

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM**  
**JULY 14, 2016**

**Call to Order**

Vice Mayor Weedman presided over the Council meeting on July 14, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Vice Mayor Weedman were Council Members Coletta, Dockendorf, Gooch and Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Boleman. Mayor Staton and Council Member Brown were not present.

**Moment of Silent Meditation/Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Agenda Approval/Changes**

Under *Special Reports, Item #5 – Tax Report – Vice Mayor Weedman* was removed from the agenda. Council Member Coletta made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, and the motion was seconded by Council Member Gooch. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

**Public Comments** – None

**Consent Agenda**

1. The consent agenda consisted of the following;
  - May 31, 2016 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
  - May 31, 2016 – Budget Workshop Minutes
  - June 2, 2016 – Budget Workshop Minutes
  - June 9, 2016 – Council Meeting Minutes
  - FY 2015/2016 Tax Settlement

Council Member Jamerson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Dockendorf and carried on a unanimous vote.

**Special Reports**

2. Administration – Village Administrator Boleman

Ms. Boleman reviewed the June 2016 zoning report dated July 5, 2016, and the Village Administrator report dated July 14, 2016 (see attached reports).

Ms. Boleman mentioned that Joe Crowell is building a new spec house in Dunroy that is not included in the zoning report. In addition, a zoning issue on Robert E. Lee Drive has arisen as a result of illegal parking in the road that hinders traffic flow, which would be a problem for access by emergency vehicles. She has given notice to the owners of the rental property of the action of their tenants.

Ms. Boleman also advised that the Book Exchange will be vacating the old post office building around September 10, 2016. She will contact Sign Crafters about changing the signs at the entrance to Village Center Drive and at the walkway from the parking lot to the Village Hall for the removal of references to the Book Exchange.

3. Park Update – Council Member Brown

In Council Member Brown's absence, Don Farr reported the Park Commission has reviewed and evaluated a report of a sound study conducted on June 18, 2016, between 12 noon and 6 p.m., by Blue Ridge Research and Consulting, LLC at three locations, the playground and two adjacent Highland Golf Villas residences, with the presence of up to 23 children at the playground. The residential sound levels were most commonly around 45DB; 65DB is the threshold of intrusive noise. Two options mentioned in the report that could possibly reduce, but not eliminate, sounds from the playground and its environs are: (1) capping/filling the tunnel, or installing a sound barrier wall at the eastern entrance to the tunnel; and (2) relocation of a picnic table currently located between the playground and adjacent residences.

Mr. Farr stated the Park Commission, having accepted the report's finding that the noise level from the playground does not reach the threshold for intrusiveness, and finding that the suggested remedies would have little, if any, effect on the reduction of noise from the playground, by a vote of five to one, recommends not to implement any of such remedies.

The need for a security gate at the entrance to the park was discussed, with information that a single-arm gate could be installed at an estimated cost of less than \$20,000.00. Although there was a consensus that the gate should be installed, because of the absence of Mayor Staton and Council Member Brown, further action on the matter was deferred.

Steve Jamerson reported he has discussed the construction of the Quiet Place with the contractor and will submit cost information to Council at a later date for authorization to proceed.

Mr. Farr reported the Park Commission has reviewed and unanimously approved the updated park master plan prepared by Ed Lastein. Mr. Farr will at a later date provide Council with copies of the plan, together with a list of the amenities it depicts, for its review and adoption.

Council Member Jamerson asked about finishing up the perimeter trail. Mr. Farr reported the engineering work is coming to Ed Lastein, who plans to solicit bids in July or August for an August construction start and a September completion.

Mr. Farr reported a pine tree is down in the reforested area by the lily pad pond. Dunkin FitzSimons feels the heavy equipment required to remove the tree would damage the reforested area, and he recommends that the downed tree be left there for the time being and dealt with later.

Mr. Farr stated the Park Foundation needs from Ed Lastein, Steve Jamerson, and himself cost estimates for amenities to be built in future years in order to promote those amenities. Mr. Lastein suggests hiring someone to do the design and engineering work now in order to have more nearly accurate cost estimates for each proposed amenity.

4. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch reported he had received a letter from Terry Hicks, Secretary of the Flat Rock Park and Recreation Foundation, that stated the Foundation's board has endorsed the following and requests its approval by the Village Council:

An anonymous donor has completed a \$75,000.00 pledge for the naming of the Pavilion. The donor requests that the following wording be considered:

“Robert V. Staton Pavilion”

“This pavilion for all to enjoy, for families to gather, for music to be heard is dedicated to the leadership and work of Mayor Robert V. Staton by an anonymous donor with the unanimous concurrence of the Flat Rock Village Council, July 2016.”

Council Member Gooch made a motion to accept this request, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Council Member Gooch gave an update on the following;

- Foundation has transferred to the Village for completed projects in the Park donor funds totaling \$273,172.00.
- Foundation board elected the following officers for the term July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017: Duncan Fraser – President/Chairperson  
Judy Petersen – Vice President/Vice Chairperson  
Jan Egolf – Treasurer  
Terry Hicks – Secretary
- Board orientation has been conducted for four new members: Alicia Hearne, Bob Lane, Dennis Flanagan and Paige Willms.
- Grant opportunities include: Wells Fargo for Nature Center, application to be submitted by August 1, 2016; funding from NC Connect/\$2 billion bond recently passed by voters -

applications due December 2016. Funds for local parks to be administered by PARTF – only for services for handicapped children and veterans. Myra will attend a workshop on July 20, 2016, to learn more about types of projects eligible for funding.

- Foundation board adopted a resolution regarding the naming of the Pavilion for Robert V. Staton. Tentative date for dedication in October. The anonymous donor contributed \$75,000.00 to honor Robert Staton. The resolution asks Council's concurrence in the naming of this amenity.
- Received a gift for naming of trail segment "D" from David Keierleber
- Reported to Foundation that a potential gift of \$5,000.00 - \$7,000.00 for pollinator garden was withdrawn
- Bryan Playground dedication will be July 16, 2016, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.
- As of June 30, 2016, Foundation assets total \$508,949.81 (including \$97,811.00 in pledges yet to be paid).

Mr. Duncan Fraser presented a Flat Rock Park and Recreation Foundation financial statement as of June 30, 2016, dated July 14, 2016 (see attached report).

**Old Business** – None

**New Business** – None

**Other Business**

5. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Dockendorf mentioned a friend who supervises playgrounds for the City of Boston visited the playground at the park, and made highly complimentary remarks about our playground.

Mr. Dockendorf mentioned NCDOT will hold a public hearing Tuesday, July 19, 2016, at 5:00 p.m, at the Village Hall to discuss the Boyd Drive bridge replacement.

Mr. Dockendorf mentioned the DOT bike and pedestrian planning grant has been signed, and a planning committee will begin its work in September. He asked Council to be thinking of priorities for the plan. He feels a major priority for the Village is linking the Village Hall and Carl Sandburg to the Park. There are \$3.5 million unclaimed bike/pedestrian funds available.

Council Member Gooch thanked Council for the \$25,000.00 contribution to the Flat Rock Playhouse.

Vice Mayor Weedman reported Duke Energy has given the Village authorization to make the application for the electric vehicle charging station. The cost is \$5,000.00 per station, and the

Village plans to have two stations. He will forward the information to Council to review. Vice Mayor Weedman asked Administrator Boleman to proceed with an application for the grant.

**Public Comments** – None

**Adjournment**

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

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Michelle Parker, CMC  
Village Clerk

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Nick Weedman  
Vice Mayor