



# TOWN OF SYLVA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Board Room, 83 Allen Street Sylva, North Carolina

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## MINUTES

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**PRESENT:** Mary Gelbaugh, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Greg McPherson, Commissioner  
David Nestler, Mayor  
Natalie Newman, Commissioner  
Brad Waldrop, Commissioner

Paige Dowling, Town Manager  
Amanda Murajda, Town Clerk  
Eric Ridenour, Town Attorney

**ABSENT:** Ben Guiney, Commissioner

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Nestler called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Tanya Giordano (Police Officer) and Chris Hatton (Police Chief).

**VISITORS:** Ruby Annas (Sylva Herald)

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner McPherson made a motion to amend the agenda by removing the discussion on the Town website. The motion carried with a unanimous vote. Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

### APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Newman made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion carries with a unanimous vote.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

### MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Nestler reported that the contract for the Pinnacle Park Action Plan was almost complete.

### COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Gelbaugh offered condolences to the family of Gene Brown. Commissioner Waldrop noted the progress being made on the Allen Street repairs. Commissioner McPherson congratulated the SMHS Class of 2023 on their graduation. He reminded everyone of the skate park grand opening celebration on June 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Commissioner Guiney submitted a report, read by the Mayor, recognizing Kyle Dowling for his heroic efforts saving the life of a wreck victim.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Manager Dowling reported the following:

- Allen Street Update: The first row of soil nails has been completed and shotcrete has started above Bryson Park. The nail drilling on the second row is underway.
- The dedication for Sylva Skate will be June 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. behind Motion Makers.
- The TDA grant application for the Bridge Park expansion/green infrastructure project has been submitted. Dowling thanked Becca Scott and Anne Wade at the Southwestern Commission for their assistance with the application and submittal.
- The 90% plans for the public restroom are available for review.
- Employment Update: Officer Tanya Giordano has been hired to fill a vacancy. Tanya worked ten years in Clearwater, Florida as an officer. Jacob Waldroup has been promoted to Sergeant. Jacob is filling the position Robbie Carter left when he was promoted to Lieutenant. Brittany MacLean will begin in Jacob's officer position July 1<sup>st</sup>. She is transferring from the Highlands Police Department.

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- Alan Brown's seat on the Planning Board is vacant and will need to be filled.
- Dowling will be attending the NC City and County Management Association conference in Wilmington June 20<sup>st</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.
- Town Hall will be closed June 19<sup>th</sup> for Juneteenth. The Monday trash route will be picked up on Tuesday.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**FY 2023-2024 BUDGET ORDINANCE:** Manager Dowling explained that the budget ordinance presented is the same version as advertised. She thanked everyone for their time and effort on budget. *Commissioner McPherson made a motion to approve the budget as presented. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

**FY 2023-2024 FEE SCHEDULE:** Manager Dowling reported that the only change was to add a labor hour charge for the fire department since they were now employees of the Town. *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to approve the FY 2023-2024 fee schedule. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Commissioner Gelbaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 p.m. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.*

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David Nestler  
Mayor

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Amanda W. Murajda  
Town Clerk