

MINUTES
VILLAGE OF FLAT ROCK AGENDA WORKSHOP
ASSEMBLY ROOM
OCTOBER 1, 2018
9:30 A.M.

Mayor Staton presided over the October 1, 2018, agenda meeting at 9:30 a.m. Those present in addition to Mayor Staton were Vice Mayor Weedman, Council Members Brown, Dockendorf, and Jamerson, Village Clerk Parker, and Village Administrator Christie. Council Members Gooch and Posey were not present.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Staton led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

A draft agenda for the October 11, 2018, council meeting was presented. Under *New Business – Item #7 – Sign Control Ordinance Amendments* was added to the agenda. Mayor Staton mentioned that the Council’s public comments rules provided for public comments at the beginning of each meeting and again at the end, but the second period at the end had been dispensed with in recent months. He asked if the Council wished to reinstate a second public comments at the end of each meeting or remain with public comments only at the beginning of the meeting. By consensus, Council agreed to return to the practice of having public comment at the beginning and again at the end of each monthly council meeting. *Public Comments* was added to the proposed agenda just prior to *Adjournment*. With no further changes to the agenda, Vice Mayor Weedman made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Jamerson. The vote was unanimous, motion carried.

Discussions:

Vice Mayor Weedman reported that, as of September 28, 2018, the current fiscal year tax collections are at 29 percent, with \$256,039.91 total collected (see attached report dated September 28, 2018).

Vice Mayor Weedman mentioned there is a business personal property account that was billed but is no longer in Flat Rock. The firm, Just Vino, closed its doors in 2016. Last year, we asked the Assessor to release this bill, but the request was refused. The assessor assumes the business remains active despite notification to the contrary. North Carolina law gives the governing body the ability to over-ride discoveries if the governing body has knowledge that the discoveries are incorrect. In an effort to purge our record of this delinquent account, which should not be pursued, we propose removing the account from our tax records for the current tax year. Accordingly, Mr. Weedman made a motion that the Village Council authorize the Tax Collector to remove the Just Vino account from her tax records for fiscal year 2018/2019, since Just Vino ceased business in Flat Rock prior to January 1, 2017. The authority for this motion is NCGS 105-321(k). The motion was seconded by Council Member Jamerson and carried on a unanimous vote.

Council Member Dockendorf reported that the first meeting of the Greenways Committee on September 21, 2018, was a successful meeting led by Vaughn & Melton Consultants. Council Member Jamerson asked about the greenway project being taken off the list at the last Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting. Mr. Dockendorf replied the greenway project is on the list, but Council

asked for no action to be taken on the project. He explained at the recent TAC meeting the county representatives put points on local projects, and Flat Rock stated we were not ready for points to be assigned to the project. She disagreed and felt that the decision should have been made by the Council.

I-26 project - Council Member Dockendorf reported over one billion dollars is going towards the I-26 project; right of way acquisitions will start as soon as 2019. The county was successful in having the beginning point of the project moved eastward from Exit 49, at Four Seasons Boulevard, to Exit 55 at the US 25/Greenville Highway connector. I-26 will be widened to three lanes in each direction from Exit 55 to Exit 44, the Fletcher/Mountain Home exit, and four lanes from Exit 44 to Asheville.

Shepherd Street/NC 225/Erkwood round-about – had been delayed for two reasons: (1) no bids were received originally, and (2) many utility lines require relocation. Now that bids have been received and a contractor has been selected, the project is moving forward.

Laurel Park's US 64 roundabouts – received opposition from Henderson County and residents. Laurel Park Council is adamant about having the roundabouts, one of which is outside town limits and may be eliminated at the county's request.

Highway 191 widening – Funding has been approved for widening from Mountain Road to Highway 280. Currently NCDOT is extending turning lanes into Rugby Middle School and West Henderson High School, neither of which is part of the 191 widening project.

Kanuga Road – a public meeting will be held October 30, 2018, at the City Operations Center on Williams Street, 4:00 – 7:00 p.m., to reveal the revised plans.

Administrator Christie reported the New Citizen Ceremony to be held at Carl Sandburg National Historic Home was cancelled due to weather. Shred Day is scheduled for October 13, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon. The next Planning Board meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2018, at 10:30 a.m., when plans for a minor subdivision will be reviewed. The implementation plan for the comprehensive plan will also be reviewed, with recommendations to the council for revisions expected to be forthcoming to Council soon.

Maureen Adams reported the Foundation will have a pumpkin sale at the park on October 13, 2018, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Proceeds will go towards the tot lot campaign.

With no further discussions, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Michelle Parker, CMC
Village Clerk

Robert V. Staton
Mayor