

**MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING
ASSEMBLY ROOM
AUGUST 11, 2016**

Call to Order

Mayor Staton presided over the Council meeting on August 11, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman and Council Members Brown, Coletta, Gooch, and Jamerson, and Village Clerk Parker. Village Administrator Boleman and Council Member Dockendorf were 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

Council Member Jamerson made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, and the motion was seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Public Comments – None

Consent Agenda

1. The consent agenda consisted of the following;
 - July 5, 2016 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
 - July 14, 2016 – Council Meeting Minutes
 - Appointment of Chip Sherer to the Planning Board for a term ending August 13, 2019
 - Appointment of Cam Boyd and Jim Kisner as members of the Board of Adjustment, and appointment of Jimmy Chandler as an alternate member of the Board of Adjustment, each for a term ending August 13, 2019

Council Member Gooch 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

Village Administrator Boleman was not present to review, the July 2016 zoning report dated August 9, 2016, and the Village Administrator report dated August 11, 2016 (see attached reports), which were available for review in the council member packets.

3. Park Update – Council Member Brown

Council Member Brown noted there were residents of Highland Golf Villas in attendance at this meeting. Ms. Brown reported that, in a previous meeting, Council had discussed the sound report prepared by Blue Ridge Research and Consulting, LLC, an acoustic engineering firm, and decided it would further investigate what, if anything, can be done to mitigate the sound from the playground. The engineering firm stated the amount of sound coming from the playground was not intrusive, but did suggest several actions that could be taken in an effort to reduce the volume of noise, which reduction in any event would be minimal. Council had asked the Park Commission to gather information about a sound barrier at the end of the tunnel. Don Farr, Chairman of the Park Commission, met with an engineer who suggested installing an 8-foot acoustic wall using acoustic absorbent material for a cost of \$3,505.05 for the wall, plus \$2,500.00 for installation, for a total of about \$6,000.00. The engineering firm opined that such improvement would not make a significant difference. Mr. Farr presented pictures of a wall for review. Ms. Brown suggested the installation of additional landscaping as an alternative, and moving picnic tables away from the vicinity of HGV homes. Council Member Coletta agreed with moving the picnic tables but expressed concerns about the appearance of the wall and skepticism as to its effect.

Mayor Staton stated the suggestion of moving the playground structure is not a possibility. He explained the reasons for placement of the playground structure in its current location, which included the site's proximity to parking and to restrooms. The proposed playground is much larger than the area where the current structure is located, and additional features are planned for the larger area. Of the 67 acres of park land, two-thirds of the property is in the floodplain where no structures can be built. The north end of the park is in wetlands, and nothing can be built in the wetland areas except for observation stations on higher ground.

Residents of Highland Golf Villas commented on their experiences with noise from the park, especially the playground, and voiced other concerns about after-hours use of the park, heavy traffic on Highland Golf Drive, and future development of the park and its perceived impact on their community. Ms. Cathy Easterbrook, a resident, suggested closing off the ends of the tunnel to see if the noise from the tunnel is the main issue, and if the noise level would decrease. Others suggested that the only way to reduce the noise intrusion into their neighborhood would be to move the playground structure to another site within the park. Council agreed to close the tunnel for two weeks and then receive feedback from the residents as to any reduction in the noise level, before further consideration of investing in a sound barrier wall. Although it had been reported earlier that no such site is available for relocation of the structure, Council also agreed to investigate further removal to another site within the park and the cost of such removal.

At 10:40 a.m., a short break was taken. The meeting reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Mr. Farr presented and reviewed the proposed park master plan prepared by Ed Lastein, and discussed existing and planned or proposed amenities, most of which had not changed as to numbers and locations from the preliminary plan previously approved by the Council. Mr. Farr stated the Park Commission recommends approval of the plan as presented. It was suggested that the picnic area adjacent to the playground and close to HGV be removed from the master plan, with which Council agreed. Vice Mayor Weedman, who had not previously seen the proposed plan, asked that action on the plan be deferred to the next meeting to give him time to review it. The proposed master plan will be discussed again at the August 29, 2016, agenda meeting, at which time action on the plan may be taken by the Council.

4. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch gave an update on the following:

- Major donors will be asked to participate in a survey about the Park Foundation.
- Flat Rock Park and Recreation Foundation financial statement as of June 30, 2016, dated August 4, 2016 (see attached report) was presented.
- Pavilion dedication honoring Mayor Robert V. Staton will be Saturday, September 10, 2016, from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, with entertainment and refreshments provided.
- Contributions totaling \$2,725.00 have been received in memory of Ed Lastein.
- A grant request of \$21,425.00 has been submitted to Wells Fargo.

Old Business – None

New Business – None

Other Business

5. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Jamerson stated a budget amendment will be prepared at a later date for costs attributable to the pavilion, playground, and welcome center, all completed earlier, and paid in the current fiscal year.

Mayor Staton reported Ed Lastein's memorial service will be Friday, August 26, 2016, at 11:00 a.m. at Grace Lutheran Church, 1246 6th Avenue West, Hendersonville.

Public Comments – None

Adjournment

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor