

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM**  
**AUGUST 10, 2017**  
**9:30 A.M.**

Mayor Staton presided over the August 10, 2017, council meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Brown, Coletta, Dockendorf, Gooch, and Jamerson, and Village Clerk Parker. Village Administrator Boleman was not present.

**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, Appointments to Planning Board and Board of Adjustment – Council Member Gooch* was added to the agenda. With no further changes, Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Council Member Dockendorf reported, with regard to the Boyd Drive bridge replacement, the State Historic Board met earlier this week and determined any new bridge design from NCDOT would not interfere with Flat Rock's designation as a historic district, essentially allowing NCDOT to move forward with the planned bridge replacement without objection from that body. He stated notices were prematurely sent to three property owners that a right of way agreement must be negotiated within a time certain, or they would face a taking of such right of way by eminent domain. Mr. Dockendorf has spoken with Mr. Bryan Birch, head of NCDOT Division 14, and Mr. Birch agrees NCDOT has not sufficiently listened to the residents. Mr. Birch has agreed to meet on Wednesday, August 16, 2017, at 10:30 a.m. in the Highlander Room with five Flat Rock Forest-Trenholm Woods representatives, Council Member Gooch (a Flat Rock Forest resident), Council Member Dockendorf, and a Historic Flat Rock representative, to air concerns by all parties.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Pirog expressed concerns about the size of the bridge and the environment that they feel will be adversely affected by the proposed bridge.

**Consent Agenda**

The consent agenda consisted of the following:

- July 5, 2017 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
- July 13, 2017 – Council Meeting Minutes
- Resolution No. 208 – A Resolution Amending the Rules for the Use and Occupancy of, and Conduct of Persons in, the Park at Flat Rock

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coletta and carried on a unanimous vote.

### **Special Reports**

2. Administration – Village Administrator Boleman

In Ms. Boleman's absence, Mayor Staton advised the usual reports from the Village Administrator will be made available after her return to the office.

3. Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman

Vice Mayor Weedman reported we have received the tax file from the County, and property taxes will be billed when we complete implementation of the new computer software.

4. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown gave an update on the following:

Nature Center - progressing with completion of the Nature Center, staining the concrete floors next week, and working on the interior signage; hoping within a couple of weeks to bring to Council a completed frame and storyboard.

Playground - Dunkin FitzSimons within the next week will install a shade shelter close to the playground. A safety wall will be installed on top of the playground berm.

Currently working on trail drainage problems near Highland Golf Villas.

Council Member Brown then turned it over to Maureen Adams, who reported the Foundation has received notification of a \$30,000.00 gift to sponsor the remaining core set of trails, with no desire to put a name on those trails but requested to be allowed to name the pond. The donor wants to create around the pond a reflective sense of place, no personal names, to place benches around the pond with plaques with sentiments. She stated this is a different way of naming opportunities that the Park Commission has approved. She has accepted the gift and is in the process of signing a gift acceptance agreement with the donor.

Council Member Brown presented a spreadsheet showing final costs for completion of all trails,

including new trails, and additional trail work for an estimated cost of \$263,414.00. The Foundation has been receiving donations for a trails campaign with a goal to raise \$150,000.00 by September 3, 2017. The Foundation will match that amount with funds received from the Eppler estate, for a total of \$300,000.00 to complete the trails. Construction of trails *J* and *I* are included in the FY 2017/18 budget. In order to complete all the trails, a FY 2017/18 budget amendment of \$200,000.00 will be required.

After discussions, Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to appropriate \$265,000.00 for completion of the trails and any additional work shown on the spreadsheet, seconded by Council Member Brown. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to amend the budget in the amount of \$200,000.00 in the capital project fund to complete the trail system, seconded by Council Member Jamerson. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Council complimented the Park Foundation on their hard work.

5. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

None beyond the earlier discussion of the trails fundraising campaign.

6. Transportation Update – Council Member Dockendorf

Council Member Dockendorf spoke about the importance of our relationship with NCDOT with respect to the Boyd Drive bridge replacement, Highland Lake Road improvement, and Kanuga Road projects. He feels council should have a unified position on the Highland Lake Road improvement project. He proposes prior to the September 12, 2017, public meeting regarding Highland Lake at the City's Operations Center, that council meet to discuss issues with the Highland Lake Road project (e.g., multi-use path, new entrance, and the number of trees that will be affected). He suggested that the Park Commission also be involved. Council agreed to have a special meeting prior to the September 12, 2017, meeting. Administrator Boleman will schedule the meeting.

Council Member Dockendorf asked for comments from Council on the Kanuga Road widening project to pass on to NCDOT.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business**

7. Appointments to Planning Board and Board of Adjustment – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch reported Park Rayfield and Wendy Beville have chosen not to serve another term on the Planning Board. Mr. Gooch made a motion to appoint Dale Bartlett and Judy Katz to three-year terms on the Planning Board, and to reappoint Michael Thompson to serve a three-year term on the Planning Board, such terms ending August 13, 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brown and carried on a unanimous vote. Mr. Gooch also advised that Dennis Maloy will serve as Chairman of the Planning Board.

Council Member Gooch reported that Carol Hargis has chosen not to serve another term as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Gooch made a motion to appoint Denise Cumbee Long as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment for a three-year term, and to reappoint Clyde Allen to a three-year term as a member of the Board of Adjustment, both terms ending August 13, 2020. The motion was seconded by Council Member Brown and carried on a unanimous vote.

**Other Business**

7. Mayor - Council Reports

Council Member Coletta reported that the neighbors with properties in the village that adjoin the mobile home park on Rutledge Drive, where septic systems have failed, are encouraged that Hendersonville Water and Sewer Department officials have responded positively to bringing city sewer service to the park. The estimated cost of \$2,000,000.00 to install such service will be paid jointly by the park owner and the city department.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported Council gave the Tax Collector authorization to start foreclosure proceedings for a property in Staton Woods. The notification letter is ready to be sent to Sharon Alexander, Village Attorney, then to the property owner.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported the electric vehicle charging station has been installed. Mr. Steve Jamerson reported Brightfield is scheduled to make a final inspection this morning, after which Duke Energy will install the transformer. The charging station should be completed and operational within a few weeks. Vice Mayor Weedman has prepared a press release to be sent to the local newspapers, and a ribbon cutting will be scheduled for a later date.

Vice Mayor Weedman is continuing to work on the virtual private network for the Park Commission to be able to access park documents remotely.

Council Member Jamerson has arranged for treatment of hemlock trees within the village next spring. She stated we are progressing with the installation of new computer software from Edmunds & Associates.

Mayor Staton mentioned he has received an invitation for Flat Rock to participate in the annual Apple Festival opening ceremonies and Labor Day parade. No interest was expressed.

**Public Comments**

A resident expressed appreciation for Council's adopting the Boyd Drive bridge resolution and spoke about the comparisons between the Berea Church Road bridge currently under construction and the planned Boyd Drive bridge replacement.

Residents spoke about the positive impact and need of greenways within Flat Rock and particularly to the park.

**Adjournment**

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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Michelle Parker, CMC  
Village Clerk

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Robert V. Staton  
Mayor