

TOWN OF BROADWAY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
MEETING
MINUTES
MAY 20, 2013

A scheduled meeting of the Board of Commissioners was held on Monday, May 20, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers, 102 East Lake Drive, Broadway, North Carolina.

Board members present were Mayor Donald Andrews, Commissioners Tommy Beal, Woody Beale, Jim Davis, and Lynne Green. Also, Town Manager Bob Stevens, Town Attorney Jimmy Love, and Town Clerk Laura Duval were present.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Andrews. The Mayor gave the invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Pro Tem Beal made the motion to accept the Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Woody Beale made the motion to accept the Minutes from the April Board Meeting as submitted. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Green. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Andrews presented the EDC Memo of Understanding for reorganization of the EDC. Mr. Donnie Oldham, President of the Lee County EDC, was available for questions. He stated it is the desire of the EDC Task Force that all local governing boards be in sync. Mayor Andrews explained the Chamber and EDC are combining under one umbrella. In the future a visitors/tourism center will branch off this. The public and private sector will be working together for economic development. The Mayor reported that Crystal Morphis, with Creative Solutions, has done an outstanding job in the interim. Mayor Andrews also believes this is a step forward that will bring dividends down the road. The Task Force is asking for the Board's commitment to support them. Financial funding will be discussed at a later date. Commissioner Green made the motion to adopt the EDC Memo of Understanding. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis. Motion carried unanimously.

Town Manager Stevens reviewed the budget message for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Mr. Stevens recommended the tax rate remain at \$.44 per \$100 of evaluation. In public forums and private meetings, it was discussed what losing one half of our share of the sales tax revenue would do to the budget. This loss would equate to a 12-14 cent increase in our property tax rate. Early on in budget discussions with the Town Board, it was felt that an increase of that size would not be prudent and that cuts needed to be explored.

This budget has approximately \$61,000 in cuts from 2012-2013 F/Y expenditures or a 7% decrease. These cuts come through reducing one full-time Public Works employee to part time, changing health insurance providers, and numerous other cuts to various departments. Even with a 7% reduction in the budget, reduction in the sales tax revenue cannot be made up. We have been able to arrange interlocal agreements with Lee County that will pay us for

services that we are providing to the Sheriff's Department but heretofore, have not been reimbursed. The Town will be receiving \$60,000 for helping the Sheriff's Department with aid outside the Town Limits as well as \$15,000 for helping with animal control calls inside the Town Limits. With this additional revenue, increasing property tax can be avoided.

This coming year the Town will undergo several changes with solid waste. Yard debris and household solid waste will continue to be picked up once a month. We also bid out our household garbage contract and will be changing to Waste Industries as our contractor. We will also start curbside recycling, which will be picked up every other week. A 96 gallon recycling cart will be provided in addition to the regular garbage cart. Recycling will add a cost to the monthly water bill with the solid waste fee, increasing from \$9.80 monthly to \$11.20 monthly.

The water and sewer budget will increase by \$14,000 due to increased test schedules and equipment purchases. Mr. Stevens recommended maintaining water and sewer rates at the present levels. If in future years expenses continue to grow, an increase may have to be investigated.

Mr. Stevens presented the Annual Budget Ordinance for 2013-2014. Under General Fund Expenses: Governing Body increased \$3,925. Administration decreased \$1,584. Finance increased \$3,403. Maintenance decreased \$31,990. Police decreased \$17,351. Special Appropriations decreased \$17,000. Total Expenditures for General Fund equal \$810,973. Water & Sewer Expenditures have increased \$14,037 for a total of \$370,500. The total budget for 2013-2014 is \$1,181,473.

Mayor Pro Tem Beal made the motion to open the public hearing on the proposed budget for 2013-2014. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woody Beale. Motion carried unanimously. No comments were made. Mayor Andrews closed the public hearing.

Mayor Andrews discussed the commissioner vacancy due to the passing of Commissioner Welch. According to research, the Board is not required to appoint a replacement to fill the vacancy. The Board was in agreement to let the citizens decide in the election process. Commissioner Davis made the motion to allow the citizens to determine the candidate who fills the two year term by vote in the November election. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Beal. Motion carried unanimously.

Martin & Starnes sent a SAS 99 Form to each Town Board member. They are in the process of conducting the planning and interim stage of the Town's June 30, 2013 audit. If any commissioner has concerns regarding fraud, they should complete the SAS 99 Form and return it to the auditors.

Town Manager Stevens reviewed three interlocal agreements with Lee County. Tax collection has gone up from 1% to 1.5% of collections. The Town could not collect taxes at a rate this low. Broadway has a 97% collection rate on property taxes and a 90% collection rate on vehicles. In August or September vehicle tax will have to be paid at the DMV when purchasing tags. It was supposed to become effective earlier, but there is a problem with computer interfacing. When this method is in place, tax collections should improve.

In an interlocal agreement between the Sheriff's Department and the Police Department, the County will pay the Town \$60,000 for supplemental mutual aid assistance outside the Town Limits. This agreement is for a one-year term but will automatically renew unless terminated by one of the parties. No limit is imposed but it is understood that the Police Department will assist

with areas near the Town Limits such as Woodland Trails, Dixie Farm, and Buckhorn. The Town will use its own patrol cars.

The third interlocal agreement relates to animal control. The County will pay the Town \$15,000 for handling animal control issues with the exception of vicious animals. The Town has no equipment or facilities to house or transport vicious animals.

Mayor Pro Tem Beal made the motion to adopt the three interlocal agreements with the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woody Beale. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Green made the motion to accept the Financial Statements as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Woody Beale. Motion carried unanimously.

During Commissioner Comments, Commissioner Woody Beale shared reflections about Commissioner Welch. She always talked about the Town, and she will be greatly missed. He asked that we keep her family in our prayers.

Mayor Pro Tem Beal stated he appreciated the Town Manager's hard work on the budget, and he did a good job. The Mayor Pro Tem shared thoughts about Commissioner Welch. She was able to get people motivated and involved, and she really loved this Town. Broadway has lost a good person and a valuable asset to our Town.

Commissioner Green stated she was very appreciative of her working relationship with Commissioner Welch and appreciated everything she did for the Town. She absolutely loved this Town, and it was her mission to do all that she could to make it better for everyone. Commissioner Green thanked the Town Manager and his staff for their work on the budget and for the great work they always do. She stated that the budget cuts will be felt, but she is glad taxes didn't have to be raised.

Commissioner Davis concurred that Commissioner Welch will be greatly missed.

Mayor Andrews also stated that Commissioner Welch will be missed. She always brought a different perspective and point of view to consider. The Mayor will miss his conversations with her because she was always honest. He reiterated that Commissioner loved the Town and loved the Board and was a champion for promoting the Town of Broadway. He reminded everyone to keep Carl, Wendy, Pait & Carrie Ellen in their thoughts and prayers.

According to DOT, we may lose Powell Fund money in the next two years and then it would increase the third year. They're devising different formulas for distributing funds.

At a previous meeting the Board adopted a resolution opposing Senate Bill 127. If the bill passed, the Town would no longer be a part of the Triangle J region. Lee County would be moved to the Charlotte region. Many revisions have been made, and Lee County is now in the Sandhills South Central Region with Bladen, Columbus, Robeson, Scotland, Sampson, Hoke, Cumberland, Moore, and Harnett Counties

There are three new businesses downtown: American Vintage (antique furniture), Terrific Treasures (consignment shop), and another beauty salon. Pop's Shakes & Cones has opened beside the Kangaroo. The Mayor encouraged everyone to support the new businesses so that they can prosper and bring more people to Town. Downtown Broadway does not have any vacant buildings now.

Under Manager Comments, Town Manager Stevens expressed that Commissioner Welch was a friend and a good commissioner and will be missed. As an English professor, she made sure the minutes were grammatically correct.

The opening date for Wal-Mart Express may have been extended to August rather than July.

The tractor purchased for Public Works has been delivered and is now in use.

Town Hall will be closed Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day.

The 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Budget will be presented for adoption at the June 24 meeting.

With no further business to come before the Board, Commissioner Woody Beale made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Beal. Motion carried unanimously to adjourn.

Donald F. Andrews
Mayor

Laura Duval
Town Clerk

