

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
AGENDA WORKSHOP
December 20, 2010

THE BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN held a special called meeting on Monday, December 20, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. in Meeting Room I of Town Hall, 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC, for the purpose of reviewing the agenda for the regular monthly meeting, which was rescheduled from December 13, 2010 to December 20, 2010, due to inclement weather.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bartlett called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following members present:

Mayor Carl R. Bartlett
Mayor pro tem Joan Brown
Alderman Ruth D. Brandon
Alderman Tim Rayburn
Alderman Carlos Showers
Alderman C. Michael Sobol

The following staff members were present:

Marcy Onieal, Town Manager
Darlene Whisenant, Town Clerk
Ron Sneed, Town Attorney
Anna Stearns, Administrative Assistant
Elizabeth Teague, Planning Director
Kevin Pressley, Police Chief
Steve Jones, Fire Chief
Casey Conner, Interim Recreation Director
Mark Combs, Public Services Director
Sherry Williams, Interim Finance Director

The Board reviewed the items that were proposed for the December regular session meeting and made the following changes:

- **Deleted Item A under Public Hearings:** Public Hearing on an Ordinance Imposing a Temporary Moratorium on the acceptance of applications for, and/or issuance of, any building permits within the Settings subdivision in the Town of Black Mountain, NC, pursuant to NC General Statute 160A-381.
- **Deleted Item D under Communications from Boards/Agencies/Consultants:** IT Master Plan Preliminary Report of Consultants, because the consultants could not be present in December. The board directed that this item be returned to the agenda at the earliest possible convenience of the consulting professionals.
- **Deleted Item A under New Business:** Request to consider a change in the Town's leaf collection policy (request of Citizen Phyllis Parker) and asked that this item be added to the agenda for the next regular meeting.

- **Deleted Item A under Communications from Mayor and Board of Aldermen:** Consideration of Metropolitan Sewerage District Extension Incentive Program, due to absence at the meeting of Black Mountain’s representative on the MSD board. Ms. Onieal reported that the MSD Board has deferred a vote on this policy to their February board meeting.

The Board discussed acceptance (transfer of assets to the Town) of the Timber Park water system and the possibility that this might encourage other developments or neighborhoods to request that their private water systems be taken over by the Town. Ms. Onieal said that the Town has maintained the Timber Park water system since its installation under an existing agreement, and that the system was constructed to Town standards in anticipation of eventual transfer, as is the case with most new residential developments. The Board asked that a provision be added to the proposed agreement requiring the homeowners to establish an escrow account to be used to fund major repairs, under the terms negotiated and presented by staff.

The Board discussed the current leaf collection and bagging policies of the town. Currently, any resident who is 70 years or older, residing in or owning a home valued less than \$200,000.00 qualifies for assistance from the town in bagging fallen leaves for collection. Public Services Director Mark Combs recommended tying the eligibility requirements to the elderly/disabled veteran’s exemption standards used by the county tax collector. Using this measurement, 190 residents would be eligible for this assistance and 12 of the 49 people currently receiving assistance would become ineligible.

The Board discussed the collection of delinquent privilege license fees, noting that some businesses have not paid the requisite fee in five years. The Board asked attorney Ron Sneed to determine what penalties are available to be levied against businesses that continue not to pay the fee. Ms. Onieal reminded the Board that an audit of business permits and privilege license fees is currently underway and an accurate listing of true delinquencies should be available shortly after the first of the year.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Showers moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:57 p.m. and the motion was unanimously approved.

ATTEST:

Carl R. Bartlett, Mayor

Darlene R. Whisenant, Town Clerk

Marcia D. Onieal, Town Manager

Prepared by:

Anna V. Stearns, Administrative Assistant