

Town of Mars Hill
MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Monthly Meeting

June 30, 2014
7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon VanHoff; Sylvia Pearl; Darhyl Boone, Town Manager; Larry Leake, Town Attorney; Joanne Rice

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order with the first item of business being approval of the May, 2014, Minutes which were approved unanimously on a motion by Nick Honeycutt and second by Larry Davis.

Under Agenda Modification/Acceptance, Darhyl Boone requested a brief Closed Session prior to adjournment for discussion of a legal issue. Bob Zink made a motion to approve the Agenda with the requested modification. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Mayor Chandler announced that the meeting would go into a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering the proposed 2014-2015 budget. Darhyl gave a brief over-view of the budget highlighting larger revenues and expenditures. He explained that the water fund revenue included a 2% increase in rates and the Recreation Park budget includes a 50% matching grant to resurface the swimming pool. Budget includes a \$900 annual cost of living raise for all employees. With no questions or comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Larry Davis to approve the 2014 – 2015 Fiscal Year Budget as presented. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Darhyl presented a Project Ordinance Budget for the proposed Greenway Project to be funded by \$448,000 federal grant funds and \$112,000 from the State. A motion was made by Nick Honeycutt, second by Stuart Jolley, to approve the Project Budget Ordinance as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Darhyl presented a Budget Amendment for 2013 – 2014 due to loan funds received to purchase a fire department vehicle and some additional expenditures that were unforeseen. A motion was made by Nick Honeycutt, second by Stuart Jolley with unanimous approval, to accept the 2013 – 2014 Budget Amendment as presented.

A Petition Requesting Non-Contiguous Annexation has been presented to the Town by Mars Hill Commons for a 6 acre tract off Roy Edwards Lane and a second Petition from property owner on a 5.2 acre tract at the NC Highway 19 intersection. Both these properties are in areas conducive to annexation and no issues are evident at this time. A motion was made by Stuart Jolley to approve a

Resolution Directing the Clerk to Investigate Petitions. The motion received a second from Larry Davis and was unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Mayor John Chandler to approve a Resolution Fixing Date of Public Hearing on Annexation for August 4, 2014. The motion received a second from Nick Honeycutt and was unanimously approved.

Annual Settlement by Tax Collector to the Governing Board was presented and contained recommendations from the Tax Collector for the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year. It is recommended that due to retirement from full-time employment of current Tax Collector, Joanne Rice, that Stephanie Payne be appointed as the new Tax Collector. A motion was made by Nick Honeycutt to approve the recommendations of the Tax Collector as detailed in the Settlement to the Board. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Bob Zink asked that the Minutes reflect the appreciation of the Board for Joanne's 40 years of service and the good work she has performed for the Town. Mr. Zink's comments received a unanimous consensus from the Board.

Being no Old Business, Bob Zink reported under New Business that a ground breaking for the Mars Hill Commons development is scheduled of July 23 at 10:00 a.m. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for the new Mars Hill Medical Center in the morning of July 25.

Darhyl requested action by the Board on the Audit Contract with Johnson Price and Sprinkle. A motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Larry Davis, and unanimous approval that the Audit Contract be approved.

Darhyl presented the Board with information from John and Lori Hunter, tennis coaches at Mars Hill University, with regards to beginning an organized tennis program for the community beginning with interested youth and to progress to older citizens. This program will be held at the Mars Hill Recreation Park tennis courts.

Being no Public Comment, a motion was made by Bob Zink, Second from Stuart Jolley, to go into Closed Session for discussion of a legal matter. The motion received unanimous approval.

A motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Mayor Chandler, and unanimously accepted to return to Open Session. Bob Zink made a motion that the Town hold a Public Hearing at the August 4, 2014 meeting to review technical amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bob Zink, second from Larry Davis, and unanimous approval.
