

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL ASSEMBLY ROOM
APRIL 10, 2008
9:30 AM

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Staton presided over the Council Meeting of April 10, 2008, at 9:30 a.m. in the Village Hall. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Bucher, Chandler, Davis, Farr, and Wert, Village Clerk Collier, two citizens and one reporter from the Hendersonville Times-News.

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Staton led the group in a moment of silent meditation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL / CHANGE TO AGENDA

Vice Mayor Weedman moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Wert. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Adoption of Minutes
 - March 3, 2008, Agenda Meeting
 - March 13, 2008, Council Meeting

Council Member Wert moved to adopt the minutes of the March 3, 2008, Agenda meeting and the Council meeting minutes of March 13, 2008, seconded by Council Member Chandler. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Special Reports

2. ZONING ADMINISTRATION - Council Member Wert

Council Member Wert stated that Zoning Administrator Judy Boleman will not be available from April 18th through the 27th. He said that Roger Ambrose, former Zoning Administrator will carry on Ms. Boleman's duties until she returns. Council Member Wert stated that he would also be available if needed.

Ms. Boleman updated Council on the Highland Lake site plan. She said that Kathryn, an employee of Highland Lake, said that she would help with the plans as soon as she returned from vacation. Ms. Boleman also gave an update on the other subdivisions under construction.

3. VILLAGE HALL - Council Member Wert

Council Member Wert stated that the assembly room would be locked for the Board of Election from April 18th through 24th for voting.

He updated Council on the maintenance of grounds. He said that Fitzsimons Company will spread fresh mulch on the flower beds and shrubs prior to the Ice Cream Social.

4. TAX COLLECTIONS – Tax Supervisor Weedman

Tax Supervisor Weedman stated that tax collections are at 99.98% collected. He said that two citizens were making partial payments and the two bankruptcies are due to be sold, which payment of taxes will be included in the settlement. He said that he believed all collections should be resolved by the end of May 2008.

5. TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE - Council Member Farr

Council Member Farr stated that Mark Gibbs of NCDOT had a list of available funds to be used to correct the problems at the Little River Road and Highway 225 intersection but does not have funds to move the telephone poles. He said that Mr. Gibbs suggested that the next step is to survey for a formal plan. Mr. Gibbs said that he would need a letter from Council that will give him permission to use the funds. Council Member Farr said that the Village's portion of the project would be approximately \$75,000. He then moved to reserve \$75,000 in the FY 2008-09 Budget for the reconfiguration of Highway 225 and Little River Road intersection, with a letter of intent sent to Mark Gibbs, seconded by Council Member Wert. After a brief discussion the vote was unanimous, motion carried.

A motion to provide as much as \$50,000 to cover the cost of relocating utility poles and other utility installations in support of the realignment of the intersection of Little River Rd. (NC 1127) and Greenville Highway (NC 225), and request they participate in the review and selection contractors and suppliers for any work done requiring the use of Village funds. And as much as \$25,000 in support of the acquisition of and installation of new traffic signal posts and arms for a total of \$75,000.

Council then discussed Pinnacle Mountain and Erkwood Roads.

Old Business

6. FY2008-2009 BUDGET - Council Member Bucher

Mr. Bucher stated that the budget has been keyed into the system and looks good at this point. He said that we are done until other numbers come in.

a. Fee Schedule for Zoning

Council Member Bucher stated that the Fee Schedule had been study and it was decided that it should not be changed.

b. Facilities Usage Fee

Council Member Bucher stated that there had also been a study on possible charges for the Village Hall. He said that there were extreme compliments for the use of the facilities by Village citizens that the committee decided that there should not be a charge.

New Business

7. PUBLIC COMMENT PROCEDURES – Council Member Davis

Council Member Davis stated that the public comment is listed at the end of the meeting, rather than allow someone to sit through the entire meeting, he said, why could there be another public comment at the beginning of the meeting? He said that time could be allotted per person, have a sign in sheet, if they are speaking about the same subject. Mayor Staton requested that Council Member Davis make guidelines and come back to Council with a recommendation.

8. HENDERSON COUNTY HISTORIC COURTHOUSE PROCLAMATION

Mayor Staton stated that the newly renovated Henderson County Courthouse has a proclamation that he wrote with the assistance of Dr. Jones. Council Member Weedman moved to adopt the Henderson County Proclamation as written, seconded by Council Member Chandler. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Other Business

9. MAYOR – COUNCIL REPORTS

Council Member Bucher stated that most everything is ready for the Ice Cream Social. He said that greeters were needed.

Council Member Farr commended Council Member Davis on his work with the Zoning and Subdivision Ordinances.

Vice Mayor Weedman updated the council on the forum held at the St. John in the Wilderness Parish Hall. He then said that Mr. Tom Deau will be in next week to load the Laserfische program and hopefully all documents will be entered into the system by September 2008.

Mayor Staton informed Council Member Davis that he had received a formal notification from FEMA regarding flood insurance rate maps.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mary Merkle, age 85, from Tranquility proposed that Council consider purchasing a K-9 dog for the Sheriff's Department. She said that she did not know the cost of a dog, but the cost of outfitting a vehicle and a dog handler is \$5,000 to \$7,500 each, and the Sheriff's Department is short one dog. She expressed the value that the dog is to the community.

Mayor Staton said that Council could think about it, since the budget was now being prepared for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, and if it is Council's desire, he will pursue the matter with Sheriff Davis. Some Council Members said that it would be a worthy thing to do.

Mr. Deubert of Stonebridge discussed the Snedaker property with Council. He also mentioned his dismay with the Singleton Centre. He said that the new construction overwhelms the Wrinkled Egg store that is across the street. He went on to say that he did not like gated communities.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further discussions, at 11:15 a.m. Vice Mayor Weedman moved to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Chandler. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Rowena M. Collier, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor