

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM**  
**MAY 9, 2019**  
**9:30 A.M.**

Mayor Staton presided over the May 9, 2019, council meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Brown, Dockendorf, Gooch, Jamerson and Posey, Village Clerk Parker, and Village Administrator Christie.

**MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**AGENDA APPROVAL/CHANGES**

Under *New Business – Item #7, Audit Contract, Carl E. Shaw, CPA* was added to the agenda. Council Member Jamerson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Vice Mayor Weedman. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Mayor Staton introduced Captain Brandon Staton, Henderson County Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Lowell Griffin has divided Henderson County into quadrants, and Captain Staton is head of the quadrant in which Flat Rock is located. Captain Staton mentioned Sheriff Griffin's vision is to get the Village of Flat Rock included in animal control services.

**Public Comments** – None

**Consent Agenda**

1. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- April 1, 2019 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
- April 11, 2019 – Council Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Jamerson. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**Special Reports**

2. Administration – Village Administrator Christie

Administrator Christie reviewed the April 2019 zoning report dated May 2, 2019, and the Village Administrator report dated May 2, 2019 (see attached reports).

3. Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of May 8, 2019, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 99.95 percent with \$948,624.50 total collected (see attached report dated May 8, 2019).

4. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown gave an update on the following:

**Advertising Non-Village sponsored events** – Should the Village advertise non-village-sponsored park events on its website, Facebook and Instagram pages? The council concluded that it is all right for us to advertise such events on the park bulletin board and social media, but only if it is made clear that the village, including the Park Commission and the Foundation, is only providing space for the event, and is not sponsoring or otherwise involved with the event.

**Bryan Playground and Tot Lot grading and drainage** – Trace & Co. was selected to do the drainage and grading work on the Bryan Playground and Tot Lot. Park Ranger John Wilkerson is meeting with Trace and our engineer tomorrow to work out the details of a contract.

**Nature Center Bench** – The beautiful, custom-made Nature Center bench has been installed. She encouraged all to go to see it.

**Wildflower Meadow** – Good weather allowed our contractor to prep the area over the last ten days, so the wildflower meadow was seeded on Tuesday.

**Pollinator Garden** – Our volunteer Master Gardeners added 250 new plants to the garden on Monday.

**Bees** – Our new, volunteer beekeeper, Will Garvey, brought two hives into the Park over the last several days. They are located on the west edge of the Wildflower Meadow at the tree line.

**Drinking Fountain** – The concrete pad and plumbing for our first, outdoor drinking fountain were installed last week and installation of the fountain itself should be completed today. It is located between the parking lot and playground. We had hoped to install a second fountain near the pollinator garden, but unfortunately the water table is too high there, so we are evaluating other locations.

**Upcoming Event** – Flat Rock resident Harriett Richie will lead a community reading of the poems of Mary Oliver on Saturday, May 11 at 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Pavilion. Bring your favorite nature poems by her to read aloud.

Park Ranger John Wilkerson mentioned he has received a CPR defibrillator from Fire Chief Will Sheehan, which will be located in the hallway in the Welcome Center.

5. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch mentioned he was not able to attend the Foundation meeting earlier in the week, so he deferred the update to Duncan Fraser. Mr. Fraser reported the following: The Foundation will have a tent at the annual ice cream social. Dedication of the Nature Center is scheduled for June 8, 2019. He will be presenting to Council in June a slate of returning directors for the Foundation with terms to begin July 1, 2019. The Foundation is still awaiting dates for Pardee Hospital to hold health programs in the park. They missed the April deadline to begin the program.

6. Transportation Update – Council Member Dockendorf

Council Member Dockendorf stated NCDOT no longer has a lot of funds for projects due to the I-26 from Four Seasons Boulevard east to the Greenville connector, the project TAC pushed to get funded, but now has been defunded. The projects moving forward are less likely to be funded. The prioritization committee of the FBRMPO discussed working on portions of a project that are necessary rather than working on the entire project.

He mentioned with all the allocated projects in the FBRMPO area, 97% are highway projects, less than 3% are bike-pedestrian projects, and .5% are aviation projects.

Mr. Dockendorf gave an update on the following projects within Flat Rock:

The study committee for the proposed greenway trail between Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site to the Park at Flat Rock is holding a strategy meeting for landowner outreach May 16, 2019.

NCDOT has developed a list of projects in Henderson County and within Flat Rock that they feel will require attention to bring them up to standard for improved access, traffic flow, or safety within an 8 to 10-year funding plan. The projects outside of Flat Rock requiring modernization and access management are: Greenville Highway from the traffic circle to the Fresh Market intersection, Shephard Street from Greenville Highway to Tracey Grove Road, intersection improvements on US 176, and intersection improvements from State Street between Hebron Road and Kanuga Road. Projects on the list located within Flat Rock are Greenville Highway from West Blue Ridge Road to Little River Road for possible left turn lanes, Erkwood Drive between Kanuga Road and Greenville Highway, and West Blue Ridge Road between Greenville Highway and Roper Road.

**Old Business - None**

**New Business**

7. FY 2018-2019 Audit Contract – Carl E. Shaw, CPA – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported Carl E. Shaw has prepared a letter of engagement to perform audit services for the village for a fee of \$12,000.00. Mr. Weedman made a motion to appoint Carl E. Shaw, CPA, to perform audit services for the 2018-2019 fiscal year, and to authorize Mayor Staton to sign the engagement letter. The motion was seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote was unanimous, motion carried. Mr. Duncan Fraser stated the cost to perform audit services for the Park Foundation is \$5,000.00.

**Other Business**

8. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Posey mentioned the Planning Board will be meeting in June, at which time the need and subject matters of a survey of Flat Rock citizens will be discussed. The annual ice cream social will be held June 1, 2019, with no raindate. She asked for volunteers for the event.

Council Member Brown reported a successful Shred Day was held. Because some people taking advantage of the event brought more than the three boxes of papers allowed, some patrons were later turned away because the truck was filled to capacity. A prescription drug drop-off and the collection of canned goods and hygiene products for IAM were included in the event.

**Public Comments –**

Ms. Anne Coletta, Mr. Ted Etherington and Mr. Dennis Flanagan made comments regarding proposed transportation projects within Flat Rock, signs on Greenville Highway, and preserving historic Flat Rock, respectively.

**Adjournment**

With no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

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Michelle Parker, CMC  
Village Clerk

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Robert V. Staton  
Mayor