brooke Peterson, Town Clerk


Phillip Hise, Mayor


Rocky Buchanan, Council Member


Wayne Reight, Council Member


Jackie Rensink, Council Member

French Broad River | Snorkel Site

at Champion Park

The **Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail** is made up of publicly accessible river and stream locations where people can **safely snorkel and experience the underwater world**. Each site is unique and offers a different set of habitats and species to observe. During the spawning season of spring and early summer male fishes are often more colorful than female fish of the same species. **Put a mask and snorkel on and see!**



Safety & Environmental Concerns

- Snorkel with a friend.
- Rocks are homes for animals – don't move rocks around.
- Do not touch wildlife.
- Be aware of slippery rocks, deep water and swift current.
- Help keep our streambanks vegetated and our waters clear.

Snorkeling Basics

Equipment: Mask, snorkel and sturdy footwear.

How: Swim, float or crawl around the river with your head under the water. If you can wade in the water, you can snorkel! Use rocks to grab onto and pull yourself along while you explore.

The French Broad River is one of the oldest rivers in the world and teeming with wildlife! A rich community of aquatic creatures requires clean water, which benefits everyone, whether you hike, swim, or fish. Restoring the forest, especially along our streams, is a great way to improve our waters.

How can you help?
Get involved! Support a local organization like Mountain Trail or Mountain Conservation Trust.

The Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail was developed by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, Mountain Trail and Mountain Conservation Trust.

The Blue Ridge Snorkel Trail was funded in part by the Tennessee Valley Authority and the NC Wildlife Federation.

For more information about the snorkel trail, please visit us online.





CHARITABLE SOLICITATION WITHIN STATE/TOWN'S HIGHWAY RIGHT OF WAY PERMIT APPLICATION

Town of Spruce Pine
P.O. Box 189
11050 S. 226 HWY
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Please complete and submit this application and all necessary supporting documentation to obtain consideration for a Charitable Solicitation Within State/Town Highway Right of Way Permit Application ("Permit"). Submitting complete and accurate information at the beginning will result in more efficient processing of your request.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EVENT INFORMATION

Date of Event: 10-6-2024 Rain Date (if applicable): 10-13-2024

Event Location (include State/Town Road Names/Numbers: Intersection Hwy 19E and Hwy 226

Event Start Time: 12:00 Event End Time: 4:00

APPLICANT & BUSINESS ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

Applicant's Name: Pat Leathem
Applicant's Address: 1058 McHone Rd Spruce Pine, NC 28777
Applicant's Phone: 904-237-9350 Applicant's Email: clp_charger@live.com
Business Organization's Name: Spruce Pine Lions Club
Business Organization's Address: 141 Highland Ave Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Is the Business Organization a 501(c)(3) Nonprofit? ☒ YES ☐ NO

Has the Business Organization conducted a charitable solicitation within the State/Town's highway rights of way within the last year? ☒ YES (when: Oct 2023 (date) ☐ NO

INSURANCE AND RELEASE REQUIREMENTS

INSURANCE

Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 20-175, the Applicant must furnish a general liability insurance policy valid during the dates of all event(s) procured from a company licensed to conduct business in North Carolina listing the Town as a Certificate Holder and Additional Insured as follows:

Town of Spruce Pine
P.O. Box 189
11050 S. 226 HWY
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

All policies must protect the Town, its officers, officials, employees and agents from any and all claims for damage to property and/or bodily injury which may result from or in connection with any of the operations carried on by the event. The policy must provide \$2,000,000.00 per occurrence and \$2,000,000.00 per aggregate.

You must provide the certificate of insurance on an Acord form to the Town Manager no later than three weeks prior to the event. The certificate of insurance is a required condition subsequent to any approved Permit and failure by you in obtaining and providing the certificate of insurance will result in your Permit being revoked.

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY

In consideration for granting the Permit, the Applicant hereby agrees to fully release, hold harmless and indemnify the Town and its Council members, employees, agents and volunteers for any causes of actions, claims, complaints, lawsuits, judgments, damages, fees (including attorneys' fees) associated with the event. The Applicant shall immediately notify the Town, in writing, of any demand letters, complaints and lawsuits associated with the event. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 20-175, the Town does not waive its governmental immunity when granting a Permit.

AUTHORITY TO FILE FOR PERMIT

I hereby certify that I am authorized to sign this Application on behalf of the Applicant and/or Business Organization to secure a Permit for the event.

Pat Leathem

Date: 8/15/24

Applicant's Signature

Print: Pat Leathem

Title: President, Spruce Pine Lions Club

Completing this application does not entitle you to a Permit. The Town will timely review your application and will solicit additional information if needed. On a case-by-case basis, the Town reserves the right to require conditions in addition to those listed herein. All approved Permits will be issued by the Town Manager. Please be advised that all Permits shall be revoked if the conditions subsequent listed herein (or in any additional requirements) are not met.



CERTIFICATE OF LIABILITY INSURANCE

DATE (MM/DD/YYYY)

08/30/2023

THIS CERTIFICATE IS ISSUED AS A MATTER OF INFORMATION ONLY AND CONFERS NO RIGHTS UPON THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER. THIS CERTIFICATE DOES NOT AFFIRMATIVELY OR NEGATIVELY AMEND, EXTEND OR ALTER THE COVERAGE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES BELOW. THIS CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A CONTRACT BETWEEN THE ISSUING INSURER(S), AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE OR PRODUCER, AND THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

IMPORTANT: If the certificate holder is an ADDITIONAL INSURED, the policy(ies) must be endorsed. If SUBROGATION IS WAIVED, subject to the terms and conditions of the policy, certain policies may require an endorsement. A statement on this certificate does not confer rights to the certificate holder in lieu of such endorsement(s).

PRODUCER DSP Insurance Services, Inc. 1900 E. Golf Road, Suite 650 Schaumburg, IL 60173	CONTACT NAME: John Adams		
	PHONE (A/C, No, Ext): 1-800-316-6705	FAX (A/C, No): 847-934-6186	
INSURED Spruce Pine Lions Club Spruce Pine North Carolina	E-MAIL ADDRESS: lionsclubs@dspins.com		
	INSURER(S) AFFORDING COVERAGE		NAIC #
	INSURER A: ACE American Insurance Company		22667
	INSURER B:		
	INSURER C:		
	INSURER D:		
INSURER E:			
INSURER F:			

COVERAGES **CERTIFICATE NUMBER:** **REVISION NUMBER:**

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE LISTED BELOW HAVE BEEN ISSUED TO THE INSURED NAMED ABOVE FOR THE POLICY PERIOD INDICATED. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REQUIREMENT, TERM OR CONDITION OF ANY CONTRACT OR OTHER DOCUMENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED OR MAY PERTAIN, THE INSURANCE AFFORDED BY THE POLICIES DESCRIBED HEREIN IS SUBJECT TO ALL THE TERMS, EXCLUSIONS AND CONDITIONS OF SUCH POLICIES. LIMITS SHOWN MAY HAVE BEEN REDUCED BY PAID CLAIMS.

INSR LTR	TYPE OF INSURANCE	ADDL SUBR INSR WVD	POLICY NUMBER	POLICY EFF (MM/DD/YYYY)	POLICY EXP (MM/DD/YYYY)	LIMITS
A	GENERAL LIABILITY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agg. Per Named Insured is \$2,000,000 GEN'L AGGREGATE LIMIT APPLIES PER <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLICY <input type="checkbox"/> PRO-JECT <input type="checkbox"/> LOC		HDO G48333205	09/01/2023	09/01/2024	EACH OCCURRENCE \$ 1,000,000 DAMAGE TO RENTED PREMISES (Ea occurrence) \$ 1,000,000 MED EXP (Any one person) \$ 5,000 PERSONAL & ADV INJURY \$ 1,000,000 GENERAL AGGREGATE \$ 10,000,000 PRODUCTS - COMP/OP AGG \$ 2,000,000 \$
A	AUTOMOBILE LIABILITY <input type="checkbox"/> ANY AUTO <input type="checkbox"/> ALL OWNED AUTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> HIRED AUTOS <input type="checkbox"/> SCHEDULED AUTOS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NON-OWNED AUTOS		ISA H10778906	09/01/2023	09/01/2024	COMBINED SINGLE LIMIT (Ea accident) \$ 1,000,000 BODILY INJURY (Per person) \$ BODILY INJURY (Per accident) \$ PROPERTY DAMAGE (Per accident) \$ \$
	UMBRELLA LIAB <input type="checkbox"/> EXCESS LIAB DED RETENTION \$	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUR <input type="checkbox"/> CLAIMS-MADE				EACH OCCURRENCE \$ AGGREGATE \$ \$
	WORKERS COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ANY PROPRIETOR/PARTNER/EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEMBER EXCLUDED? (Mandatory in NH) If yes, describe under DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS below	Y/N <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				WC STATUTORY LIMITS <input type="checkbox"/> OTH-ER <input type="checkbox"/> E L EACH ACCIDENT \$ E L DISEASE - EA EMPLOYEE \$ E L DISEASE - POLICY LIMIT \$


DESCRIPTION OF OPERATIONS / LOCATIONS / VEHICLES (Attach ACORD 101, Additional Remarks Schedule, if more space is required)

Provisions of the policy apply to the named insureds participation in the following activity during the policy period shown above: Spruce Pine 2023 Roadside Collection Fundraiser Date: 10/15/23 (or rain date: 10/22/23)

*** Town of Spruce Pine officers, officials, employees and agents ***

Is included as an Additional Insured(s), but only with respect to General Liability arising out of the issuance of permit(s) to the Insured shown above and not out of the sole negligence of said additional insured.

PROVISIONS OF THE POLICY DO NOT APPLY TO THE SALE OR SERVING OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

CERTIFICATE HOLDER Town of Spruce Pine Box 189 / 11050 S 226 Hwy Spruce Pine North Carolina 28777	CANCELLATION SHOULD ANY OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED POLICIES BE CANCELLED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION DATE THEREOF, NOTICE WILL BE DELIVERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY PROVISIONS. AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE 
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Serving the People of the Toe River Valley

PO Drawer 310
289 Burnsville School Road
Burnsville, NC 28714
Phone: 828-682-4476
Fax: 828-682-6277
<http://amyregionallibrary.org/>

12 August 2024

Darlene Butler
Spruce Pine Town Manager
P O Box 189
Spruce Pine, NC 28777

Dear Manager Butler,

We are requesting local board member and Regional Board member who is also Regional Board Chair, Luther Stroup, be reappointed to both boards for his second 3-year term. Luther has been instrumental to both boards as a professional voice and library advocate. He is a fantastic leader and example of board advocacy. He has never missed a regional board meeting, and he handles meetings with such clarity and knowledge of Robert's Rules of Order. We are so proud of his service and representation of Spruce Pine

At your earliest convenience, we would like the Council to consider and approve these reappointments. If you have any questions, please contact me at your convenience. I will be attending your next Town Council meeting at the end of August and look forward to speaking with you all.

Thank you for your continued interest and support. If I can ever be of any assistance to you, please let me know.

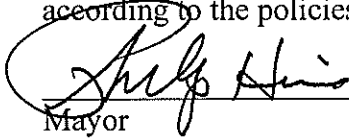
Cordially,

Amber Westall Briggs
Director, MLS

The Spruce Pine Town Council approves the reappointment of Mr. Luther Stroup to serve on the Spruce Pine Library Board according to the policies of that Board.

 (signed) 8/26/2024 (date)
Mayor, Spruce Pine

The Spruce Pine Town Council approves the reappointment of Mr. Luther Stroup to serve as representative of the Spruce Pine Library Board on the AMY Regional Library Board according to the policies of that Board.

 (signed) 8/26/2024 (date)
Mayor