

**TOWN OF HUNTERSVILLE
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

**December 19, 2011
6:30 p.m. – Town Hall**

The Regular Meeting of the Huntersville Board of Commissioners was held at the Huntersville Town Hall at 6:30 p.m. on December 19, 2011.

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Jill Swain; Commissioners Melinda Bales, Charles Guignard, Ron Julian, Sarah McAulay and Danny Phillips. Commissioner Charles Jeter was not present.

Mayor Swain called for a moment of silence.

Mayor Swain led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR AND COMMISSIONER REPORTS/STAFF QUESTIONS

Mayor Swain

- No report from MTC or EDC Management Team.

Commissioner Bales

- Received update on Police Dispatch last week from Chief Potter.

Commissioner Guignard

- There was a large meeting attended by several Board members and numerous elected officials from Statesville to Charlotte that gave a broad overview of the Red Line.

Commissioner Julian

- The next EDC Board meeting is January 19.
- The School Advisory Committee is trying to set up a time where all the principals, PTA representatives and the new school board members can attend.

Commissioner McAulay

- The next MPO meeting is January 18.
- At the COG meeting last Wednesday, they announced several grants that they had been awarded. One was a \$5 million grant for housing and I hope that we can get some of that in Huntersville.

Commissioner Phillips

- The Chamber Annual Awards Banquet will be on January 19.
- Focus Friday will be on January 27.

Greg Ferguson, Town Manager

- A work session on the Red Line has been tentatively scheduled for January 23.
- The retreat is tentatively scheduled for January 26-27.

- Police station property was closed on last week.

Commissioner Julian commended staff for A Huntersville Christmas – it was a huge success and suggested that information on the Red Line be made available on the Town’s website.

PUBLIC COMMENTS, REQUESTS, OR PRESENTATIONS

Bill Leonard, President of CMC-University Hospital, updated Board on CMC – Huntersville and the new behavioral health hospital in Huntersville. Estimated opening for the behavioral health hospital is 2014. *Refer to hand-out attached hereto as Attachment No. 1.*

Commissioner Julian disclosed that he did meet with CMC representatives concerning questions he had concerning the behavioral health hospital.

Mayor Swain requested as many trees as possible be left on the property where the behavioral health hospital is going to be built.

AGENDA CHANGES

Commissioner McAulay made a motion to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Guignard seconded motion. Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

Street Name Change Ordinance. Catherine Stutts, Planning Technician, reviewed request. Town staff was approached by a resident to change an existing street name, but there was no procedure in place to accommodate such request. Therefore, staff prepared a proposed ordinance for street name changes in order to establish a procedure and evaluation criteria for the review of requests. The fees proposed for street name changes cover the expense of reviewing applications and installing new street signs.

Refer to Staff Report attached hereto as Attachment No. 2.

Ms. Stutts noted one change to the proposed ordinance since the packet was submitted to the Town Clerk. On Page 2 of the proposed ordinance, Section 97.07 (e), it says staff is responsible for notifying Mecklenburg County Tax Collector. We would revise “Tax Collector” to say “GIS”. This is because we found out that Mecklenburg County GIS is responsible for notifying a range of agencies, including the Tax Collector.

Mayor Swain questioned if a property owner came to the Board and requested the Board submit a request if there would be an application fee.

Jack Simoneau, Planning Director, noted that if the Town supports it and proposes it, then we would not charge ourselves the fee.

Several issues pertaining to the application were discussed. The proposed application requires a telephone number for all property owners. It was pointed out that it may be difficult to obtain telephone numbers. It was also suggested that if there is not a valid reason for the application to request the amount of road frontage for each piece of property, that request for information be removed. A question was also raised if the required 75 percent was based on amount of property that abuts the street or approval of 75 percent of the homeowners. Mr. Simoneau pointed out that it was the intent that it's by property owners.

Commissioner McAulay made a motion to defer this for a month so that we can have some clarifications.

Commissioner Guignard seconded motion.

Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

Speed Calming Devices – The Glens. Commissioner Julian noted that five speed calming devices had been approved for The Glens retirement community at a previous meeting. After discussions between Justin Carroll, Transportation Engineer, and Jay Young of Young Builders, it was determined that there is a need for only four speed calming devices (two on Ashby Glen and two on Sullivan Glen). *Refer to e-mail attached hereto as Attachment No. 3.*

Commissioner Julian made a motion that per Mr. Carroll's and Mr. Young's conversation that we install four asphalt humps in their original locations and Young Builders will pay the contractor directly in full. The Town would install the thermoplastic markings on the humps and install two signs designating a speed hump zone.

Commissioner Guignard seconded motion.

Commissioner McAulay offered a friendly amendment that it would be no cost to the Town and the Town would not be constructing it, but the Young Builders' contractor.

Commissioner Julian accepted amendment.

Commissioner Guignard seconded amended motion.

Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

Resolution – Consolidation. Greg Ferguson, Town Manager, pointed out that Commissioner Jeter had submitted the proposed resolution. It went through some revisions, but the final version is in the packet.

Commissioner McAulay made a motion to adopt resolution opposing any consolidation of the governmental and political bodies of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Commissioner Julian seconded motion.

Commissioner McAulay said that originally she was not going to support the resolution. The reason I changed my mind is I think we should always be willing to study something. There have been four studies of consolidation in the last 10 to 20 years and the individual bodies of the city and the county

commission chose not to go forward with it. I think the studies really found that while there might be some departments that could be consolidated and savings found, they have already occurred. The reason that I am supporting the resolution is because I read in the paper that funds had been found to fund the study and that it was being funded by the Carolinas Foundations, which is a private non-profit where a lot of people fund their money through so others won't know who is contributing. It bothers me that a study like this would be funded by unknown beings, unknown to the public and I think that is a poor way to do business. If the study would be going forward and maybe some people would know who was behind it and pushing it, but we as the general public would not, so therefore I support the resolution.

Commissioner Guignard offered a friendly amendment that we do this by acclamation, that is the full support.

Commissioner McAulay accepted friendly amendment.

Commissioner Julian seconded amended motion.

Mayor Swain said I have had a brief conversation with Mayor Foxx to let him know that we were headed in this direction. I did tell him that the lack of conversation with the other mayors in the county was disconcerting and that we were reading the headlines before we were hearing the information from him. He did apologize. He did say that he would be reaching out to the other mayors.

Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

A Resolution Notifying the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners, the City of Charlotte Council, their respective managers and the Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives, that Huntersville is opposed to any consolidation of the governmental and political bodies of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County

Whereas, the City of Charlotte, NC has authored a resolution to establish and charge a Charter Study Commission for the purposes of consideration of consolidation of the two political and governing bodies, and

Whereas, the City of Charlotte passed the authorization of this Charter Study Commission Resolution at their official meeting on December 12, 2011, and the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners is expected to consider passage of said resolution at their official meeting on December 20, 2011, and

Whereas, passage of any Study Commission that advocates and/or promotes suggested consolidation will undoubtedly negatively impact the six towns of Mecklenburg County which will be forced to supplement and subsidize the spending of their citizen's tax dollars on City of Charlotte projects with limited to no voice in how said money would be spent.

Therefore, be it RESOLVED by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Huntersville that it is opposed to any consolidation of the governmental and political bodies of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, in whatever form, and hereby request that the Mecklenburg County Board of Commissioners vote against the creation of said Charter Study Commission.

Adopted this the 19th day of December, 2011.

Appointments to VLN Board. The Town Board has three appointees to the Visit Lake Norman Board of Directors. The Board has previously appointed Commissioner McAulay to one of the seats.

The three positions are as follows:

1. Attraction or restaurant designee
2. At-large (May be a Board member – Commissioner McAulay)
3. At-large

Three candidates have expressed interest in serving.

Jeff Fissel – Executive Director at Rural Hill

Dee Jetton – Executive Director at HFFA
Jesse Jones – Attorney, Huntersville resident

Commissioner Guignard made a motion to appoint Jeff Fissell and Dee Jetton to the positions.

Commissioner McAulay seconded motion.

Mayor Swain asked if anyone had any other nominations.

Commissioner Julian nominated Jesse Jones.

Commissioner Bales and Commissioner Phillips requested this item be deferred to allow them time to speak with the applicants.

Commissioner McAulay pointed out that the next VLN Board meeting is January 16 and they have to give them so many days' notice of a board meeting. We can ask them to waive the notice. I recommend that we withdraw the existing nominees and defer this until our January 3 meeting.

Commissioner Phillips seconded motion.

Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Minutes. Commissioner Guignard made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 5, 2011 Regular Town Board Meeting. Commissioner Julian seconded motion. Motion carried with five (5) yes votes.

CLOSING COMMENTS

Commissioner McAulay requested staff provide the new Board members with a copy of the Visit Lake Norman interlocal agreement.

Commissioner Bales wished everyone a merry Christmas.

Commissioner Guignard wished everyone a merry Christmas. Commended staff and everyone involved with a Huntersville Christmas – it was a successful event.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Approved this the 3rd day of January, 2012.