

**Town of Mineral Springs
Town Hall
3506 S. Potter Road
Town Council
Regular Meeting
September 13, 2018 ~ 7:30 PM**

Minutes

The Town Council of the Town of Mineral Springs, North Carolina, met in Regular Session at the Mineral Springs Town Hall, Mineral Springs, North Carolina, at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 13, 2018.

Present: Mayor Frederick Becker III, Mayor Pro Tem Bettylyn Krafft, Councilwoman Valerie Coffey, Councilman Jerry Countryman, Councilwoman Janet Critz, Councilwoman Lundeen Cureton, Councilwoman Peggy Neill, Town Clerk/Zoning Administrator Vicky Brooks and Deputy Town Clerk Janet Ridings.

Absent: Attorney Bobby Griffin.

Visitors: Mineral Springs Volunteer Fire & Rescue Department Chief Donald Gaddy.

With a quorum present Mayor Frederick Becker called the Regular Town Council Meeting of September 13, 2018 to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Opening

- Councilman Countryman delivered the invocation.
- Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Public Comments

- There were no public comments.

3. Consent Agenda

- ***Councilwoman Krafft made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented containing the following:***

- A. July 2018 Tax Collector's Report*
- B. July 2018 Finance Report*

and Councilwoman Cureton seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:

*Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill
Nays: None*

4. 2018 Property Tax Order of Collection

- Mayor Becker commented there was no one from Union County here this evening, but he did speak with [Union County Tax Administrator] Vann Harrell. Mayor

Becker explained there were two things: the settlements were here with the first three pages being the current year, and then there are the prior years with the remaining balances shown (they have done a good job). The first order of business is to approve the settlement if the council chooses to.

- **Councilwoman Critz made a motion to approve the Union County Settlements and Councilman Countryman seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

- Mayor Becker explained that Vann Harrell informed him as far as he knows they don't need to do that formal one, because it really goes through the Board of Commissioners and the town's contract is a blanket that covers all of the collections. Mayor Becker thought the council should just as a pro forma, authorize them by making a motion to authorize the county to collect all the taxes that come due.
- **Councilman Countryman made a motion to authorize and order Union County to collect the fiscal year 2018 taxes and Councilwoman Coffey seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

5. Prior Years' Tax Settlement and Write-Offs

- Mayor Becker explained that Ms. Ridings had prepared the tax settlement, which is much simpler, because every year one rolls off the bottom. Ms. Ridings collected \$65 and there was a write off of \$67 from the 2008 fiscal year. The total balance left of principal taxes is \$291.71 for three years. Mayor Becker noted Ms. Ridings had three years left to collect those and asked if she thought there was very little she was going to see. Ms. Ridings responded she had two that were going to be foreclosed on, so she may see some of that in about six months. Mayor Becker explained that Ms. Ridings doesn't have to be recharged, the council just needs to vote to approve the settlement if they choose to.
- **Councilwoman Coffey made a motion to approve the settlement for 2008 through 2011 and Councilwoman Krafft seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

6. Joint Statement on Waxhaw Parkway

- Mayor Becker noted he hoped the joint statement on the Waxhaw Parkway was self-explanatory. The statement was created by Waxhaw Mayor Maher, Mayor Becker and Commissioner Helms of Union County; they all agreed on it. Mr. Alan Gardner (property owner of Story Book Farm) was brought in on it as well. Mr. Gardner is one of the most concerned, because he is in one of the most impacted neighborhoods and he is happy with the joint statement. Waxhaw presented the statement at their Tuesday night meeting and Mr. Gardner spoke in favor of it and

they approved it. Mayor Becker stated if the council liked what it said he would forward it to CRTPO.

- **Councilman Countryman made a motion to approve this statement as written and Councilwoman Krafft seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

- The statement is as follows:

The Mineral Springs town council reviewed this joint statement at its regular meeting on September 13, 2018 and hereby approves the statement and requests that it be submitted to the Charlotte Regional Transportation Planning Organization (CRTPO) as a comment as part of the SPOT 5.0 Local Needs input points assignment process.

The jurisdictions of Waxhaw, Mineral Springs, and Union County understand the importance of and need for the construction of the Waxhaw Parkway. We view this as a major assist to our transportation network and economic development when done in concert with the short and long-term vision for the Region's direction.

In 2009, MUMPO (now CRTPO) commissioned an alignment study of the Waxhaw Parkway that included technical involvement from the Town of Waxhaw and developed and reviewed multiple alternatives. The resulting alignment has since been used for planning purposes along with scoring within STI for potential funding. This alignment was officially adopted by the Town of Waxhaw in 2017 by action – a necessary step to place the alignment on the recently updated CTP.

The alignment study that was completed in 2011 intended public involvement to be a next step. However, this alignment study of 2009-2011 did not complete that step of public involvement as a part of its process. Waxhaw, Mineral Springs, and Union County acknowledge that the Waxhaw Parkway must connect the current Parkway stub near NC Highway 16 with NC Highway 75. We also believe any final route must create far fewer impacts on existing neighborhoods and residences than the current alignment seems to create. The current alignment has been used solely for planning purposes along with STI scoring for potential funding. We feel strongly that public involvement should be incorporated into the development of any final alignment for the Parkway and that no route should be considered the preferred alignment going into the next evaluation process.

The jurisdictions of Waxhaw, Mineral Springs, and Union County support the Waxhaw Parkway. That support requests of NCDOT:

- Assign division and local input points to the project
- Develop a process and structure that:
 - Compiles all of the existing documentation;
 - Produces an updated constraints mapping that includes the impact of the growth and change this region has experienced;
 - Advertises and conducts public meetings/workshops to seek input from citizens;
 - Produces several alternative route alignments for the Parkway;
 - Recognizes that the current "line on the map" was drawn without benefit of a multi-step process such as this;
 - Develops and shares an evaluation matrix to grade/compare each alternative;
 - Places a high priority on minimizing impacts to existing neighborhoods and residences;
 - Selects the most appropriate route for the region.

These steps will go a long way to eliminate the ongoing uncertainty that has been associated with the Parkway.

7. Consideration of a Proclamation Declaring October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

- Mayor Becker explained he received the proclamation on behalf of Turning Point; there is also an event on October 4th (as shown on a paper in the agenda packet). Mayor Becker stated this was a very important issue to keep in mind and asked the council for a motion to approve the proclamation.
- **Councilwoman Critz made a motion to approve the proclamation declaring October Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Councilwoman Neill seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

- The proclamation is as follows:

**Proclamation
Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

WHEREAS, domestic violence affects all Union County residents, and far too many people suffer abuse at the hands of a spouse, partner, parent, child, or sibling; these victims can be of any age, race, religion, or economic status and the resulting damage is inflicted not only on the victims, but their children, families, and communities; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence includes not only physical but also mental abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, sexual abuse, and isolation; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is widespread, including one in three Americans who have witnessed an incident of domestic violence with an annual cost to US companies of \$3.5 billion in lost work time, increased health care costs, higher turnover, and lower productivity; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence, there have been 1,244 women, men, and children murdered as a result of domestic violence since January 1, 2002 in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, according to the North Carolina Council for Women, domestic violence programs across the state responded to over 119,000 crisis calls and provided services to over 50,000 victims last year; and

WHEREAS, the key to prevention is education, community awareness, having zero tolerance for domestic violence, and requiring accountability by the abuser; and

WHEREAS, Union County recognizes the importance of having collaborations by multiple partners to promote social norms, policies and laws that support gender equity and foster intimate partnerships based on mutual respect, equality, and trust; and

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Frederick Becker III, Mayor of the Town of Mineral Springs, do hereby proclaim October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Union County and urge all citizens to support this observance. I further urge our citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force which deeply affects a large number of families in our State each year and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Mineral Springs to be affixed this the 13th day of September 2018.

Frederick Becker III, Mayor

Attest:

Vicky Brooks, CMC, NCCMC, Town Clerk

8. Consideration of Calling for a Special Joint Meeting with the Planning Board to Receive the Initial Assessment from Benchmark Planning

- Mayor Becker noted that the planning director would discuss the work on the Benchmark project for the ordinances. Ms. Brooks responded all the council needed to do was call for a special joint meeting. After some discussion, the council decided on Wednesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mineral Springs Town Hall for the purpose of hearing from Benchmark Planning on their initial assessment of our ordinances. Councilwoman Krafft will not be able to attend this meeting and would like some notes. Ms. Brooks pointed out there would be a CD available also.
- **Councilman Countryman made a motion to call a special meeting on Wednesday, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. at the Mineral Springs Town Hall for the purpose of hearing from Benchmark Planning on their initial assessment of our ordinances and Councilwoman Neill seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:**

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill.

Nays: None

- Ms. Brooks pointed out that she had been sent the assessment [which was handed out to the council] and the council can read it over at their leisure.

9. **Staff Reports**

- There were no staff reports.

10. **Other Business**

- Councilwoman Krafft explained she would not be able to attend the next meeting when the festival would be recapped, so she would like to recap what happened on their side. They probably had half the kids that they had the year before, but Councilwoman Krafft thought it was well attended and extremely successful. Overall, Councilwoman Krafft hoped that next year when they do it they can change some things on the kids' side to make it a little more entertaining and she would like to work on trying to get a little more activity from the community. Mayor Becker thanked Councilwoman Krafft and suggested that she get one of her chief volunteers to participate in the discussion next month.

11. **Adjournment**

- ***Councilwoman Coffey made a motion to adjourn and Councilwoman Critz seconded. The motion passed unanimously as follows:***

Ayes: Coffey, Countryman, Critz, Cureton, Krafft and Neill

Nays: None

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
- The next regular meeting will be on Thursday, October 11, 2018 at 7:30 p.m. at the Mineral Springs Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by:



Vicky A. Brooks, CMC, NCCMC, Town Clerk





Frederick Becker III, Mayor