

Town of Mars Hill
MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Monthly Meeting

April 2, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Chandler; Aldermen Larry Davis, Stuart Jolley, Nicholas (Nick) Honeycutt; Robert W. (Bob) Zink

OTHER PRESENT: Anna Freeman, The News Record and Sentinel; Larry Burda and Robert Ford, Hot Springs Health Program; Keith Hargrove, Architect; Bruce Frost; Jon & Dianne VanHoff; Larry Leake, Town Attorney; Joanne Rice, Adm. Assistant

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Chandler with the first item of business being approval of the March, 2012, Minutes. A motion was made by Bob Zink to approve the March, 2012, Minutes as written. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Under Agenda Modification/Acceptance, Bob Zink made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented, second from Nick Honeycutt, and unanimous approval.

The meeting moved into a Public Hearing for consideration of the Application for Amending the Zoning Ordinance by the Hot Springs Health Program. Larry Burda introduced Robert Ford, Executive Director, and Keith Hargrove, Architect. Mr. Burda explained that the Hot Springs Health Program has a proposed new facility to be constructed on the back of their property where the parking lot is now located. When completed the current facility will be torn down and parking will be installed in its place. This new facility will be much more efficient and more easily accessible. They have requested that the zoning be changed to R-2A (Low Density Residential/Office). Robert Ford, Executive Director of the Hot Springs Health Program along with Architect Keith Hargrove displayed a drawing of the proposed building. Mr. Ford stated they had looked at other properties but wanted to stay on the same site.

Some discussion and questions posed to Mr. Ford followed. The building will be 15,000 square feet compared to the 6,600 now used and will be one level. The proposed facility meets all requirements of the Water Shed Ordinance. Upon questioning from Mayor Chandler, Mr. Ford gave assurance that the lighting utilized would be accomplished without disturbing the residents. The lighting will be kept on the property. Nick Honeycutt questioned the time-line of the project and Mr. Ford responded they would be into construction by October with approximately one year estimated for completion.

Mr. Ford also reported that the present facility would remain open as much as possible. Continuity of service is the primary goal. He stated that there will be no drive-through pharmacy and the facility will accommodate eight providers where the current facility has only four. He added that the building will be developed completely and would be in pods so that new areas can be opened as they become needed. There is flexibility in building design.

With no further comments or questions, a motion was made by Stuart Jolley to grant the request to rezone the property from C-2 (Highway Business) and R-2 (Low Density Residential) to R-2A (Low density Residential/Office). The motion received a second from Larry Davis and was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Nick Honeycutt, to proclaim Friday, May 11, 2012, as Child Care Provider Appreciation Day. The motion was unanimously accepted. This is an annual day of appreciation for child care providers. The Proclamation was signed by the Mayor.

Being no Old or New Business, Public Comment was the next Agenda item. Bob Zink stated that in 31 years of service this is the first Board meeting Darhyl Boone has not attended. He expressed the Board's appreciation for Darhyl's dedication and commitment and asked that this become a part of the Minutes of the meeting.

With no further comments, a motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Mayor Chandler and unanimous approval to adjourn.
