

State of North Carolina

County of Rutherford

Town of Spindale

December 5, 2011

The Spindale Board of Commissioners held their regular meeting on December 5, 2011 in the Commissioners' Room of the Spindale House. The following elected officials were present: Mayor Mickey Bland; Commissioners Ed Searcy, Tommy Hardin and Nancy Walker. Staff present included Cameron McHargue, Town Manager; John Crotts, Town Attorney and Cathy Swafford, Town Clerk.

Mayor Bland welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked that we stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Immediately after the pledge the newly elected Commissioners Andrew Kirton, Tom Roberson and incumbent Nancy Walker were sworn in to their respective offices.

### ***Public Comment***

No members of the public chose to comment.

### ***Additions or Deletions to Agenda***

Mayor Bland requested to add the election of Mayor Pro-Tem to the agenda. Commissioner Searcy made a motion to accept the agenda with the noted addition. Commissioner Roberson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### ***Old Business***

None

### ***New Business***

**1. Election of Mayor Pro-Tem** – Commissioner Searcy made a motion to nominate Commissioner Walker as Mayor Pro-Tem. Commissioner Hardin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

**2. Report on FY 2010-11 Audit – Martin, Starnes & Associates** – Brian Epley presented the audit report for FY 2010-11. He noted that the Town received an unqualified opinion, which is what we strive for each year. He discussed the audit process and noted that this year the major change was the classification of fund balance. Whereas in the past there had been 3 classifications, there are now 5. The increase for the available fund balance for FY 2011 is \$241,395. This increase brings available Fund Balance to 40% of General Fund expenditures, a noted improvement from prior years as recommended by the LGC. Several slides were presented that compared FY 2011 to FY 2010 in both revenues and expenditures.

**3. Streetlight Request** - A request for additional street lighting has been made by Marion Payne of 489 Ledbetter Road. After a review of the area by the Chief of Police it has been determined that

additional street-lighting in the New Hampshire Street area would be beneficial due to the construction of several new homes in the area. According to Duke Energy the current costs to add these lights could be configured in 1 of 2 ways. To add a streetlight to an existing pole is \$9.88 per month, if a new pole must be installed the cost is \$12.32 per month. The Town has the option of paying an up-front cost of \$890.00 for a new pole which would then reduce the monthly cost back to \$9.88. The approximate cost for two new streetlights would be between \$237 and \$296 at current rates. After some discussion of the options Commissioner Roberson made a motion to install two new streetlights along New Hampshire Street at the current cost of \$12.32 per month. Commissioner Hardin seconded and the motion carried 4-1 with Commissioner Searcy casting the dissenting vote.

**4. Request to Install Amplified WiFi Distribution** – Commissioner Roberson – Commissioner Roberson requested that he be allowed to install an amplified WiFi distribution to the side of the Spindale Library that will likely make the entire Spindale House and more surrounding area available as a WiFi hotspot. It is his intent that this WiFi become an outreach of the Library and will be available to all as is the current free WiFi. This will be installed and maintained at no cost to the city and would be managed and delegated in accordance with the Board's input and decision.

Before any further discussion Commissioner Roberson requested to be recused from the vote. Commissioner Hardin made a motion to allow Commissioner Roberson to be recused from the vote. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Kirton made a motion to allow Mr. Roberson to add the WiFi distribution to the side of the Library. Commissioner Hardin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### ***Manager's Report***

Mr. McHargue informed the Board of the Essentials of Municipal Government class to be held for Commissioners in Asheville on January 25-26, 2012. He stressed the need for each Commissioner to attend if at all possible. He also informed the Board that the Rural Center had awarded the grants for both Ameridial and Diamondback Tactical. He also noted that mid-year budget reviews with the Department Heads would be in the month of December.

### ***Mayor/Commissioners' Comments***

Commissioner Searcy – wanted to clarify his vote on the streetlights on New Hampshire Street. He indicated that he voted in the nay only because he felt that the Town should pay for the poles upfront.

Commissioner Kirton – none

Commissioner Walker – questioned how to clarify between a car lot and junk cars. Mr. McHargue noted that the current ordinance needs to be looked at and that the Planning Board is working on this with the matrix that they are currently working on.

Commissioner Hardin – asked about streetlights that were currently burned out – Chief McIntosh noted that to his knowledge all that had been reported had been repaired. It also came to Commissioner Hardin's notice that there were no streetlights in Ellington Heights. He asked Mr. McHargue to study the situation in Ellington Heights.

Commissioner Roberson – none

Mayor Bland – none

Commissioner Walker made a motion to go into closed session per NCGS 143-318.11(a)(3) to discuss Matters of Attorney-Client Privilege, (a)(4) Economic Development, and (a)(6) Personnel. Commissioner Kirton seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

After coming back into open session Mayor Bland stated that there was not business to be discussed that was related to the closed session.

By consensus the Board agreed that the January 16<sup>th</sup> meeting should be held as scheduled.

With no further business, Commissioner Hardin made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Walker seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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R. Mickey Bland, Mayor

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Cathy Swafford, Town Clerk