

**Town of West Jefferson - Board of Aldermen**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**April 1, 2019 | 6:00 pm**

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Dale Baldwin, Alderman Calvin Green, Alderman Jerry McMillan, Alderman John Reeves, Alderman Stephen Shoemaker, Alderman Brett Summey, Sr.

**Town Staff Present:** Town Manager Brantley Price, Town Clerk Rebecca Eldreth, Interim Police Chief Bradley Jordan, Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller, and WWTP Superintendent Brandon Patrick.

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 gave the invocation. Those in attendance then stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the April 1, 2019 Agenda** – With no changes, Alderman Reeves made the motion to approve the agenda. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Public Hearing**

**Consideration of Text Amendments** – The Mayor stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on the on the proposed text amendments to Article IV and V. Mayor Baldwin opened the hearing at 6:03pm. With no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:05pm.

**Consideration of Rezoning** – The Mayor stated the purpose of the public hearing is to hear any comments on the on the proposed rezoning of parcel # 19223 183. Mayor Baldwin opened the hearing at 6:05pm. With no comments, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 6:06pm.

**Regular Session**

**Approval of Minutes** – With no changes, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the minutes from the March 4, 2019 regular meeting and the March 25, 2019 special meeting as presented. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Sexual Assault Awareness Month** – Vickie Flanagan with a SAFE Home for Everyone asked the Board for permission to host a downtown event to raise awareness and honor survivors of sexual assault by writing messages of awareness on the sidewalk with colored chalk. The event would take place on April 27<sup>th</sup>. Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the event and for Vickie to provide specific times to Town Manager Brantley Price later. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of USDA/ARC Project Time Extensions** – Mike Acquesta provided the Board with an update on the project. The time extensions would extend the date for the substantial completion of the well from December 12, 2018 to April 30, 2019 and for the beltpress from May 15, 2019 to July 17, 2019. The time extensions will not cost the Town any additional funding. With no further discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the time extensions for the projects. Alderman Summey seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Third Day Downtown Sidewalk Sale** – Don Smith, owner of Third Day Downtown came before the Board to ask for approval to hold sidewalk sales in conjunction with Mountain Outfitters on May 25, July 6 which is Christmas in July, and September 1. John Smyre then addressed the Board about concerns for logistics with Christmas in July if both stores were to hold sales on State Street during the

festival. Alderman Reeves made the motion to approve the sidewalk sales except for the July date. Alderman Shoemaker seconded the motion with a vote of 5-0.

**Consideration of Southern Sun Farm Sanctuary Event** – John and Ann Lisk requested to use 4 parking spaces on the Backstreet that adjoins the deck of the Hotel Tavern due to the growing popularity of their annual Beer for My Horses event on Thursday, June 13. Alderman Reeves made the motion to approve the use of the parking spaces. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration to close College Avenue between Main Street and Second Street** – David McMillan asked for the Board’s permission to close a portion of College Avenue in front of Phil McMillan’s house to hold a wedding reception on June 1. With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the request to close the portion of the street. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Discussion of Library Parking Lot Maintenance Memorandum of Understanding** – Mayor Baldwin stated Interim County Manager Adam Stumb created a Memorandum of Understanding for the maintenance of the library parking lot expansion. Snow removal, fencing, repaving, and major repair were among the topics addressed. The Board tabled the discussion until a later date.

**Consideration of Text Amendment to Section 400(a)** – With no discussion, Alderman Reeves made the motion to approve the revision. Alderman McMillan seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Text Amendment to Section 506.1** – After some discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to include Family Entertainment as a permitted use in the Community Shopping district. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Rezoning Parcel # 19223 183** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the revision. Alderman Green seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Consideration of Statements that Shows Consistency with the 2008 Land Use Plan** – With no discussion, Alderman Shoemaker made the motion to approve the statements. Alderman Summey seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Discussion of FY 2019-2020 Budget Workshop** – After some discussion the Board decided to meet at 5:30pm on Monday, April 22, 2019.

**Tax Releases** – With no discussion, Alderman shoemaker made the motion to release the amount of \$19.98 for CIT Technology and \$4.75 for Premier Electric. Alderman Reeves seconded with a vote of 5-0 in favor.

**Police Report** – Interim Police Chief Bradley Jordan gave the Police report for the month of March. A total of 237 calls were dispatched through the communications center including 16 auto collisions, 10 larcenies, 1 drug case, 2 DWI, and 3 minor citations. The Board thanked the Chief for his report.

**Water/Wastewater Report** – WWTP Superintendent Brandon Patrick gave a report to the Board. A new aerator has been installed at the facility, and a pump that was stopped up has been repaired. A pretreatment audit was conducted with excellent results. A total of 150,000 gallons of water were used to fight the fire at Elk Creek Lumber. The Board thanked Brandon for his report.

**Maintenance Report** – Maintenance Supervisor Eric Miller gave his report to the Board. There was a total of 29 one call tickets, 2 water leaks, and 1 sewer leak. All cuts to the pavement have been repaired, all brush has been chipped, the trees have been trimmed, with 5 trips to the landfill. Josh Miller passed his exam and is now licensed in cross connection and backflow. The Board thanked Eric for his report.

**Town Managers Report** – Brantley Price gave his report to the Board. Taxes collected to date total \$1,272,731 which is 94.4% of the levy. The TDA promotion that runs in conjunction with the Ashe County Chamber for 5 weeks has started. Brantley thanked the WJVFD for the hard work controlling the fire at the lumber plant. Destination by Design conducted an onsite visit in Town to discuss the placement of wayfinding signs. Several new businesses are scheduled to open including Third Day Downtown, West Jefferson Specialty Foods, and Trent’s Tavern. Brantley thanked Brandon for his service at the wastewater treatment plant and with the pretreatment audit. Brantley added the park restrooms will be opening for the summer seson. The Board thanked Brantley for his report.

**Public Comment** – None

**Aldermen Comments** – Alderman Shoemaker thanked all those in attendance.

**Closed Session** – The Mayor asked for a motion to enter closed session per G.S. 143.318.11(a)(3) to consult with the Town’s attorney over Attorney-Client matters. The Mayor stated they would return to open session before adjourning. Alderman McMillan made the motion to go into closed session. The time was 7:17pm.

**Return to Regular Session** – The Board returned to open session at 8:10pm.

**Adjournment** – With no further items to be discussed or voted on, Alderman Reeves made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Shoemaker. A vote of 5-0 in favor.

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Dale Baldwin, Mayor

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Rebecca L. Eldreth, Town Clerk