The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners and Sparta Town Council held a joint meeting on Monday, November 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 Robert Andrews, John Brady, Mike Parlier, County Manager Don Adams, Town Manager Bryan Edwards and County Clerk to the Board Karen Evans.

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

Mayor John Miller called the meeting to order for the Town at 7:01pm and stated that Agnes is out of town.

Chair Ken Richardson asked the veterans to lead everyone in the pledge of allegiance.

Doug Blevins, Adjutant/Quartermaster of VFW Post 7034, introduced other veterans in the audience. He discussed proposal #1 of the members of Bruce Wayne Osborne VFW Post 7034 respectfully request that the name of the Sparta Parkway be officially changed to Veteran Memorial Parkway and proposal #2 of the members of Bruce Wayne Osborne VFW Post 7034 respectfully request that the name of the proposed park and green space bound by Grandview and Duncan Street be designated as Veterans Memorial Park. He explained that these items were discussed and approved on October 25 by the VFW Post. He stated that he greatly appreciates everyone’s support on these proposals.

Wes Brinegar, Sergeant-at-Arms with Marine Corps League Detachment 1298, thanked everyone for allowing them to come before the boards tonight about renaming/naming in honor of veterans. He asked for the boards to think about these name changes. He explained that the Marine Corps League Detachment 1298 is in complete agreement with the VFW Post and other veterans on these projects.

Chair Ken Richardson asked the managers how these could be accomplished.

County Manager Don Adams talked about the process for changing road names and the final decision is up to NCDOT, but the process does require a resolution of approval by both boards and this is the first step in getting the road name changed. He talked about these resolutions will be presented at regular meetings of the County and Town.

Town Manager Bryan Edwards agreed and stated that the Town will consider the resolution and forward it to the appropriate people.

Chair Ken Richardson and Mayor John Miller talked about when this action needs to take place.

Councilmember John Brady requested that the Town’s be presented at their next meeting.

County Manager Don Adams talked about our Board of Transportation member needs to be on board with these tasks.

Councilmember Mike Parlier talked about waiting until the first of the year while waiting on the DOT board member appointment.

County Manager Don Adams talked about his reason for mentioning waiting on the DOT member.

The Board of Commissioners and Town Council discussed moving forward with the projects.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that response to proposal #1 is very positive to
move forward and proposal #2 has support but the lack of funding for the project. He explained that it is a competitive grant process and would be a great idea to name the park. He talked about working together to get this grant accomplished.

Chair Ken Richardson and Doug Blevins talked about discussing this at the State level.

County Manager Don Adams explained that the public hearing will be on January 4 and one thing mentioned was having more public support at the public hearing. He further explained that people that are in favor of the park should come offer support.

Chair Ken Richardson talked about different ideas for the park like bricks on the wall or a memorial wall. He further talked about all of the support we can get will help.

Chair Ken Richardson opened the County’s public hearing at 7:20pm.

County Manager Don Adams reviewed the proposed incentive agreement and PowerPoint presentation regarding Tri-State Components expanding including the highlights of proposed County/Town investment of $19,770, additional 20 jobs and return on investment (ROI).

John Miller with Tri-State Components explained the type of metal roofing that his company will be offering including the current time frame to get the materials, and he is proposing to have the top colors in stock at the 42 dealers at about half of the costs. He explained the new facility will enable the company to do this more cost effective and one piece of equipment will take a task of one week to one day.

Mayor John Miller and John Miller talked about they have a list of people that can put roofs on barns and have a CAD system that can assist with the design.

The Board of Commissioners and Town Council thanked him for the jobs and expansion.

Mayor John Miller declared a public hearing for the Town at 7:27pm.

Chair Ken Richardson asked for public comments. None were received. He declared the County’s public hearing closed.

Mayor John Miller declared the public hearing closed for the Town Council.

County Manager Don Adams discussed the incentive agreement that has been approved by the County Attorney. He reviewed the highlights of the incentive agreement in the amount of $19,770 and ways to ensure the ROI.

Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to move on the incentive agreement as presented. Commissioner Randy Miller seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Councilmember Robert Andrews made a motion to approve the incentive agreement as stated. Councilmember Mike Parlier seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

Town Manager Bryan Edwards updated every one of the recent activities of the Water Authority including opening bids for the water treatment plant with bids coming in where they were estimated. He reviewed other activities like working with USDA to secure the remaining funds. He stated that the project is moving forward on schedule.

Mayor John Miller stated that one day everyone will look at this and say this is one of the greatest things completed.

Chair Ken Richardson thanked John Brady, Randy Miller, Bryan Edwards, Don Adams and Warren Taylor for serving on the water authority board.

Town Manager Bryan Edwards provided an update on the US Highway 21 project being in the final stages.
Chair Ken Richardson talked about items that both boards have been able to accomplish by working together; sesquicentennial activities, training facility, water authority, the greenway from the Fairgrounds all the way down Bledsoe, and another joint effort is the park. He talked about these joint efforts doesn't always happen in other towns/counties.

Commissioner Milly Richardson talked about it is a pleasure to have that kind of support from both boards working together.

Commissioner Randy Miller talked about the Veterans Park and his son being in Afghanistan, and we can't understand what they go through. He said that he is glad that everyone thinks the same on this.

Commissioner Doug Murphy talked about when people go to other areas they see memorials for veterans, and he is glad to move forward demonstrating the appreciation for our veterans.

Commissioner Steve Roten stated that he wanted to personally thank all of the veterans, and all of the veterans are greatly under appreciated.

Mayor John Miller stated that veterans are now looked upon like they should be and are getting the recognition that is deserved.

Major John Miller, Commissioner Milly Richardson and Chair Ken Richardson discussed how long both boards have held joint meetings. The Mayor stated that everyone agrees that they are a great thing.

Mayor John Miller talked about on December 4 the Sesquicentennial Committee is having the closing event, and they want to reward some people.

Councilmember Mike Parlier talked about what is good for the County is good for the Town and vice versus. He said he was glad to hear about the road name change.

Councilmember Robert Andrews stated that he agrees with what has been said, glad to hear this and supports both projects.

Councilmember John Brady talked about it is good to have these meetings and lots have happened because of this joint relationship.

Mayor John Miller stated that John Brady has been a water authority member since the beginning.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that the event on December 4 is 4pm to 7pm.

Councilmember Robert Andrews made a motion to adjourn the Town’s meeting at 7:47pm. Councilmember John Brady seconded the motion. Vote 3:0.

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

Commissioner Milly Richardson made a motion to adjourn the closed session at 8:09pm and reconvene the regular meeting. Commissioner Doug Murphy seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Chair Ken Richardson stated that no decisions were made during closed session.

Being no further county business, Commissioner Doug Murphy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10pm. Commissioner Steve Roten seconded the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Evans
Clerk to the Board

ATTEST:

Ken Richardson
Chairman