Darhyl Boone retired from his position as Mars Hill Town Manager in February following a 38-year career looking out for the affairs of town government. Darhyl’s years of faithful service to the Town of Mars Hill were recognized by Town officials and community members at a celebration in his honor at Mars Hill University in February. The Mayor and Board of Aldermen issued a proclamation recognizing Darhyl’s service to the Town of Mars Hill and designated the day as “Darhyl Boone Day in Mars Hill.” Darhyl was also presented the Order of the Long Leaf Pine award issued by Governor Roy Cooper in recognition of his service to the State of North Carolina.

Darhyl worked hard to manage the Town’s financial affairs in the most effective manner possible. He fought for federal and state grant dollars to assist the Town in completing important economic development projects, water and sewer system improvements and development of parks and recreation facilities, including the Town Pool and the Duck Greenway. Recently, Darhyl guided the Town through the purchase of the Smith Farm on Forest Street as a future park and public access point to the Bailey Mountain.

Under Darhyl’s leadership the Town experienced vibrant economic growth, including major improvements to

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critical infrastructure such as the water and sewer system. Darhyl was instrumental in the designation of a certified industrial site in Mars Hill and he worked diligently on the Crossroads Parkway corridor as a connector between NC 213 and US 19.

Darhyl will continue to stay busy in the community and with his church. We thank Darhyl Boone for all that he has done to make Mars Hill the community we are all proud to call home.

Happy Retirement Darhyl!

Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget Adopted

The Town of Mars Hill Board of Aldermen unanimously adopted the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget at their meeting June 24, 2019. Town Manager Nathan Bennett presented the budget recommendation and a public hearing was held to obtain citizen input on the proposal.

It is the priority of elected officials and management to operate Town government in a professional, efficient, business-like manner. The budget provides a priority spending plan that attempts to minimize the tax burden on the Town taxpayer. The current town property tax rate remains unchanged at $0.47 (forty-seven) cents per $100 (one-hundred dollars) of valuation. Combined with other revenue sources, the general fund budget was approved at $1,885,300.

The water and sewer fund is an enterprise function which is required by the State of North Carolina to be supported only by the revenue generated from the service provided. In keeping with established Town policy, there is a 2.5% increase to water and sewer usage fees effective July 1. This increase is necessary to keep the water and sewer fund solvent while providing safe drinking water and making necessary capital improvements to the water and sewer system. This budget was approved at $1,053,000.

To view the entire FY 2019-2020 Budget Message from the Town Manager and other budget documents, please visit us on the web at: www.TownOfMarsHill.org.