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Town of Maggie Valley  
Board of Aldermen  
Agenda Setting/ Monthly Workshop  
March 6, 2020  
MINUTES

Members Present: Mayor Mike Eveland, Aldermen: Tammy Wight, Twinkle Patel, Clayton Davis and Phillip Wight  
Staff Present: Manager Nathan Clark, Chief Russ Gilliland, Planner Ron Hancock, Public Works Director Mike Mehaffey, and Town Clerk Vickie Best  
Others Present: News Reporters: Jessie Stone and trainee and Kyle Perrotti, NCDOT Representatives Danielle Schwanke, Steve Williams, Wanda Austin, Brian Burch, MPO Representatives Tristan Winkler and Nick Kroncke, Folkmoot Director Angie Schwab

Mayor Eveland called the Agenda Setting/Monthly Workshop to order at 9:30 am on Friday March 6, 2020 in the Town Hall Boardroom.

Before beginning the agenda review, Council had a discussion with the NCDOT Team about the Soco Road Project.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and select a project alternative to the Soco Road Diet that the Board of Aldermen and NCDOT are in agreeance with.

Project Purpose: The purpose of the project is to make Maggie Valley more Bicycle and Pedestrian friendly, and to implement traffic calming measures.

Project Funding: STBGDA: Federal Funds

Original Budget for Preliminary Engineering: \$175,000

Original Budget for Rights-of-Way: \$0

Original Budget for Construction: \$1,800,000.00

Expenditures	Engineering: \$83,647.18	Commitments: \$119,957.40	Unencumbered \$28,604.58
	Construction		\$1,800,000.00

Project Alternatives:

1. *Upgrading the existing pedestrian crossings:* This alternative consists of only designing median and pedestrian crossing improvements. This alternative would encompass installing refuge islands, striping crosswalks, and addition of standard signage.
2. *Road diet and Pedestrian improvements:* This alternative consists of implementing a road diet from Fie Top Rd to West Moody Farm Road, adding a bike lane, constructing refuge islands, restriping crosswalks, and creating on-street parking at predetermined locations.

The Board of Aldermen want alternate number one (1). Council is not pursuing the road diet.

There was a brief discussion about who will determine where to place the refuge islands. Maggie Valley has thirteen (13) crosswalks. There may be places where the islands need to be shortened or extended.

Mayor Eveland, with consensus from Council, feels the crosswalks at the Festival Grounds certainly need improvement as well as flashing crossing lights.

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Alderman P. Wight added that making a left turn onto Rich Cove Road or into the Flea Market is tough (making the maneuver). Alderman T. Wight stated that she would like for the Board to look at the proposals and discuss, as a board, the placement.

Since they know the NCDOT Standards, Manager Clark suggested letting the NCDOT Professionals design a means of improving pedestrian safety.

The flashing lights cost between \$30,000 and \$50,000 each. Each crosswalk will need two flashing signs.

Council asked that the NCDOT Team look at making the crosswalks that we have more identifiable to help slow traffic. Aldermen P. Wight suggested using 3D paint.

Alderman Davis stated that if done correctly, he feels it would help slow traffic 5 to 10 miles per hour.

There will be some business owners and residents that will not like the impact the new crosswalks and refuge island may have. Manager Clark felt the plan should direct pedestrian traffic to the certain crosswalks. Maggie Valley could have too many crosswalks or some too close together. A third of the folks crossing do not use the crosswalks.

Council began reviewing the agenda.

AGENDA

Board of Aldermen

Regular Scheduled Meeting

Town Hall Board Room

Maggie Valley Town Hall

Tuesday March 10, 2020

6:30 PM

- 1) Meeting Call to Order
- 2) Consent Agenda
  - a. Minutes: February 4, February 11, February 17, February 18, February 24, 2020
  - b. A/R
  - c. Budget to Actual
  - d. Tax Releases
- 3) Recognition of Maggie Valley Police Department

A short presentation where Chief Gilliland gives Matt Bogar and Logan Wood a plaque for their recent achievements.

- 4) Public Comment
- 5) Consideration of Inflow & Infiltration Contract: Withers-Ravenel

Staff pursued a grant to offset the cost of this much needed study. Maggie Valley partnered with the Maggie Valley Sanitary District to increase the chance of being awarded. Maggie Valley scored 93. The reasons given were the overall wealth, the tier that NC has placed Haywood County in, and the biggest reason of all was the overall low sewer rates.

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Smoke testing is much of the study. When deficiencies are found through the smoke testing, the cost will vary for fixing the different deficiencies. To smoke test and video six areas, the cost will be \$34,000. Withers-Ravenel will move quickly to begin the project.

6) Haywood County TDA- Mid Year Presentation: Lynn Collins, Executive Director  
Director Collins normally provides an annual update, but now she will be providing two updates per year; spring/summer and fall/winter.

7) Consideration of MPO Appointments

The RPO works in partnership with the MPO and the North Carolina Department of Transportation in assisting the four counties and 19 municipalities develop a regional transportation planning process. Planning efforts will reach out to each of the counties in order to connect the entire region in developing a multi-modal transportation system that facilitates the safe, efficient movement of people and goods. The RPO and MPO have had a unique chance to create a partnership to coordinate all phases of transportation planning for the Land of Sky and Haywood County area.

Planner Hancock sits on the RPO. Maggie Valley now needs an MPO member which must be an elected official. Mayor Price previously sat on the committee.

Although Maggie Valley is only allowed one vote, it would be great if Maggie Valley could have a member and an alternate member.

The meetings are held the last Thursday of each month at 1 pm in Asheville. March 26 is the next meeting date.

On a side note, Council briefly discussed the road improvements from the west end of Maggie Valley to the top of Soco Mountain. This project will make crossing Soco Mountain safer (on the Maggie Valley side).

8) Consideration of Reappointment: ABC Board Members

Chairman Joe Moody was reappointed in October 2019. All four of the current members have reapplied for their seats.

Alderman Patel left the meeting at 10:04 am.

Clerk Best had recently placed information in Council's mailboxes regarding conduct/motions in meetings. Alderman P. Wight having read the information, stated that when someone leaves a meeting unexcused by motion; any action taken thereafter would count that member as an affirmative vote.

Generally, there is no action taken at an Agenda Setting/ Monthly Workshop.

9) Consideration of Delinquent Tax Collection NCGS 105-369

It is state mandated, that Council direct the Tax Collector to collect delinquent taxes.

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10) Consideration of 2021 Festival Events Calendar

A packet will be distributed to Council showing all event applications and the season calendar for their approval.

11) Consideration of Maggie Valley 1st Night- Halloween Event

All the funds made through the Monster Mash event go toward the fireworks for New Year's Eve.

The First Night Committee did an outstanding job with the community/grassroot 2019 New Year's Eve Celebration.

Both Aldermen Tammy and Phillip Wight supported the New Year's Eve Celebration and helped with the Monster Mash Fundraiser. Alderman P. Wight stated that it would be easier if the committee could use the concession stand (kitchen) to sell food and drinks.

Manager Clark informed Council that the Civic Association pays for the insurance and cleaning of the concession stand. Therefore, only a select few can use the kitchen for a donation to the Civic Association. The First Night Committee should call and talk with Civic Association President Dennis Hoffman.

12) Consideration of Sponsorship

- a. Haywood County Fair
- b. Folkmoot (July 20) Event

Haywood County Commissioner Tommy Long personally wrote a note on the request form asking for sponsorship for the Haywood County Fair.

Folkmoot Director Angie Schwab addressed Council explaining how Folkmoot is changing their focus to become more engaged in the community. The Friendship Center along with other venues hosts event year-round.

The Mootenancy Event to be held May 9 and 10, 2020 at the Maggie Valley Festival Grounds will incorporate some of the Plott Fest Activities.

**Excerpt:** A second year Appalachian music and heritage event, Mootenanny is a celebration of mountain culture with an emphasis on folk music, arts, crafts and specialty food and drinks. Folkmoot will host musical acts on a main stage and a variety of heritage events, including Plott Hounds, demonstrators, and vendors who specialize in southern Appalachian culture.

Monday July 20, 2020 Folkmoot will be bringing all the international groups, have food trucks, and offer dance lessons for attendees.

Ms. Schwab asked if Council would consider becoming sponsors of the July 20, 2020 event by donating the rental fee (\$500). This would increase the chance of the event making money and a huge benefit to Maggie Valley.

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The events are advertised digitally and through distribution of the catalog of events. All the surrounding states receive advertising.

Alderman P. Wight stated that he was glad that Folkmoot is getting into local heritage.

Manager Clark informed Council that in May 2020 two concerts will be held at the Festival Grounds: Mootenanny and Americana Concert featuring the Atlanta Pop and Balsam Ronge.

Any donations/sponsorships would be greatly appreciated for either event: Mootenanny or Folkmoot event in July.

13) Other Business

Staff will apply for a Disaster Relief Grant for 25% of the cost to fix the levee at the treatment plant that was damaged during 2018 hurricane events. The heavy rains in 2019 and so far in 2020 have not helped the situation. The levee is considered infrastructure due to keeping the treatment plant out of the floodway.

Repairing the levee cannot be done inhouse because of the need to install gabion baskets. Engineering will be required. The levee was upgraded in 2012.

The heavy rains in January, February and so far in March have also done damage to the road going into the WWTP.

Manager Clark will have a resolution ready by Tuesday's meeting acknowledging that staff is seeking grant funding. If the cost is too high, Council does not have to act.

There was a discussion for the need to raise sewer rates for future planning/expansion at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mayor Eveland added that Maggie Valley certainly does not want to wait to the point that the treatment plant is like the neighboring town. "We need to stay ahead of the game."

The NC League of Municipalities tracks sewer rates and Maggie Valley is in the bottom 10% of the state.

Alderman P. Wight added that the WWTP operates in the black.

There are major sewer projects that could arise at any time and we want the Treatment Plant to be ready i.e. Ghost Town, Cataloochee Ranch and Ski Area, etc.

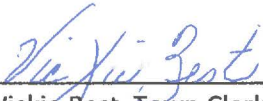
Director Mehaffey explained that Waynesville's Treatment Plant is no longer receiving grease. Staff will begin sending letters to restaurants to educate them on their options such as Valley Protein out of Knoxville, Tn. The Sewer Department will also start assertively inspecting grease traps. Grease traps can be as small as 250 gallons or as is the majority, 900 gallons.

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- 14) Department Head Reports
  - a. Police- Russ Gilliland, Chief
  - b. Public Works – Mike Mehaffey, Director
  - c. Planning- Ron Hancock, Town Planner
  - d. Town Manager- Nathan Clark
- 15) Adjournment

**ON MOTION OF ALDERMAN DAVIS, WITH ALL IN FAVOR, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10:52 AM.**

  
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Mayor Mike Eveland

  
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Vickie Best, Town Clerk, NCCMC, CMC

