

Town of Fletcher
Agenda Review Meeting
Minutes
June 1, 2020

Call the meeting to order at: 06:00 pm

Those who were in attendance are as follows:

Mayor Rod Whiteside
Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy
Councilman Preston Blakely
Councilman Eddie Henderson
Councilwoman Sheila Franklin
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Public Comment

None at this time

Approval of minutes-corrections, additions or deletions.
(5/2, & 5/11)

No comments were made on the minutes at this time.

Council Updates

Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy stated that he had been attending some additional training over the last few weeks and that he had some information from The Metropolitan Planning Organization and Henderson County Transportation Advisory meeting concerning current and upcoming DOT projects.

He stated that due to Budget concerns with DOT that many projects that were not already funded will be postponed/delayed and that there will be no new projects/contracts in the state of North Carolina.

I-26 from Asheville to Airport Road has been funded.

I-26 from Airport Road to Hwy 64 has been funded.

Hwy 64 from Hwy 25 that was going to be six lanes instead of eight lanes has **not** been funded. (Expects this to be pushed out)

The Sweeten Creek road widening project that was to widen it to 4 lanes has been pushed back to 2024.

The project on Old Airport Road is expected to be completed in September of 2020.

For your knowledge DOT gets their budget (funding) from the following:

50% Fuel tax

30% DMV fees

20% Sales tax from vehicle purchases

The projections from DOT for the fiscal year 2019/2020 is a projected **loss** of 208 million.

The projections from DOT for the fiscal year 2020/2021 is a projected loss of 566 million.

If we have a hurricane or a major landslide there is no money to fix it the state would have to find the money from some other fund.

The big shortfall with COVID and people not driving the fuel tax revenue is down dramatically. Also new car sales are down and more people are buying used cars instead of new.

The way DOT is dealing with the shortfall is that they are delaying contracts and, reducing staff. They let go of 400 contactors and temporary employees. Many programs are being suspended wildflowers, litter sweep, mowing along the roads, repairs and patching of pavement reduced, repairing railing along roads reduced, new traffic signals (that may be requested) will be reduced. Even before COVID hit they discovered that there was going to be a shortfall and are working on how to cover these expenses. The fuel tax could go up, sales taxes on vehicles could go up as well.

Driver's License and tag renewals have been given a 5 month grace period.

Consent Agenda

Tax releases/refunds

Set Public Hearing for July 13, 2020 to consider CD# 2020-02, a residential development on Rutledge Road.

Approval of Budget Amendment # 2 to the FY 19/20 Budget Ordinance.

Mayor Whiteside stated is there any questions from council on the Consent Agenda?

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that we have received more feedback on this proposed development than any other in a while and we are keeping track of all of it.

Discussion Followed:

Presentation and Consideration of donation towards shop and dine for Henderson County-Bob Williford, Henderson County Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Whiteside stated that next week we will hear from the Henderson County Chamber.

Public Hearing on presentation of the FY 2020/2021 Budget and approval of budget ordinance-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager.

Mayor Whiteside asked Town Manager Mark Biberdorf did he have any comments about the Budget presentation.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that we have not gotten any new value updates on property taxes from the county. We will essentially be going with the last set of values that we received. We can incorporate that into adjusting the sales tax figures down or up and we adjusted everything on the expense side from the feedback from the budget retreat. On the MVP's for the police department we did adjust the vehicle purchase down from 3 vehicles to 2 vehicles so that we can fund new MVP's for the police department.

Discussion Followed:

Update on creation of a Facebook page for general town information-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manger.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that working on the Facebook page I wanted to have a draft to show you on this. On the direction I was going with this it will be for informational purposes and not a public forum. We will have language up

there that states that this is for information and if you have questions we will direct them to our website and they can email and we can respond to their questions.

Council is ok with this format for a town Facebook page.

Staff report on discussion with Carolina Truffieres for lease or sale of Town property-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf you know we have had discussions with Brian Upchurch and Davis Upchurch from Carolina Truffieres. He has communicated back to us his first choice is to look at 10 acres of land with a lease to purchase option or outright purchase. He also outlined 50 acres with a lease to purchase option or outright purchase. You have a copy of a map in your packet and he is looking at something on the north side of the property.

Discussion Followed:

Comments from the Town Manager Mark Biberdorf.

On the Town Center project we are now down to one parcel on our land acquisition on Hwy 25. The land swap was finished a week ago and you will see that they have now moved all the cars and boats off the property. The one parcel left is the Kevin Walker property had with some Deed of Trust issues and they are being taken off.

The RFP's on the town center project started going out on May 18th to the public developer contacts that we had. I contacted WR Martin that we have used before and they have spread it out there and we are getting more company names to send it to as well. It is leading to interest Eric and I met with one group on Friday.

The Hwy 25 Corridor project is completed. The improvements are done and we are working on a punch list of items. Maybe next week I can tell you when we can get those done. These items will have to be finished before we can close the project out.

Discussion Followed:

We are checking out rescheduling the shred event but I am not sure about the pill drop. If we did this people would just drive up and dump their paper with little contact just waiting in their cars.

On COVID – 19 we ended our teleworking policy on May 18 and we opened Town Hall on May 26 and this has been going ok. We put signs up concerning wearing masks and social distancing. Public works has slowed down a little bit on the brush orders they were getting and the tonnage is coming down on the garbage collection. Parks & Recreation opened the dog park and the shelter pavilion. The playground and the fitness station is still closed.

On a final comment we are trying to be prepared with some of the demonstration that has been going on with the George Floyd issue. We want to be sensitive to everyone's feelings because a lot of people have been hurt by this.

Discussion Followed:


Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to adjourn and it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Sheila Franklin.

Motion carries all in favor.

Adjourned: 07:03 pm

Approved:

7-14-2020
Date


Mayor Rod Whiteside

Town of Fletcher
Council Meeting
Minutes
June 8, 2020

Call the meeting to order at: 06:00 pm

Those who were attendance were as follows:

Mayor Rod Whiteside
Mayor-Pro-Tem Bob Davy
Councilman Preston Blakely
Councilman Eddie Henderson
Councilwoman Sheila Franklin
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf

Councilwoman Sheila Franklin was not here at this time.

(See attached (marked "Exhibit A") email concerning department heads not attending this meeting)

Invocation: Moment of silence for all those who lost their lives due to COVID-19.
Pledge of Allegiance: **Mayor Whiteside** led the group in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of minutes-corrections, additions or deletions.
(5/2, 5/11)

Mayor Whiteside asked if there were any questions, comments on the minutes as presented and if not do we have a motion from council. It was so moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy and seconded by Councilman Eddie Henderson.

Motion carries all in favor.

Council Updates

None at this time.

Consent Agenda

Tax releases/refunds

Set Public Hearing for July 13, 2020 to consider CD# 2020-02 a Conditional District application from Graycliff Capital for a 198 unit residential development on Rutledge Road.

Approval of Budget Amendment #2 to the FY 19/20 Budget Ordinance.

Mayor Whiteside asked if there were any questions on the items on the Consent Agenda and if not do we have a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. It was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilman Preston Blakely.

Motion carries all in favor.

Councilwoman Sheila Franklin came in at 6:09 pm.

Presentation and Consideration of donation towards shop and dine for Henderson County-Bob Williford, Henderson County Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Whiteside introduced Bob Williford to discuss shop and dine of Henderson County.

President Bob Williford of the Chamber of Commerce and FABA President Jared Bellmund gave an overview of the shop and dine proposal for the county to encourage shop and dine in the area to help small businesses and boost the economy. (They are asking for a donation of \$1,500 towards shop and dine of Henderson County.)

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to approve shop and dine Henderson County and it was so moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilwoman Sheila Franklin.

Motion carries all in favor.

Public Hearing on presentation of the FY 2020/2021 Budget and approval of Budget Ordinance-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager.

Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to open the public hearing and it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and it was seconded by Councilwoman Sheila Franklin.

Motion carries all in favor.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed FY 2020/2021 budget.

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Whiteside asked do we have a motion to close the public hearing and it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and it was seconded by Councilwoman Sheila Franklin.

Motion carries all in favor.

Mayor Whiteside ask for a motion to approve the Budget ordinance and Councilman Eddie Henderson said that he would make that motion and seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy.

Motion carries all in favor.

Update on a creation of a Facebook page for general town information-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manger.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that we have been working on that and want to have it up by July 1. It would be for informational purposes only and if someone has questions direct them to the website. Also I would like to have a committee/group working on this so that just one person is not responsible for it.

Staff Report on discussions with Carolina Truffieres for lease or sale of Town property-Mark Biberdorf, Town Manager.

Town Manager Mark Biberdorf stated that he would like to talk to the town attorney about maybe drafting a lease agreement of no more than 10 years with an option to purchase with other provisions in there as well. I would like to bring this back in July for council to discuss. Eric and I had a phone conference with Mark Williams of Agri Business of Henderson County. We talked about land sales and leasing in Henderson County. My recommendation is that we move more towards leasing the property as opposed to selling the property.

Mayor Whiteside stated that if we proceed with this I would be comfortable with the lease option. However at this point there are too many unanswered questions for me to make a decision and I would want to only be in a discussion phase at this point.

Discussion Followed:

Reading of statement in response to the death of George Floyd-Rod Whiteside, Mayor.

Mayor Whiteside asked council to review statement in response to the death of George Floyd that will be sent out as a press release. (See attached Exhibit "B")

Discussion Followed:

Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to release the statement and it was so moved by Councilman Preston Blakely and seconded by Councilman Eddie Henderson and Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy.

Motion carries all in favor.

Comments from the Town Manager Mark Biberdorf.

We have one property left on the Town Center project and that is the Kevin Walker property and we are waiting on the satisfaction of a Deed of Trust to come in so that we can set up our closing.

The RFP I mentioned earlier went out on the 18th (May) and we sent it out to about 30 to 35 individual companies and about 8 organizations we are getting good responses. I still hoping that we will get letters of interest by the June 15 deadline and June 30 for questions and September 30 for proposals.

On the Hwy 25 corridor improvements there is not much new from last week they have the punch list items and waiting to get that last payment out.

We are working on rescheduling the shred event we just don't have a date as of yet.

Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to adjourn and it was so moved by Mayor Pro-Tem Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilman Preston Blakely.

Motion carries all in favor.

Adjourned: 07:17 pm

Approved:

7-14-20
Date



Mayor Rod Whiteside

EXHIBIT "A"

Christine Thompson

From: Mark Biberdorf
Sent: Monday, June 8, 2020 9:41 AM
To: Christine Thompson; Donald Pressley; Eric Rufa; Erik Summey; Gregory Walker; Heather Taylor
Subject: Council Meeting & Staff Meeting

Department Heads:

In light of our limited seating due to the spacing of chairs in the Council Chambers, I am going to allow Department Heads to stay home from the meeting tonight. We do not have any items that you all need to be there for so I think it would be fine if you missed the meeting. It will allow additional space for any members of the public who may show up.

I will be off tomorrow so there will be no staff meeting. I hope this does not disappoint you too badly.

Thanks.

-Mark

Mark E. Biberdorf, ICMA-CM
Town Manager
Town of Fletcher
300 Old Cane Creek Road
Fletcher, NC 28732
(828) 687-3985
www.fletchernc.org

EXHIBIT "B"

Memorandum

To: Council Members

From: Rod Whiteside & Preston Blakely

Date: June 3, 2020

Subject: Proposed Statement in Response to George Floyd Death

We propose the following statement issued by the Mayor and Council Members.

The May 25th death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota focused new light on the ongoing issue of injustice and inequality in America. We believe all people should receive fair treatment under the law and we condemn racism and violence in any form. The death of George Floyd resulted in countless protests. We support the constitutional right of all individuals to peacefully and lawfully assemble without interference. We believe that the current social climate is an opportunity to highlight the importance of accepting and understanding each other regardless of the differences among us. We may not agree on every issue, but we do agree that systemic inequality must be addressed. We form a more perfect union by recognizing our imperfections and working to make things better for all people.

Special Call Meeting
“Close out FY 19/20 Budget Year”
Minutes
June 29, 2020

Call the meeting to order at: 4:00pm

Those who were in attendance are as follows:

Mayor Rod Whiteside
Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy
Councilman Eddie Henderson
Councilman Preston Blakely
Assistant Town Manager Heather Taylor

**Councilwoman Sheila Franklin did not attend this meeting.
Town Manager Mark Biberdorf did not attend this meeting.**

Assistant Town Manager Heather Taylor went over the requested Budget amendments to close out the FY 19/20 fiscal year.

General Fund Budget Amendments:

Budget Amendment #3 to the Hwy 25 project

Budget Amendment #4 to Economic Development Property Acquisition project

Mayor Rod Whiteside asked for a motion approve Budget amendments under general fund, it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilman Preston Blakely.

Motion carries all in favor.

Economic Development Acquisition project

Budget Amendment #1 project under expenditures

Mayor Whiteside asked do we have a motion to approve the economic development amendment and it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and seconded by Councilman Preston Blakely

Motion carries all in favor

Highway 25 Corridor Improvement Project Budget Amendment:

Budget Amendment #2 – Hwy 25 project

Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to approve the Hwy 25 Corridor amendment and Councilman Eddie Henderson stated that he would make the motion and it was seconded by Councilman Preston Blakely

Motion carries all in favor.

Fund Balance Designations

Future Park Development ending FY 19/20

As of last year the amount that we had in the park development fund was \$16,886 and we did not spend any money this year. We earned \$ 1,403 this year so our total in the Park Development Fund is \$ 18,289.00

Mayor Whiteside asked do we have a motion to approve the fund balance designation and it was so moved by Councilman Preston Blakely and it was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Bob Davy.

Motion carries all in favor.

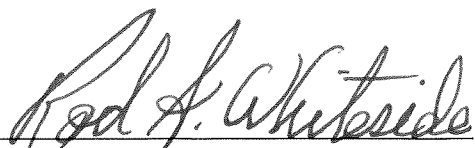
Mayor Whiteside asked for a motion to adjourn and it was so moved by Councilman Eddie Henderson and seconded by Council Preston Blakely.

Motion carries all in favor.

Adjourned: 04:10 pm

Approved:

7-14-2020
Date



Mayor Rod Whiteside