

Town of Boonville
February 3, 2015 Regular Meeting Minutes
Harvey E. Smith Municipal Building

The following were in attendance at the 2/3 regular meeting: Mayor Rusty Hunter, Commissioners Bill Florence, Bonnie Lasky, William Paul Baity, Tony Reece and Gerald Brown. Also in attendance were Attorney James Freeman, Police Chief Greg Gibson, Finance Officer/Town Clerk Kim Wells, Public Works Director Jeff Jones, and Zoning Officer Tony Roberts.

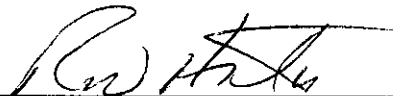
- I. Call to Order and Welcome:** Mayor Hunter called the 2/3 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- II. Conflict of Interest Issues and Approval of Agenda:** Mayor Hunter asked to add Transfer of Fire Arm as "C" under Town Business. Commissioner Lasky motioned to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Baity seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- III. Adoption of minutes – 1/6/15 regular session:** Commissioner Lasky motioned to adopt the minutes of the 1/6/15 regular session. Commissioner Reece seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Public Comments:** Mike Johnson, owner of Midtown Gas N Grill, asked the Board to reconsider the sign ordinance in regards to the minimum time sequence in the electronic signs and the usage of animation. He addressed its importance to his business.
- V. Town Business:**
 - A. Status of DENR Application:** Emily Miller, Municipal Engineering, updated the Board members on the status of the DENR Clean Water State Revolving Fund loan application and the Community Development Block Grant application. Ms. Miller gave reasons why the Town did not qualify for the CDBG. She reviewed the projects submitted, which totaled \$1.8 million and stated that these projects could be funded with a CWSRF loan for a 20-year period at 0% interest. She stated that the anticipated debt service to the customers would be approximately \$12.25 per month to each customer. The Board members discussed implementing a gradual rate increase. The engineering report for the loan is due May 1. The general consensus of the Board members was to move forward with the loan. Commissioner Florence voiced some concerns regarding the loan. Commissioner Lasky motioned for Town of Boonville to move forward and pursue the loan offers from DENR. Commissioner Baity seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - B. Summer Intern Position:** Mayor Hunter asked the Board members to discuss the summer MPA intern position that was included in the 2015 budget. He reminded the Board members that half of the cost of the intern position was budgeted in the 2015, and the remaining balance would be included in the 2016 budget. Mayor Hunter stated that the intern would be an Appalachian State University (ASU) MPA graduate student, who would be available to start work in May. Since ASU is beginning to assign MPA interns for the summer, he asked the Board members to make a decision on the intern position for Boonville. The intern could perform any assignment the given to him/her, but mainly would act as the Town Administrator accomplishing the goals set by the Board members. Discussion followed on the potential cost of the position. Commissioner Lasky expressed her support of the position. Mayor Hunter reiterated that the intern would only work for Boonville. Commissioner Lasky motioned to approve the hiring of an ASU MPA intern for the summer of 2015. Commissioner Reece seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
 - C. Transfer of Fire Arm:** Mayor Hunter reminded the Board members of Chief Gibson's retirement on 3/1/2015, and asked them to consider retiring his firearm. He stated it is normal practice that a police officer or chief be allowed to purchase their gun at retirement. Mayor Hunter asked the Board members to consider retiring the firearm at a cost of \$1. Commissioner Reece motioned to present the Chief with his firearm at his retirement for \$1 paid by Town of Boonville. Commissioner Lasky seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- VI. Reports and announcements:**
 - A. Mayor's report:** Mayor Hunter had no significant items to report.

- B. **Finance Officer's report:** Finance Officer Wells reported that the Town had received a letter from the Local Government Commission regarding an internal control finding in the audit report. She had consulted Mr. Charles Scott, CPA, for assistance in preparing a plan and response to the letter that is due in 45 days. The plan will include some additional oversight provided by the Mayor and/or Administrative Commissioner. Ms. Wells then reviewed the January Budget vs. Actual report.
- C. **Public Works Director's report:** Public Works Director Jones reported that the sewer plant was back up and running properly and reported on a permit renewal for the plant. Mr. Jones reported that the Public Works Department staff has begun Town workers the water line extension project on Howard Avenue.
- D. **Police Chief's report:** Police Chief Gibson reported that the new police car had been delivered. Issues with the camera had been resolved.
- E. **Zoning Officer's report:** Zoning Officer Roberts reported on a new dog grooming business planned to open soon. He stated that three different businesses were planning to occupy the G&B Energy property on Main Street. Mr. Roberts reported he had issued some new home permits. He updated the Board members on the EPA ruling regarding the requirement for paved parking lots. The State EPA office has issued guidelines to Yadkin County and anticipates a letter will be issued from the County to the municipalities this spring. Public Works Director Jones stated that if this ruling takes effect in Yadkin County, the Town would need to apply for a storm water runoff permit.
- F. **Departmental Commissioner's Reports:** Commissioner Baity asked the Board members to consider adding a payment option to the Utility Billing and Collections Procedure Policy. He stated this payment option would affect only those accounts where a bill increased by 500% above its average. Commissioner Baity stated he would like to allow the customers a 6-month payment plan and allow this payment plan one time per year. Discussion followed. Commissioner Baity stated that he would draft the policy change and present it at the next meeting.
Commissioner Lasky reported that the Town had received 10 applications for the Police Chief position. She stated the committee would begin reviewing the applications on 2/6.
- G. **Committee reports as needed:** There were no committee reports.

VII. Closed Session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3): Commissioner Lasky motioned to go into closed session per NCGS 143-318.11 (a)(3). Commissioner Baity seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Hunter thanked the Board members for moving forward with the water/sewer loan. He stated this would allow for much needed infrastructure improvements in Boonville. Attorney Freeman reminded the Board members that land purchases could be discussed in closed session.

VIII. Adjourn: Commissioner Lasky motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Baity seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting ended at 8:22 p.m.



Russell (Rusty) Hunter, IV, Mayor



Kim Wells, Finance Officer/Town Clerk