

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners and Sparta Town Council held a joint meeting on Monday, March 30, 2009, at 7:00pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: Chair Ken Richardson, Vice-Chair Randy Miller, Commissioner Doug Murphy, Commissioner Milly Richardson, Commissioner Steve Roten, Mayor John Miller, Town Council Members Agnes Joines, Robert Andrews, Lois Sheets, John Brady and County Manager Don Adams.

Chair Ken Richardson called the meeting to order for the County at 7:00pm and welcomed everyone.

Mayor John Miller called the meeting to order for the Town at 7:01pm and welcomed everyone.

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to approve the agenda for this March 30, 2009, meeting. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Joint County/Town Meeting
March 30, 2009
Agenda

- 7:00pm Meeting Called to Order
 Motion on Agenda

- 7:05pm Cliff Phillips
 RE: Senior Tar Heel Legislature 15th Anniversary

- 7:15pm Proclamation Presentations

 Dental Recruitment

 Pedestrian Plan

 Greenway Project

 Water Authority Project Update

 Other Business

 Adjourn

Cliff Phillips updated everyone about the Senior Tar Heel Legislature's 15th anniversary celebration. He talked about their meetings during the year and actions. He explained that each county has one delegate and one alternate. He asked the Board/Council to review the packet of information showing their resolutions that have been introduced and actions taken since 1994. He talked about their priorities for 2009 and asked everyone to contact our representatives in Raleigh to request assistance. He stated his appreciation to Karen Evans for her help to generate this information. He thanked them for their time.

Mayor John Miller talked about the benefits of this group.

Chair Ken Richardson presented a proclamation to Ernest Joines signed by the County Commissioners and Town Council for his efforts in creating four CDs of Alleghany County music in conjunction with the 150th anniversary celebration. Mayor John Miller presented Ernest Joines with a key to the town.

Chair Ken Richardson presented a proclamation to David Joines signed by the County Commissioners and Town Council for his efforts in creating a commemorative fiddle for the 150th anniversary celebration. Mayor John Miller presented David Joines with a key to the town.

Chair Ken Richardson presented a proclamation to Grayson Lucas signed by the County Commissioners and Town Council for his efforts in engraving on the commemorative fiddle for the 150th anniversary celebration. Mayor John Miller presented Grayson Lucas with a key to the town.

County Manager Don Adams presented the proposed dental recruitment agreement. He talked about the County has applied for grants funds to assist with renovations if they locate here. He stated that he has had discussions with the Town Manager and the Mayor. He explained that the proposal is to provide \$21,000 over a 36-month period with \$15,000 coming from the County and \$6,000 coming from the town. He reiterated that he had asked the Commissioners to consider a previous incentive agreement to recruit a dentist. He reminded everyone that this deal has not been completed and once it is, these agreements will be presented to the governing bodies for their approval.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about this is a much needed service.

County Manager Don Adams explained that this will be a full-time dental office providing Medicaid services, and they are familiar with the area.

Mayor John Miller talked about how long everyone has been trying to get another dentist to the area. He further talked about this is very positive.

County Manager Don Adams explained that they are putting together the financing for the project. He talked about they are far enough along for the County to apply for a grant to assist with the renovations.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the pedestrian plan. He stated that he talked to the Town Manager about this since he has been getting questions, and unfortunately he is unable to attend tonight due to a death in the family. He explained that Bryan Edwards had asked David Isner and Joe Ward to come to this meeting to provide the update.

David Isner talked about the pedestrian plan that has been completed. He explained that the purpose of this update is to get the Commissioners' support for the project prior to going to the public. He provided an overview of the pedestrian plan for the Commissioners including how the plan began. He talked about the project of the greenway trail to link some of the county properties to the pedestrian plan. He further talked about the benefits of the greenway project and how that links to the pedestrian plan. He explained the Step program, and the Town has received a clean water management trust fund grant in the amount of \$200,000 for this project.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about the locations of the sidewalks and the increasing amount of pedestrian traffic. She asked about any plans for sidewalks to connect the apartment complexes to town. She further asked about how the handicap accessible the sidewalks are.

David Isner explained and displayed attachments in the plan regarding existing sidewalks, proposed sidewalks including the existing right of ways. He showed a map of the area describing potential sidewalks.

The Board of Commissioners, Sparta Town Council, David Isner and Joe Ward discussed the needs for additional sidewalks. David Isner talked about the clean water management grant is mainly for planning and right of way acquisitions.

County Manager Don Adams talked about grants have to tie into a larger picture. He further talked about taking advantage of grants as they are available.

County Manager Don Adams provided a water authority update stating that three contracts have been awarded. He explained the three contracts and the remaining contracts left.

Mayor John Miller stated that he remembers when this project started and how fast this project has moved along.

Agnes Joines updated everyone about the sesquicentennial celebration. She talked about a Native American celebration on August 15. She further talked about kick-off event on February 12. She stated their appreciation for the kick-off event attendance/support. She continued providing everyone information about the sesquicentennial celebration and the county's heritage.

Mayor John Miller displayed a color brochure of all of the events in Alleghany County this year that will be printed and distributed.

Agnes Joines talked about the marine band will be coming on September 26 as part of the grand finale events.

Mayor John Miller talked about the Chief Justice coming on May 16. He explained that the fiddle that was discussed earlier will be raffled off for \$1 per ticket.

Chair Ken Richardson publicly thanked the Mayor and Agnes Joines, as well as everyone else, for their work on these activities. He reiterated that the Chief Justice is coming on May 16 at 3:30pm as part of the sesquicentennial celebration and to re-dedicate the courthouse.

Commissioner Doug Murphy and Commissioner Milly Richardson thanked the sesquicentennial committee members for their work.

Mayor John Miller thanked everyone for being at this meeting.

Robert Andrews made a motion to adjourn the Town's meeting at 7:47pm. John Brady seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to go into closed session at 7:47pm under NCGS 143-318.11 (a) (6)—personnel. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Commissioner Randy Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that no action was taken during closed session.

Being no further county business, Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

ATTEST:

Ken Richardson
Chairman