

Dear Board:

I hope this packet finds you all in good health and spirits. We have been very busy of late on a few projects and I look forward to bringing you up to date on many of these at the March meeting.

I am sure that all of you are interested in Brett's condition. He is recovering very well. As of this writing he is still in Winston Salem, but we expect him to be released shortly. As always, Brett has demonstrated a remarkable spirit and an unbelievable constitution in his speedy recover from major surgery. I have been emailing back and forth with him since last Saturday and as you would expect Brett is anxious to get back to Woodfin. I will give the Board a complete update on Tuesday night.

We have some annexation related issues to discuss as well as some potential new services and ordinances. As always, please call me or email me with any questions or concerns you might have.

Yours truly,

Jason
768-4887
jasonyoung@charter.net

**Town of Woodfin
Board of Aldermen Meeting
March 18, 2008
6:30 P.M.**

Meeting

Meeting Call to Order
Invocation
Approval of the Agenda
Approval of the Minutes

Executive Session-*The Board of Aldermen will adjourn to the conference room to discuss legal matters with the Town Attorney.*

I will brief the Board on Brett's condition. In addition, the Board will need to consider some contractual and legal matters. Primarily, Ms. Hamlin has responded to the Town's notification of demand for payment. She has proposed paying \$200 a month instead of \$135 a month until the difference is paid. When notice was sent the amount due was \$1485 in due rent and a \$25 returned check fee. As of today the due rent is \$1620 plus \$25 for a grand total of \$1645. Ms. Hamlin has made no payments since the spring of 2007. Based upon her proposal it would take more than two years before the Town was paid back for the rent currently due.

The Board should also be made aware that Sharon Smith of the Bingo Bulletin has attempted to hire a lawyer to represent her against the Town. I am unsure what grounds Ms. Smith is attempting to sue us on as I am aware of no legal rights she has in this matter. At present her efforts to get an attorney to take her case do not seem to be going well, however, in light of

contemplated legal action against the Town I would strongly advise against any contact between individual Board members and Ms. Smith or her representatives. Further, I would recommend that she not be permitted to address the Board, but rather forward any requests or demands to our attorney.

Public Forum-*Citizens may address the Board concerning various topics after being recognized by the Mayor.*

New Business

1. Public Hearing on a Proposed Annexation of a parcel in single ownership in the vicinity of Pearson Bridge.
2. Consideration of an Ordinance Annexing the Property Described Above.

These two matters will add approximately 41.51 acres to the Town's geographic area. The property in question is owned by Lake Norman Pavilion, LLC and is presently undeveloped. The property is within the zone established for the City of Asheville's sphere of influence in our proposed –but as yet unsigned- annexation agreement. My last conversation with the City's attorney was some weeks ago and I have not received any new maps or proposals for a legally binding annexation agreement. It is my belief that the City's staff is either not interested in pursuing this matter or they have assigned it a very low priority. This annexation is in the vicinity of Pearson Bridge and is a contiguous annexation based on state statute.

3. Consideration of Petition for Voluntary Annexation.
4. Presentation of a Certificate of Sufficiency for Same.
5. Consideration of a Resolution Establishing a date for A Public Hearing on a Voluntary Annexation of Five Parcels of Land Located in the Vicinity of Old Marshall Highway and Riverside Drive.

The petition enclosed is for five parcels of land approximating 20 acres. It is contiguous to the Town and is located near the intersection of Old Marshall Highway and Riverside Drive. The parcels in question are essentially undeveloped at present.

6. General Discussion of a proposed Dark Sky Ordinance to Limit Light Pollution and Preserve Quality of Life.

As the Board is aware, our community is undergoing significant change in the amount and density of commercial development. As we embrace positive growth it is important that we preserve quality of life for all of our citizens. One way in which we can preserve the quiet nature of our community is by limiting light pollution. Light pollution is excess or unnecessary lighting that impact surrounding properties and diminishes quality of life and peaceful enjoyment of surrounding property owners. I have enclosed a proposed "Dark Sky" ordinance which would create some reasonable limits on commercial and institutional lighting and which would also reduce energy consumption. This ordinance specifically does not apply to private residences.

We are not looking for a vote on this proposal yet, but are simply seeking your input and discussion on whether or not you feel this ordinance is necessary and if so what you want to see in it and what you don't want. In my opinion, this ordinance will likely prevent us from getting some really obnoxious lighting in the near future. We have had inquiry from two real estate agents specializing in commercial real estate lately that have asked about our lighting ordinance...it seems unlikely that they are doing this with any other purpose than to market the property for –among other things- its lack of a lighting ordinance. With your input I believe it is possible for us to craft an ordinance which protects our citizens' quality of life without jeopardizing economic development opportunities.

7. General Discussion of a proposal to establish a Municipal Mesh Network to Enhance Law Enforcement Capabilities and to permit the Establishment of a Municipal Wi-Fi System.

This issue is one which I have invested a great deal of time in research and speaking with various contractors, the proposal is one which I believe will improve public safety, add a powerful new service to citizens, and will enhance the reputation of our community as a place to live, work and do business.

I would like the Board to consider establishing a Mesh Network to provide assistance to law enforcement as well as to provide free or low cost wireless internet capabilities to our citizens. The network would operate by beaming a signal across the community that would be used to integrate our police vehicles into a state of constant communication. It would allow officers in one location to view wireless cameras that have been set up at a business or suspect location to do surveillance. It would also allow for officers in one vehicle to see what is happening through the dash camera of another. These features alone would enhance security at our parks by allowing 24 hour a day 7 day week surveillance without the need to put an officer in each park all day long. In addition, I would strongly expect to see an increase in apprehension for burglaries and a subsequent increase in recovery of stolen goods.

In addition, the system would allow the Town to provide free or low cost internet access to –eventually- all of our citizens. As you are aware, the cost of high speed internet is prohibitive for many people, but the resources of the internet are powerful educational and vocational tools. Providing this service to our citizens will set our community apart as a leader in implanting new technology and should encourage business development within the community. While not cheap, implementing the project will be a public relations coup as well as a direct benefit to the citizens of our community. I will provide more information on this to the Board at your Tuesday meeting and look forward to hearing if this is something that you would like to pursue.

Reports

Police
Parks and Recreation
Public Works
ABC
Administration

Adjournment