

Town of Mars Hill
MAYOR & BOARD OF ALDERMEN
Monthly Meeting

March 5, 2012
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: Anna Freeman, The News Record and Sentinel; Keith Webb and Mike Clark, McGill Associates; Larry Leake, Town Attorney; Darhyl Boone, Town Manager; Joanne Rice

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Chandler with the first item of business being approval of the February, 2012, Minutes. Nick Honeycutt stated that on page two of the Minutes, it should be included that Ryan Pickens suggested that the Town apply for a CDBG grant to fund construction of steps from his property down to the Library. A motion was made by Larry Davis to approve the February, 2012, Minutes with the stated change. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Being no modification to the Agenda, a motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Nick Honeycutt, to approve the Agenda as presented. The motion received unanimous approval.

The next item on the Agenda was a Public Hearing to establish an Adult Establishment Ordinance. Darhyl reviewed the reasons for the Ordinance and stated that the Planning & Zoning Board have worked in conjunction with the Division of Community Assistance for several months to develop the Ordinance presented to the Board. Gambling establishments were inadvertently omitted and Attorney Larry Leake has recommended a definition for such business as follows: Gambling – Any activity which involves the wagering of monies on games of chance or makes use of terminals or machines as defined in G.S. 14-306, 14-306.1A and 14.306.3. Nick Honeycutt expressed appreciation on behalf of the Board to the Planning & Zoning Board for their work on this issue. Mr. Honeycutt made a motion to approve the Adult Business Establishment Ordinance with the added stipulation for Gambling Establishments. The motion received a second from Bob Zink and unanimous approval.

After returning to regular session, the next item for discussion was the award of the Water Transmission Line Replacement Project. Darhyl explained that the bids were opened on February 17, 2012, as received from Buckeye Construction, Cooper Construction, T&K Construction and Steppe Construction. The Town's engineers, McGill Associates, reviewed each bid and recommend that the Town award the project to the low bidder, Buckeye Construction for a bid of \$1,637,859.00. A motion was made by Stuart Jolley, second from Nick Honeycutt, to award this project to Buckeye Construction. The motion received unanimous approval.

Darhyl Boone explained to the Board that it has been suggested that Town join the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium and enter a Joint Cooperation Agreement. Madison County is already a partner and joining will help to pull federal funding into Madison County through the Asheville Housing Authority. If the Agreement is implemented, someone will need to be appointed to attend meetings.

Darhyl volunteered to be the representative with an alternate in the event he could not attend. A motion was made by Nick Honeycutt that the Town join the Asheville Regional Housing Consortium and appoint Darhyl to represent the Town with John Chandler as the alternate. The motion received a second from Stuart Jolley and was unanimously approved.

Darhyl Boone requested the Board appoint a representative to the Madison County Scattered Site Housing Program per a suggestion from Karen Kiehna. This is a different program from the Asheville Consortium and currently has seven housing rehabilitation projects in Madison County. Darhyl requested they look at Douglas Brown's house and this property is one of the seven. This committee helps to identify properties in need and adheres to a quarterly meeting schedule. A motion was made to appoint Darhyl with John Chandler as alternate to this Committee to represent the Town. The motion received a second from Larry Davis and was unanimously approved.

Under Old Business, Nick Honeycutt reported on the group meeting regarding the history of the Town. The group includes John Hough, Pat Smith, Robert Chapman and C. Robert Jones with Nick and Stuart Jolley representing the Board. The committee is asking for some guidance from the Board including what the time line is for the Book...start with the Town's incorporation or before and, also, funding. Darhyl, who also attended this meeting, stated that one idea would be to find one person, maybe a retired teacher who worked on a yearbook, to head up the project and possibly be paid a stipend for the time involved. Also needed will be someone who has experience in interviews. The general consensus of the Board is to move forward and also to begin collecting pictures through a notification to the public in the Quarterly Newsletter and an insert with the water bills.

Under New Business, Stuart Jolley asked that due to all the natural disasters in the news, where is the County in the process of developing an emergency notification system? Eddie Fox, Fire Chief, will be contacted for a response.

Nick Honeycutt reported that he has been asked why the Town does not have a Face Book page. Darhyl will look into what is involved.

Darhyl reported that he has received a rezoning request from the Hot Springs Health Program for property adjacent to the current Medical Center. The Planning & Zoning Board has already reviewed the request and recommends the rezoning. He asked if a Public Hearing can be scheduled for this matter at the April Board meeting, which was approved.

With no Public Comment, a motion was made by Bob Zink, second from Nick Honeycutt, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.
