

**MINUTES**  
**VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK COUNCIL MEETING**  
**ASSEMBLY ROOM – VIA ZOOM**  
**SEPTEMBER 10, 2020**  
**9:30 A.M.**

Mayor Weedman presided over the September 10, 2020, council meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Weedman were Vice Mayor Jamerson, Council Members Carpenter, Coletta, Dethero, Gooch and Posey, Village Clerk Parker and Village Administrator Christie.

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

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

**Public Comments** – Village Clerk Parker verified that she had not received any public comments via email.

**Agenda Approval/Changes**

There were no additions/deletions to the agenda.

**Consent Agenda**

1. The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:
  - August 3, 2020 – Agenda Workshop Minutes
  - August 13, 2020 – Council Meeting Minutes

Council Member Carpenter made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, seconded by Council Member Posey. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

**Special Reports**

2. Administration – Village Administrator Christie

Administrator Christie reviewed the August 2020 zoning report dated September 2, 2020, and the Village Administrator report dated September 2, 2020 (see attached reports).

3. Park Update – Council Member Carpenter

Council Member Carpenter gave the following update:

Park Commission met on August 27, 2020. At the meeting, the proposal for two arbors at the existing pollinator garden entrance walkways was approved. The proposal was presented and approved by Council at the August 31, 2020, agenda meeting.

The Park Commission approved the addition of two picnic tables requested by Park Ranger John Wilkerson, and the funds have already been allocated in the budget.

According to the ordinance that created the Park Commission, the board elected as Vice Chair Pam Tiles and as Recording Secretary John Wilkerson, but still needs to officially elect a Secretary. Mrs. Sally Boyd, not present at the meeting, was unofficially elected as Secretary, but Chairman Matt Toner will follow up with her on that.

The Bryan Playground was reopened at 5:30 p.m., Friday, September 4, 2020. The playground had been closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Council Member Carpenter reported an art donation “Big Red Dog” has been received through the Flat Rock Park Foundation for Village Council’s consideration for approval. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to approve the acceptance of the “Big Red Dog” donation on behalf of the Park Commission, seconded by Council Member Posey. After discussions, the motion carries a 5-nay, 1-yes vote, and the motion failed. Duncan Fraser of the Park Foundation will notify the donor.

A Park Workshop meeting will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2020, following the regular council meeting.

4. Foundation Update – Council Member Gooch

Council Member Gooch reported since April 2020 the Foundation has raised \$14,000, with an additional \$10,000 in pledges.

**Pardee in the Park** - free YOGA program has over 50 attendees participating (rotating out), with new yoga participants each week, and still requires preregistration.

**Kids in Parks** – Will not be ready by October 10, 2020; working with Milton and team to get new dates.

**Muddy Boots** – Wendy Beville and “Gina” are starting plant identification

**Sit. Step. Sing** – Moving forward and hoping to launch end of September (through October); working with Pat on language – will not need a formal MOU, Gift in Kind (Debra Saafeld)

**Pumpkin Sale** – Hilton and Tracey will discuss logistics this week; date confirmed for October 10, 2020.

**WAG Store** in Hendersonville has reached out and wants to coordinate a Park fundraiser with the Park – connecting next 2 weeks.

Mr. Duncan Fraser mentioned October 10, 2020, is the Pumpkin sale in the Park. Friends of the Park program is underway and approaching 100 percent participation by board members of the Foundation. Council members are encouraged to participate in the program.

5. Transportation Update – Council Member Coletta

- The September Henderson County TAC meeting has been cancelled
- NCDOT project dates:
  - North Highland Lake Road project to begin in February 2021. The cost of the project has increased from an initial estimate of \$2.6 million to \$5.5 million.
  - Kanuga Road project has been delayed until 2029.
- The French Broad River MPO has scheduled an additional meeting for September 22, 2020, so that a NCDOT representative from the western regional area can explain the NCDOT funding issues.

6. Tax Report – Mayor Weedman

Mayor Weedman reported that, as of September 9, 2020, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 17.3 percent with \$215,710 total collected (see attached report).

**Old Business**

**New Business**

7. Artwork in the Park Guidelines – Council Member Carpenter

Village Council has previously received copies of the Guidelines for Artwork in the Park, created by Council Member Carpenter and Park Commission Chair Matt Toner, which has been reviewed by the Park Commission and the Flat Rock Park & Recreation Foundation. Council Member Carpenter made a motion to adopt the guidelines for artwork donations as recommended by the Park Commission, seconded by Vice Mayor Jamerson. There were concerns expressed as to whether Council wants to allow art in the park on such a contentious subject. Council needs to determine criteria of the artwork, which can be considered on a case by case basis. After discussions, the motion carried a 5-yay, 1-nay vote to adopt the guidelines.

8. Park Foundation reinstatement appointments – Council Member Gooch

Mr. Duncan Fraser made a request for reappointments of three board members terms that expired June 30, 2020. Council Member Gooch made a motion to reappoint Jim Olson – Secretary, Bill Hale – Treasurer, and Eleanor Mathews – Board Member, for 3-year terms expiring June 30, 2023, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The vote carried by unanimous vote.

9. Board term limits – Council Member Coletta

Council Member Coletta proposed term limits be instituted on certain village boards/commissions to ensure residents who wish to volunteer on any Village boards/commissions have an opportunity to do so. Those boards/commissions are:

Board of Adjustment

Historic Landmarks Commission

Park Commission

Planning Board

Any future board or commission that directly affects village policy

Instituting term limits not only lets those interested have an opportunity to serve the village but also provides a regular rotation of board/commission members and the chance to bring in different perspectives and types of experience.

Council Member Coletta made the proposed language motion that Appointees to the above listed commissions or boards are eligible to serve two consecutive three-year terms. Being appointed to fill an unexpired term of less than one year shall not be considered as one of the terms. A time-limited board member may only be re-appointed to the board or commission after a two-year hiatus. Board members currently serving at the time this amendment/motion is adopted shall be subject to this requirement. If a current member's term is a second term or longer, at the expiration of the member's current term, the member must wait the requisite two years before becoming eligible to serve again. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter.

Administrator Christie mentioned no other municipalities within the county have set term limits.

After discussions, Council Member Coletta deferred both motions (the second motion was never brought before Council Members) for the subject to be discussed at a later date.

Vice Mayor Jamerson read comments on imposing term limits on Village boards/commissions from Jimmy Chandler, Ron Davis, Jim Wert, Dave Bucher, Don Farr, and Bob Staton, all of whom served on various boards in previous years.

**Other Business**

10. Mayor – Council Reports

Council Member Coletta gave an update on the COVID-19 data from the Henderson County Public Health Department. North Carolina is currently under Phase 2.5, which should remain in place until October 2, 2020, but the Village is remaining at Phase 2 on mass gathering numbers (inside 10 people or fewer, outside 25 people or fewer). The park playgrounds are now open.

Council Member Dethero mentioned no action has been taken on the Halfway Tree Mobile Home Park sewer line system. Top Gun performed kudzu spraying on fourteen properties on August 17<sup>th</sup> & August 18<sup>th</sup>.

Council Member Posey mentioned Shred Day is scheduled for October 10, 2020, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this event will be the first for the year.

Vice Mayor Jamerson mentioned it will be the end of the year before meeting with First Citizens to discuss fees for Village accounts, but the accounts will remain fee free until end of the year.

Administrator Christie was seeking permission from Village Council regarding a request for installation of a temporary sign on Village Hall property from youcanvote.org, an organization whose purpose is to help people register to vote. Council gave permission with a 4-yay, 2-no vote.

**Public Comments** – None

**Adjournment**

With no further discussions, Council Member Gooch made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Council Member Coletta. The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

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Michelle Parker, CMC  
Village Clerk

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Nick Weedman  
Mayor