

**Board of Aldermen  
Regular Meeting  
January 4, 2016  
6:00 p.m.  
Minutes**

**Present:** Mayor Dale Baldwin, Alderman Calvin Green, Alderman Jerry McMillan, Alderman John Reeves, Alderman Stephen Shoemaker, Alderman Brett Summey, Town Manager Brantley Price, Town Clerk Wesley Barker, Finance Officer Heather Holdaway, Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller, WWTP Superintendent Charles Call. Several other residents of the community also attended.

At 6:00 p.m. Mayor Baldwin called to order the meeting of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Shoemaker then said the invocation and those in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the January 4, 2016 Agenda-** Alderman Reeves made the motion to remove the Heritage Iron Club Car Show Dates & Road Closures from the agenda as the club had requested to wait and come to the February Board meeting, but to otherwise approve the agenda. Alderman Shoemaker seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Public Hearing- Notice of Intent to Apply for USDA Funding-** The Mayor stated a public hearing would be held as the Town is applying for USDA funding for the following projects: new well site, belt press at the WWTP, water & sewer extension to the O'Reilly and Hometown Furniture buildings. A public hearing is required as part of the loan application. The Mayor then opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. With no comments the public hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes- December 7, 2015 Regular Meeting-** With no comments, Alderman Summey made the motion to approve the minutes as written. Alderman McMillan seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Appointment of 2 Representatives to WJ Fire Department Fireman's Relief Fund Board of Trustee's for 1-year and 2-year Terms-** Brantley explained to the Board that the Fireman's Relief Fund is requiring that the Board of Aldermen appoint two representatives to their Board of Trustee's. The Fire Department has suggested to appoint Eric Miller to a two-year term and Keith Hartzog to a one-year term. It should be noted the other Board of Trustee members appointed by the Fire Department are Finance Officer Heather Holdaway and Mayor Dale Baldwin. With no further discussion, Alderman Green made the motion to appoint Eric Miller to a two-year term and Keith Hartzog to a one-year term to the Fireman's Relief Fund Board of Trustee's. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Revised Resolution in Support of Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway-** Brantley explained that this Scenic Byway resolution had previously been adopted by the Board in June 2015, but NCDOT has revised the Scenic Byway route to begin in Warrentonville at the intersection of Highways 194 & 88 instead of beginning in Smethport. This resolution would show support by the Town for the Scenic Byway's amended location. With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the resolution in support of the Big Horse Creek Scenic Byway. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Budget Amendment #1- FY 15-16-** The Mayor stated this budget amendment was to balance the budget for the policy body cameras that were originally purchased by the Town, and has since been reimbursed by the NC Governor's Crime Commission. The amendment would recognize both

the expense and revenue. With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve budget amendment #1. Alderman McMillan seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of 2016 Holiday Schedule-** The Mayor said the Holiday Schedule would need to be approved for the Town employees. This holiday schedule is the same as last year with 10 days being observed. With no discussion, Alderman Reeves made the motion to approve the 2016 Holiday Schedule as presented. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Police Report-** no report.

**Water/Wastewater Report-** Charles said for 2015, 58.9 inches of rain had been recorded. Currently, the filter plant is shut down as the Town waits for the State to address new regulations/requirements before it can be brought back online. Charles said Tom Boyd would come to next month's meeting and discuss what new equipment/monitoring devices will have to be put in place under the new requirements. No major issues were currently reported with the WWTP. The Board thanked Charles for his report.

**Maintenance Report-** Eric Miller gave a report on the Maintenance Department for the month of December. 19 one calls had been called in for the month. Eric said 2 water leaks and 2 sewer line issues had been reported and resolved. Further, the department had completed flushing of 10% of the Town's sewer lines as required each year. The department is preparing for winter, equipping the trucks and salt spreader. Eric said he had been working with the engineers on the public restroom project. A short discussion took place on the Christmas lights. Eric said he and his guys had been replacing lights on the displays that were burnt out and timers had been purchased to further prolong the lights instead of having them burn all the time. Alderman Summey spoke on the numerous comments he had received on the Town's decorations. He said the Town should continue to add, not take away, the amount of lights in downtown. The Board thanked Eric for his report.

**Town Managers Report-** Brantley Price reported to the Board on the USDA application for the new well site, belt press project at the WWTP and water/sewer line expansion would be submitted this week. The streetscape project bids would be opened soon, hopefully not exceeding the \$250,000 limit. Several alternatives had been proposed during this bidding process in an effort to keep costs down. The public restroom project bids were due on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Taxes collected to date were \$878,827 or 87.5% of the levy. The Town's audit for FY 14-15 had been completed and no major issues had been found. Sharyn McCoy, daughter of former Alderman Bob McCoy, is working on adopting a highway in memory of Bob along Jefferson Avenue from Skyline to McDonald's. The Board thanked Brantley for his report.

**Public Comment-** The Mayor opened public comment at 6:35 p.m. No public comment.

**Alderman Comments-** Alderman Shoemaker wished everyone a Happy New Year and commented on the Town's parking lot being paved and how good it looks. Alderman Summey thanked the Town for the employee Christmas luncheon. Alderman McMillan praised the downtown Christmas decorations and pictures of West Jefferson he had seen which was good PR for the Town. He said he was glad to be back on the Board. Alderman Green said he was glad to have Jerry back on the Board. He also said he enjoyed the Christmas lights and would also like to add and not take away from these. He suggested finding other locations to put lights up for next year and suggested the tree at First Baptist Church.

**Closed Session-** The Mayor said the Board would be entering Closed Session to discuss the acquisition of real property per G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(5). The Mayor said the Board would return to open session before

adjourning. Alderman Green made the motion to go into Closed Session. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor. The time was 6:41 p.m.

The Board returned to open session at 7:20 p.m. With nothing further, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Reeves. The vote of 5-0 in favor.

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Dale Baldwin, Mayor

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Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk