

Town of Mars Hill
MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Monthly Meeting

March 4, 2013
7:00 p.m.

Town Hall

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Anna Freeman, The News Record and Sentinel; Jon VanHoff; Jay Tipton; Charles Coffey; McCray Coates; Larry Leake, Town Attorney; Darhyl Boone, Town Manager

Mayor Chandler called the meeting to order with the first order of business being approval of the February, 2013, Minutes. Bob Zink questioned the paragraph about LED crosswalk signs on Highway 213 stating that no action was taken. Darhyl responded that there was no motion concerning this issue and felt that further discussion with the College would be necessary concerning the work. Bob Zink made a motion, second by Larry Davis, to approve the Minutes as written. The motion received unanimous approval.

With no Agenda Modifications, Bob Zink made a motion to accept the Agenda as presented. Larry Davis gave a second to the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Jay Tipton representing the Youth Softball League approached the Board requesting approval to erect batting cages on each side of the ball field (first base and third base sides) to encourage and promote better softball techniques in the County softball. The dimensions of the cages will be 70 feet long, 14 feet wide and 12 feet high. Mr. Tipton explained that the cages will be constructed in a manner to accommodate very low maintenance for the Town's Public Works. Darhyl expressed concern with the third base side location because of the need for large truck access to the field. There was discussion about locating two cages on the first base side of the field and moving the cage on the third base side. The Mayor & Aldermen were in agreement concerning the request and asked that the League staff work out the details with Darhyl and the Town staff.

The next item of business was the 2012 – 2013 Fiscal Year Budget Amendment. Darhyl explained that the Amendment is necessary due to unexpected repairs to the Library heating and cooling system, floor repairs at Town Hall and refinancing the USDA loans for water and sewer improvements. The refinancing of the loans will reduce the years of loan pay-back from approximately thirty (30) years to fifteen (15) years and save the Town over \$400,000.00 in interest payments. Bob Zink made a motion to approve the Amendment as presented by management. Larry Davis seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. A motion was also made by Nicholas Honeycutt to allow Larry Leake to work with the Local Government Commission and proceed with the loan from Asheville Savings Bank to pay off the USDA debt and authorize Mayor Chandler to sign a Resolution to proceed with the loan from Asheville Savings Bank to pay off the USDA debt. The motion received a second by Larry Davis and was unanimously accepted.

Larry Davis made a motion, second from Bob Zink, to set the date for a Public Hearing to review a Zoning Amendment request by Mountain Housing Opportunities concerning the rezoning of the Robinson Family property on Roy Edwards Lane from Rural Residential (R-1) and Highway Business (C-2) to Medium Density Residential (R-3) for Monday, April 1, 2013. The motion received unanimous approval.

Darhyl gave the Mayor & Board an update on the New Generation Leaders Project. The group has selected their proposed projects and are awaiting approval by the NC Rural Center to begin work.

Being no Old Business, New Business, or Public Comment, Bob Zink made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Nick Honeycutt seconded the motion and it received unanimous approval.
