

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK AGENDA WORKSHOP
ASSEMBLY ROOM – VIA ZOOM
JUNE 29, 2020
9:30 AM

Mayor Weedman presided over the June 29, 2020, agenda meeting at 9:32 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Weedman were Vice Mayor Jamerson, Council Members Carpenter, Coletta, Dethero, Gooch, Posey, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Christie.

MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Weedman led the group in a moment of silent meditation. He then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda

A draft agenda for the July 9, 2020, council meeting was presented; no changes to the agenda were made. Council Member Carpenter suggested discussing at the July council meeting scheduling a park workshop meeting in August.

Discussions:

Mayor Weedman stated the July 9, 2020, council meeting will be held via Zoom. After the Governor's update on July 17, 2020, a decision will be made whether to hold the August 3, 2020, agenda meeting, and the August 13, 2020, council meeting via Zoom.

Budget Officer Jamerson made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 105, Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Budget and Budget Message, seconded by Council Member Carpenter. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Carpenter stated Mr. Matt Toner has agreed to chair the Park Commission. Mr. Toner has been introduced to Council Members, Park Commission members, Duncan Fraser, and Dennis Flanagan. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to appoint Matt Toner as Chairman of the Park Commission, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Weedman made a motion to appoint Mr. Carl Shaw as Auditor to prepare the audit for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Coletta mentioned that consultants Joel Setzer and Kristy Carter had previously presented a PowerPoint presentation on the bike path feasibility study, with hard copies of the study in the Village Hall office.

Council Member Coletta made a motion that the Flat Rock Village Council receive as information the June 2020 report titled *The Flat Rock Trail Feasibility Plan: Connecting The Park at Flat Rock to the Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site* along with its supplemental document titled *Attachments*. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dethero and carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Coletta mentioned as part of the feasibility study that a steering committee had been put in place specifically to work with the consultants on the study. Now that the study has been received and completed, Council Member Coletta made the following motion: that the Flat Rock Village Council acknowledge with appreciation the time and effort of the *Flat Rock Trail Feasibility Plan Steering Committee* in working on this plan, and with the project's completion, approve the dissolution of this steering committee. The motion was seconded by Council Member Posey and carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Carpenter mentioned a statue donation of a large red dog has been offered by a group of Hendersonville artists for display in the park, with placement suggested to be in the grove of trees along Highland Lake Road, visible in the park and also from the roadway. The statue is metal, 6.5 ft. wide, 4 ft. tall, 4.5 inches thick, and requires a concrete foundation, which the Flat Rock Park & Recreation Foundation has offered to fund. The Park Commission has voted unanimously to accept the donation and is presenting the request to Council for approval. Council members expressed concerns with children climbing on the statue, and possible graffiti.

Council Member Carpenter made a motion to accept the statute to be placed in the park, and the Flat Rock Park & Recreation Foundation to provide funding for the concrete pedestal. The motion was seconded by Council Member Posey. There were discussions that Council needs to decide whether to pursue creating a policy for placing public art in the park. No action was taken.

Council Member Posey reported at the June Planning Board meeting some final revisions to the sign ordinance were discussed. Those revisions were going back to the board for final drafting before being presented at the upcoming July Planning Board meeting. Once the revisions have been proofed a final time, they will be presented to Council at the July council meeting, and then Council will decide the final steps to be taken before the revisions are drafted into the ordinance.

Mayor Weedman mentioned that, with the Governor's additional recommendations of the use of masks and continued social distancing due to COVID-19, he suggests setting a policy of mandatory wearing of masks for anyone entering the Village Hall. This means that when visitors enter the building to meet with staff, both parties are to use masks. At the park, the Park Ranger, John Wilkerson, is required to wear a mask. By consensus, Council agreed.

Council Member Carpenter reported Pardee Hospital has contacted the Foundation to begin YOGA in the Park classes starting Thursday, July 9, 2020, every Thursday afternoon at 5:00 pm., and Saturday mornings at 10:00 am weather permitted. No more than twenty people will attend, and all will practice social distancing.

Council Member Carpenter made a motion to appoint Matt Toner to the Park Commission for a 3-year term ending January 31, 2023, seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote carried by unanimous vote.

Zoning Administrator Christie reported that Blue Ridge Fire & Rescue is proposing to expand the fire station at the property adjacent to the Village Hall. The existing building is a little over 1,600 square feet, and the expansion would be over 3,700 square feet. Years ago, the fire department was rezoned to GCPSD (Government Civic Public Service Department), and our Land Development Ordinance has a mandate that the fire department connect to the public sewer system. Blue Ridge has been working with the City of Hendersonville Water & Sewer Department to try and determine where they could connect into the sewer system. At one point, they were looking towards Linda Ann Drive, but that is no longer under consideration.

In order to connect to public sewer, the closest point is across from the Village Hall at the Post Office. Although no formal request has been made, the water and sewer department has preliminary plans to run the discharge line from the new site out toward Greenville Highway, across the front of the Village Hall for a short distance, and under Greenville Highway to the sewer manhole. In order to do that, the Village would need to grant an easement across our property. The alternate is a septic system on fire department property and would require action by the Board of Adjustment. Once Council has received more information on their plans, and a formal request has been made, Council is expected to give final approval. No formal action was taken.

With no further discussions, Council Member Gooch made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Nick Weedman
Mayor