

**TOWN OF TRYON
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
APRIL 16, 2019 7:00 P.M.
TRYON TOWN HALL – MCCOWN ROOM**

Present: Mayor J. Alan Peoples Mayor Pro Tem Bill Ingham
Commissioners: Crys Armbrust, Bill Crowell, Chrelle Booker

Staff Present: Town Manager Zach Ollis Town Clerk Susan Bell
 Police Chief Jeff Arrowood Fire Chief Geoff Tennant
 Planning Director Tim Daniels Town Attorney William Morgan

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Peoples called the meeting to order and asked for a moment of silence. Commissioner Ingham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Peoples stated there has been a request to move item 9 to 5c on the Consent Agenda and entertained a motion to adopt. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA ADOPTION

Mayor Peoples asked if there are any additions, deletions or corrections to items A & B. The Consent Agenda includes the Board's minutes from January 25, 2019, February 15, 2019, February 19 joint meeting with Harmon Field Board of Supervisors, February 19 Work Session, February 20 Budget Work Session and March 19, 2019 Work Session, along with a tax release for Dennis Earley (\$16.92). Being none he entertained a motion to adopt. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor Peoples then presented Item c. the Horse Week Proclamation.

**CAROLINA CLIMBERS ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION
MELROSE MOUNTAIN CLIMBING PARK**

Town Manager Ollis stated in a few minutes we are going to receive a presentation. He has been working for the past few months with Blue Ridge Adventure guys as well as the Carolina Climbers Coalition. They have identified some property that is perfect for a rock climbing park, met multiple times and he has presented to you the idea. Now they would like to officially present a proposal.

Jonathan Gerst, one of the founders of the Blue Ridge Adventure Guides, a non-profit outdoor service and adventure club that is working with the Polk County Recreation made a presentation of the Melrose Mountain Climbing Management Plan. The rock climbing industry has benefited eco-tourism in Rutherford County. They are going to try to do this for Polk County as well, along with establishing rock climbing for youth.

Principles they focus on as a group are:

No trace ethics, sustainable development of trails and routes, most importantly personal growth that can be achieved through physical exercise and challenging mental scenarios that can arise when you are evaluating risk in an outdoor setting.

Mike Rearden with Carolina Coalition a twenty-five year old 501C3, stated their mission is to preserve and enhance climbing areas throughout North Carolina, upper South Carolina and a little bit of Virginia.

Once their presentation was finished they asked if there were any questions.

Commissioner Armbrust asked about the acreage. Ollis stated on this parcel it's 220. Armbrust asked about covenants. Ollis stated when he went and looked for the deed, it was so old that it was hand written. Mayor Peoples asked if the property was contiguous to the water shed rights that we sold. Ollis will check on that. He knows that we have water shed rights that we sold to Greenville County years ago. It's not on this property. Mayor Peoples stated he hasn't seen any downsides to this yet. Mr. Gerst stated Conserving Carolina was present at the stakeholders meeting and they said they would really like to be able to use the town property for educational purposes for environmental education.

Mr. Gerst stated many people came here tonight to support this. He asked the audience if they thought this would benefit them. The audience that was here for this agreed. Audrey Kendrick stated you mentioned earlier about a trail for walkers and asked how committed are you to making that happen, because we walk here in Tryon. It would be more usable for us to have walking trails. How dedicated are you to making this happen? Mr. Gerst stated the priority now is to finalize climbing access. The timeline addresses the approval of the management plan and over the next two years it lays out a time frame for securing access, the kiosk, laying out the trail work and working with the stakeholders, so that it is a not just a climbing resource, but a public place. Very committed in short. He has children of his own. He would like to create a resource for generations to come. It has to be available to all, children and elderly. If you would like to take a picnic and enjoy the view, you can come here.

Mayor Peoples stated then two years is the timeline. Commissioner Crowell stated he likes the idea. Commissioner Booker stated she had mentioned this to the people that she works with in South Carolina. They love everything about Tryon and were ecstatic about this. The board thanked Mr. Gerst for their proposal.

ABC CONTROL RESOLUTION

Town Manager Ollis stated he has prepared a resolution stating your support of having the ABC held in a local form. The current control system allows for the state to control the alcohol. Rumors are they would like to privatize it. This is just to show your support on behalf of the Tryon ABC Board.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt the resolution presented by the Manager. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously. (Resolution attached)

LIGHTING OPTIONS FOR NEW LIGHTS DOWNTOWN

Town Manager Ollis stated in front of you is the PEMCO brochures and the discussion earlier was for you to choose some form of lighting in which we will place at the Nina Simone Plaza as an initial start, replacing the one that someone had run over.

Commissioner Ingham suggested the Bristol and Coronado. It's very close to what we have. Mayor Peoples asked if they were different prices. Ollis stated yes, all the different combinations are different prices. He has to present what we want to get a price. He will do whatever the board wants. Crowell wants LED and the fixture to go on our existing light poles. Ingham stated go with one that is compatible. Crowell stated most have a three inch collar. The poles are good for decades. Ollis stated we do need to replace the one at Nina Simone Plaza. Crowell stated an aluminum post. Ollis stated as close as we can get to that, LED, surrounding sconce, sky friendly if possible, something to straight up replace what we have. He will do his best to find it and e-mail it to you.

Armbrust stated the Depot Plaza is already wired for lamps, he asked if we could transfer six poles there. Ollis stated if we replace everything, then we will expand to Depot to get its lights and then we will expand to Palmer and Howard.

PAVING

Mayor Peoples stated in the work session we discussed paving Cleveland and Carson. Ollis stated you discussed the previous budget high, plus ten percent. Cleveland will be \$45,100 and Carson Street will be \$72,600. Mayor Peoples stated before we vote we will have one recusal (Commissioner Bill Crowell), because he owns some property on one of those streets. At which point, he may make a profit.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt Cleveland at \$45,100. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt Carson at \$72,600. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried with Commissioner Crowell recusing himself.

Armbrust stated we have authorized the paving tonight. Ingham stated next will be Hogback, Carolina and then Beaver. Mayor Peoples asked if they could authorize out of next year's budget. Attorney Morgan stated no, but you can state what your priorities are. Mayor Peoples stated then we have set our priorities.

TDDA UPDATE

Jamie Carpenter, TDDA Director, stated as you know it is Tryon Horse Heritage Week. She wanted to thank Commissioner Crowell for helping sell hot dogs on Saturday for the kickoff party and the town for paying for the band. Also Zach, Tank and Commissioner Crowell for helping move around Morris. He is still getting painted. May 14, they are hosting the Main Street Regional Meeting. They will be touring downtown and the Missildine building. This Thursday is the Horse Heritage Parade at 5:00. The fourth Friday is a guy's night out. Ordered flowers from Polk County High School FFA to redo our boxes. Today, she submitted a short grant from AARP to do some of the hand rails on Oak and Maple Street, where it is a little more difficult to walk, along with seating and water fountains. She will find out if they get it in the next couple of months. In the North Carolina Governor's budget there is some money specified for downtown, probably specified for the streetlights. They have been working on letters to send to the representatives. IPDC has helped by sending letters also. She hopes everyone comes out to the parade and barbeque following at Harmon Field and the horse show this weekend.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT TOWN PROJECT PRIORITIZATION AND CITIZEN INPUT

Town Manager Ollis went over his list.

COMPLETED

- 8" water line on 176 repaired
- 12 Tons of asphalt laid (in terms of potholes)
- Brush removal
- Easter preparations at Harmon Field
- Town hall façade repaired
- Met with NCDOT regarding recent 176 project
- Met with Duke Power regarding fiber line through downtown (update projecting to start next week)
- Transported parade Morris to undergo body work
- Gathered, prepared, and provided materials to engineer for CIP
- Grand opening for new Harmon Field Playground with appearance by Harry Dallara Foundation
- Discussed Interconnect project with Saluda. Only two RFQs were received. Advertising should begin soon to attempt to receive a third RFQ.
- Sidewalk repaired at Markham Road behind White Oak apartments (also at the school and church-looking at repairs for Grady and Howard-last month you asked about the sidewalk committee – they have driven around to take an assessment of the sidewalks-he is working on the list to send out to the board)
- Secured lighting options for board via Becker Electric
- Inspected Dallara Project
- Inspected Pacolet River Restoration Project
- Sprayed for kudzu.
- Assisted officers in canvas of Woodland park
- Prepped for Tailgate party
- Sidewalk inspections
- Water line repair on Lanier dr.
- Meet with Thermal Belt Outreach regarding citizen assistance
- Prepped and manned streets for Race to the Head of the Class
- Assisted with Eastside Cleanup
- Hosted first Melrose neighborhood watch committee with materials provided
- Awarded Jody Morse with a plaque for 30 years with the Town, March 31st was 30 years
- Removed debris from multiple fallen trees
- Clear overhanging brush in roadways
- Side-mowing
- Community engagement projects.
- Prepared documents detailing light work duty for workers comp insurance
- Town preparations for Equestrian Week tailgating
- Met with Garden club regarding improvement project
- Tourism, Public Arts Committee, Eastside, and Harmon Field Board meetings

IN TRANSITION (TOWN)

- Meet this week with Paul Mills regarding the bridge project

- Meet with Austin Hyder regarding water at cemetery
- Hand reading meters to double check for accuracy
- Repair of Rogers Park awning by contractor underway (says will be done by first week of May)
- Planning a board retreat with board, engineer, important parties, and key staff
- Reviewing strategic plan
- Leaf removal in progress
- Culvert inspection on trade
- Securing contractor for thermopaint in front of Plaza
- Still working to manage brush removal in town
- Sidewalk repairs throughout town
- Leaf removal in progress
- Kids in Park Track Trails maintenance
- Speedbump replacement on Whitney
- Signage for rose garden
- Spraying around town
- Sidewalk improvements on Whitney
- Sidewalk improvements on Melrose
- Fire Department to do Hydrant check
- More pothole maintenance
- Searching for more spots to fix on creek at E. Howard
- Final punch list for the Pacolet River Restoration Project is below. Provided by Joel Lenk
 - Install last two rock cross-vanes downstream of last river-right point bar
 - Chink spaces between large rocks with smaller rocks and cut excess fabric from all cross-vanes so that it is not visible
 - Plant, seed, fertilize, straw bench and bank downstream of last river-right point bar
 - Cultivate area beyond top of bank to ~50 feet from river and seed with Meadow Mix/Oats
 - Install left over container plants in locations where vegetation is sparse
 - Install live stakes between first two rows of geo-lifts and them along toe of riverbank on Harmon Field Side then on adjacent landowners sides and then on upper rows of geo-lifts if any remaining
 - Bark on bottom end of stakes should be scraped and stakes treated with rooting hormone before installation (10-12 fl/oz hormone per 5 gallon bucket)
 - Should be planted within a few hours of treating with rooting hormone and new hormone used for each batch of stakes
 - I'm concerned about the survival rates of live stakes since it has taken so long to get them installed
 - They are an important part of the planting and stabilization for the project
 - If we do not get good survival it will be necessary to plant more in the fall
 - I'm concerned about the stability of the project in a flood this fall if stakes have not grown this summer
 - Water live stakes every day at least once
 - Plant, seed, fertilize, straw and install more coir on banks of tributary upstream of foot bridge and deter traffic
 - Add boulders to bridge remnant upstream of vehicle bridge and tie to bank (discussed with Gary)

- Create inner berm from cross-vane above vehicle bridge down to bridge with cobble in center of river (bar forming)
- Cut back/Repair/reinforce sw pipe outlet on river-right bank immediately upstream of bridge
- Repair sw rill on river right point bar between end of large rip rap and vane upstream of vehicle bridge
- Create sw swale from soccer field fence to rain garden on west side of gym
- Complete all rain gardens
- Repair vane across from track, river right side
- Cut/bevel stormwater pipes back to streambanks and install rock outlets/splash dissipaters
- Discuss/delineate public access areas
- Order stone from Green River and place at ~50 riparian zone boundary
- Draft info for signage, have approved and install signs
- Address opening day trout fishing concerns
- Draft and record deed restriction for riparian area
- Conduct as-built survey
- Complete FEMA permitting
- Submit final package to NC DWR
- Various street signs ordered and will be place as soon as possible
- Sign straightening as needed

He wanted to thank Jody for his many years of service to the Town. We are grateful to have him. Also he thanked the Fans of Harmon Field for the Easter Egg Hunt. It looked like it was a big success. Any questions.

Commissioner Armbrust asked for Mr. Daniels to review the timeline for Melrose Inn. Daniels stated she received her letter on March 15th. She has sixty days to basically do whatever she needs to, to get the site cleaned up. He will follow up with her this week to see what her status is. She was going to remove a bunch of vegetation. After the completion of that she does have somebody that is going to come in and start separating any salvageable metals, wood, any materials. He would assume that has been underway. He is going to follow up with her this week. She basically has until May 15th. Commissioner Ingham what happens after May 15th. Daniels stated we do the ordinance and register it, then we can start setting up demolition. Attorney Morgan stated the board will have to authorize him by way of ordinance to direct him. Ollis stated it will be like other ordinances. The June council meeting will be June 18th. Commissioner Crowell stated it runs out on May 16th and we have a meeting on May 21st, can we not authorize it at that point. Tons of standing water. Daniels stated we can have that ordinance drafted by May 21st. Mayor Peoples asked if there was no other time that we have to wait. Daniels stated no. Ollis stated we already have one quote if not two. Daniels is waiting on a second one. The Town will have to pay half upfront and the balance when finished. Armbrust asked what the amount is. Ollis stated around \$100,000.

Ollis stated Tim has passed the CZO (Certified Zoning Official) course on his first time. We will present him with his certification next month.

Attorney Morgan gave an update on the ordinance relating to parking. The Planning Board had a discussion last week and will continue the meeting on Tuesday. At the conclusion of that meeting he

expects to have a recommendation for this board. Then you will hold a public hearing on May 21st. He would like for the board to set May 21st as the public hearing for potential zoning ordinance amendments to Article 4 Section 4.8 Off Street Parking and Loading.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to set Public Hearing for May 21st. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Armbrust asked the status of the Harmon Field Building with the state. Ollis is working with someone that wants to lease the building and they have asked to review some things. The person that is requesting to rent would like to contact PARTF, because they don't want to waste their time. He will make contact with them this week. They would like to find out what they can and can't do with the property.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Crowell asked if anyone from the Lake Lanier Homeowners Association had contacted us for a meeting within the last thirty days. Ollis stated Kip Cox has approached him and he is going to meet with him. Crowell would like to be part of that. He thanked Town staff for all their hard work. He's glad Jody is here, can't believe it has been thirty years. He's always done a great job. He's one of those people that comes in at 3:00 a.m. without any questions. He would like clarification on Lake Lanier-do we own it and can we set regulations.

Commissioner Armbrust thanked TDDA and Tryon Riding and Hunt Club for sponsoring Horse Heritage Week. He also thanked the National Trust for beginning the Nina Simone Birthplace restoration on Monday, April 29. He thanked everyone for coming out tonight.

Commissioner Booker thanked everyone for coming out tonight. She thanked the streets crew for Godshaw Hill cleanup and Eastside cleanup. She thanked Jamie and TDDA for all they do. It was a nice event to open up for the weekend on Friday. She congratulated Tim and Jody. Have a safe trip home.

Commissioner Ingham thanked those that are here tonight. He thanked Jamie and TDDA. Their work is paying off. He thanked our staff, Meg, Police Chief, Fire Chief, Zach and Tim, everyone is doing a great job.

Mayor Peoples thanked everyone for what they do. Recently trees had fallen and the Fire department had taken chainsaws and cleared the roads, so that EMS could get through if needed. Peoples explained they get up in the middle of the night to do this as volunteers. They get the tree out of the road and continue to the next tree. Everyone heard the siren. Best place in the world to live.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Audrey Kendrick thanked the town for the sidewalk. It's beautiful.

Linda Lee Reynolds, victim of the sidewalk, stated she fell and hit her head, has stitches and asked that Maple Street be added to the list of sidewalks to be repaired.

ADJOURN

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Ingham so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk