

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
ASSEMBLY ROOM
DECEMBER 10, 2015
9:30 AM**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Staton presided over the council meeting of December 10, 2015, at 9:30 a.m., in the Assembly Room of the Village Hall. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman and Council Members Chandler, Coletta, Farr, Gooch and Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Boleman.

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

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Council Member Chandler. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Public Comments – None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Member Chandler made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of the following;

- November 2, 2015 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
- November 12, 2015 – Council Meeting Minutes
- Resolution No. 200, Accepting the Results of the November 3, 2015, Municipal Election
- Appointments to Greenways Committee, each for a term not to exceed three years, beginning December 1, 2015: Pete Bonesteel, Jay Fitzpatrick, Terry Hicks, Ed Lastein, and Bill Warner
- Appointment of Dennis Maloy to Planning Board for a term ending August 13, 2016
- Appointment of outgoing Council Member Don Farr to Park Advisory Board as Chairman
- 2015 Discoveries and Releases

The motion was seconded by Council Member Gooch and carried on a unanimous vote.

Council Organization

2. Oath of Office for Mayor – Tommy Thompson, Chairman, Henderson County Board of Commissioners

Chairman Tommy Thompson administered the oath of office to Mayor Robert V. Staton.

3. Oath of Office for Council Members – Tommy Thompson, Chairman, HCBC

Chairman Tommy Thompson administered the oath of office to Council Member Nick Weedman for District 1, Council Member Ginger Brown for District 2, and Council Member John Dockendorf for District 3.

4. Vice Mayor Appointment – Term: December 2015 – December 2016 – Mayor Staton

Council Member Gooch moved to appoint Council Member Weedman as Vice Mayor, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

5. Council appointments - Budget Officer, Finance Officer, Deputy Finance Officer – Mayor Staton

Council Member Gooch moved to appoint Council Member Jamerson as the Budget Officer and the Deputy Finance Officer, and Council Member Weedman as the Finance Officer. The motion was seconded by Council Member Coletta and carried on a unanimous vote.

6. Appointments to Historic Landmarks Commission – Mayor Staton

Mayor Staton advised that he appointed Council Members Gooch and Jamerson to the Historic Landmarks Commission, and appointed Council Member Coletta as chairman of the commission.

7. Oversight Responsibilities

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to adopt the oversight responsibilities set out in lists reviewed by the Council Members. The motion was seconded by Council Member Jamerson and carried on a unanimous vote.

8. Resolution No. 201, Establishing a January – December 2016 Schedule of Public Meetings & Holidays – Mayor Staton

Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 201, seconded by Council member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

9. Resolution No. 202, Waiving Compensation for the Mayor and Council Members – Mayor Staton

Council Member Coletta made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 202, seconded by Council Member Jamerson. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Special Reports

10. Administration – Village Administrator Boleman

Ms. Boleman reviewed the November 2015 zoning report dated December 9, 2015, and Village Administrator report dated December 10, 2015 (see attached reports).

11. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown gave an update on the Pavilion:

Footings and slab have been formed.

Reinforcement steel bars and conduits are in place.

Pre-pour inspection has been made by Henderson County.

Concrete will be poured Friday and Saturday.

Mill Creek will start cutting the beams this week. Steve Jamerson expects the beams will be delivered in two weeks. Pavilion will be assembled and erected as soon as beams are delivered.

Council Member Brown mentioned all that is left to be done with the pavilion is the selection of wood finish and the ordering of garage and storage doors.

Council Member Brown mentioned a group of residents for the past year has worked on cataloging the flora and fauna at the park. They have completed their work and have turned over their data to the flora and fauna ad hoc committee formed by Council Member Coletta to review the information. After review the committee came up with two immediate projects: (1) identify and eradicate invasive plant species, and (2) develop an educational program.

Duncan FitzSimons is continuing to battle the geese in the park. After an incident with a bench, the benches are in the process of being secured to the ground.

Council Member Dockendorf gave an update on the playground:

Grading that was to have been completed in October continues after off and on weather delays.

Handicap ramp to the top of the berm has been installed.

Tube and climbing wall has been built.

Currently doing grading for phase II for the tiny tot area or whatever the area may be used for in the future.

Council Member Dockendorf stated that, by the end of next week, weather permitting, Trace & Company will complete the grading. The contract with BeanStalk has been signed, and it is anticipated that posts will be installed before the end of the year and completion of the playground will occur by May 1, 2016, or possibly sooner.

12. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch reported the Foundation has received a \$20,000.00 grant from the Community Foundation for the pavilion. Approximately three thousand holiday cards were mailed. He mentioned the donor event that is scheduled in February sponsored by Highland Lake. The Foundation thanked Council for their 100 percent support in 2015. Council Member Gooch thanked Maureen Adams and Myra Grant for their hard work in 2015; the year was a huge success in fundraising. Maureen Adams oversaw the installation of two trail benches donated by Tom and Linda Sauter.

13. Tax Report

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of December 9, 2015, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 66.04 percent, with \$612,634.04 total collected (see attached report dated December 9, 2015).

Old Business - None

New Business – None

Other Business

14. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Coletta thanked Council Member Gooch for attending the December 9, 2015, Land of Sky Regional Council meeting in her absence. She reported there had been discussion on how the flora and fauna ad hoc committee fits into the overall process, with the determination that when the committee has an idea they pass it through the Park Advisory Board before any action is taken.

On December 9 Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Member Gooch, and Administrator Boleman attended an E-recording seminar sponsored by the Henderson County Register of Deeds. Mr. Weedman reported Henderson County is in the process of implementing a program where they will accept electronic submission of documents for recording. He feels we should move forward in this direction.

Council Member Dockendorf reported he is the new NCDOT liaison. There were discussions of a couple of traffic changes that are scheduled in the future: (1) traffic circle at Erkwood and NC 225 in 2018, and (2) update of Highland Lake Road, possibly with turning lanes, and making it a multi-use path road, but not scheduled to begin for five or more years.

Council Member Dockendorf is also the liaison with Henderson County Greenways, an unofficial group. He reported Commissioner Grady Hawkins is supporting a connection of an existing greenway from Berkley Park to Jackson Park. Mr. Hawkins has authorized a study of a greenway from Jackson Park to Blue Ridge Community College, which could include a connection to The Park at Flat Rock.

Council Member Jamerson stated the Village will participate in *America in Bloom* in 2016.

Vice Mayor Weedman advised he has invited Mr. Chuck Edwards, a candidate for the North Carolina Senate seat to be vacated by Sen. Tom Apodaca, to the January 4, 2016, agenda meeting.

Mayor Staton reported the Greenways Committee may have an organizational meeting in January to discuss the terms of the five reappointed members. Greenways Committee will at a later date come to Council with those terms for endorsement.

Public Comments

Jimmy Chandler mentioned the current issue of Forbes magazine has profiled Hendersonville Lightening as the future of local print journalism.

Terry Hicks spoke about the closing of Middleton Road between Crail Farm Road and Old Towne Way. He was told the Village Council was aware of the proposed closing and had adopted a resolution in support of it.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:52 a.m., with no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor