

Minutes for the Board of Aldermen for the Town of Bryson City

April 16, 2020
50 Main Street
Swain County Administrative Building
5:00 p.m.

Attending:

Board of Aldermen

Tom Sutton, Mayor
Ben King Mayor Pro-Tem
Heidi Ramsey-Woodard
Chad Smith
Janine Crisp

Town Affiliates

Regina Mathis, Town Manager
Lynn Thomas, Town Clerk
Charlie Robinson, Police Chief
Carla Passmore, Tax Collector
Louis Jones, Fire Coordinator

Public

Jessica Webb, Smoky Mtn.
Times

Mayor Tom Sutton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Alderman Janine Crisp gave the invocation.

Mayor Sutton led the pledge of allegiance to the American Flag.

No one came forward for Public Comment.

The Board reviewed the minutes from the March 2, 2020 regular meeting and the March 16, 2020 special meeting/workshop. **Ben King made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Chad Smith seconded the motion that carried.**

Lynn Thomas represented Sarah Nations regarding a leak at 1060 Bryson Walk. The Board reviewed the account. **Janine Crisp made a motion to approve \$319.15 off the sewer portion of her account; Ben King seconded the motion that carried.**

The Board reviewed the project increase for the Black Hill Project that was awarded to Hyatt Pipeline. The project increased by \$7,700.00. **Ben King made a motion to approve this increase in cost for the Black Hill Project; Chad Smith seconded the motion that carried.**

The Board discussed the bids received for the surplus vehicles. **Janine Crisp made a motion to accept the bids presented; Ben King seconded the motion that carried.**

The Board reviewed the 2020-2021 Fire Contract with Swain County. This is the same contract as last year with date changes only. **Chad Smith made a motion to approve this contract with Swain County; Ben King seconded the motion that carried.**

The Board reviewed the automatic mutual aid agreement with Qualla Fire and Rescue and the Bryson City Fire Department. **Ben King made a motion to adopt this mutual aid agreement; Heidi Ramsey-Woodard seconded the motion that carried.**

Town Manager Regina Mathis presented the Board with a draft of the 2020-2021 Fiscal Year Budget for review. Manager Mathis presented a very conservative approach due to the uncertainty of the current and future situation with the coronavirus (COVID-19). Water and sewer rates were increased by 3 percent along with a 3 percent cost of living raise for employees. Also, large budgeted items were drastically cut. The Board will set the public hearing and budget approval date at the next Board Meeting.

In old business, the Board reviewed the updated Automatic Mutual Aid with Cherokee Fire and Rescue Department of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. **Janine Crisp made a motion to approve the mutual aid agreement presented; Heidi Ramsey-Woodard seconded the motion that carried.**

In old business, the Board tabled the backflow ordinance, Town ordinance review, and stopper valves for campgrounds during rain events due to further information being obtained.

The Board set the next regular meeting for May 4, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at the Swain County Administrative Building, 50 Main Street, Bryson City, NC.

Attorney Fred Moody gave the Attorney's Report.

The Fire Chief's Report was presented and Louis Jones was introduced to the Board as the new Fire Coordinator for the Town.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Tax Collector's, Police Chief's, Public Works, Water, Wastewater, Streets, and Town Manager's Reports. **Heidi Ramsey-Woodard made a motion to approve the reports as presented; Chad Smith seconded the motion that carried.**

Being no further business, **Janine Crisp made a motion to adjourn; Heidi Ramsey-Woodard seconded the motion that carried.**

Mayor Tom Sutton

Town Clerk Lynn Thomas