

**Town of Robbinsville
Regular Meeting
January 3, 2018**

A regular Town of Robbinsville meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Hooper at 5 p.m. at the Town Hall on January 3, 2018.

Council present: Brian Johnson, Shaun Adams, Debbie Beasley

Others present: Lisa Leatherman-Duke Energy, Judy Trammel, Loretta Marino, Emma Jane Stinnett, Gary Corsair & Carol Borrelli-Graham Star, Dirk Cody, Juanita Colvard, Amiee Johnson, Claudine Gibson

Approval of meeting minutes. Brian motioned to approve the December 2017 meeting minutes. Shaun seconded.

Old business:

Steve informed the board that the debit/credit card machine should arrive within a week.

New business:

Judy Trammel discussed the business water/sewer rate she is charged for her home/beauty shop. She informed the board that she has very few customers and is on disability. She asked the board to change her to a residential water/sewer rate. Shaun motioned to change Judy Trammel to a residential rate. Vote unanimous.

Loretta Marino discussed the water/sewer bill at Pop & Nana's. She discussed the difference in rates of Murphy/Swain versus here and why our rates are higher. Steve reminded the board of Sharon Edmundson-NC State Treasurer Department advising the board at the December 6th meeting of not being able to reduce the water/sewer rates. Shaun stated that he wanted on record that he is working on it and I will present it to the board soon. Dirk Cody stated that he was going to assist Shaun and said may be some relief but don't know how much. Brian stated that we are aware of customers concerns and we are trying to work something out but our biggest issue is the debt we inherited plus our customer base.

Emma Jane Stinnett asked the board if taxes had been raised. Steve stated the millage rate has been the same since 2015 which is \$0.65 per 100. Dirk Cody asked why the Town millage rate is so much higher than the County. Steve stated that would be something to look at next budget year.

Emma Jane Stinnett mentioned to the board that she had checked with her bank and had not received her deposit refund which Shari had told her had been refunded in February of 2017. Steve told Ms. Stinnett that Shari would check with our bank and call her in regards to the check.

Steve informed the board that Terry James had contacted him in regards to a fence/boundary issue at the Junaluska water tank. The Town has a fence around the water tank which borders Johnny Outen's property and Terry was surveying Mr. Outen's property and found a conflict on one corner. The fence

post is on Mr. Outen's property. Steve entertained a motion to allow Terry James to survey to be able to determine what needs removed from Mr. Outen's property. Shaun made a motion to have the survey done. Vote unanimous.

Lisa Leatherman of Duke Energy introduced herself to the new council members and offered her assistance if needed.

Steve discussed adopting a resolution for secondary signer. In the absence of the Mayor, the Mayor Pro Tem is normally the one designated. Shaun motioned to adopt a resolution designating Brian Johnson as the secondary signer. Vote unanimous. Copy attached.

Steve discussed the Town adopting a resolution in support of the National Parks. The resolution encourages Congress to address the upkeep of National Park systems and ask representatives to set aside budgeted items for upkeep. Brian motioned to adopt the resolution, Debbie seconded. Shaun voted no, stating he would need more information. Copy attached.

The Board discussed the Town using Right Express (WEX) gas cards. Board decided to table until a work session.

Steve discussed the need for a printer to accommodate printing water bills and also mentioned the Coast to Coast quote on ink cartridges. The ink cartridges are lower price and higher print yield than Quill from whom we currently purchase. Brian motioned to purchase printer/ink cartridges. Vote unanimous.

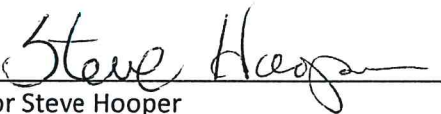
The board discussed Carrie Stewart passing the Physical/Chemical test which the Town normally gives \$1.00 on hour pay increase. The board decided to table for future discussion.

Claudine Gibson/Juanita Colvard was on the agenda but requested to be moved to closed session. Shaun motioned to move them to closed session. Vote unanimous.

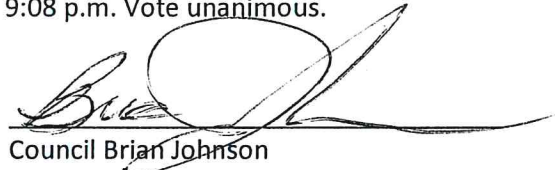
Shaun motioned to go into closed session at 6 p.m. in regards to GS 143-318.11 (a) 1, 2, 3,4,5,6. Vote unanimous.

After coming out of closed session at 8:42 p.m., Shaun motioned to hire Ellen Davis as Town attorney. Vote unanimous.

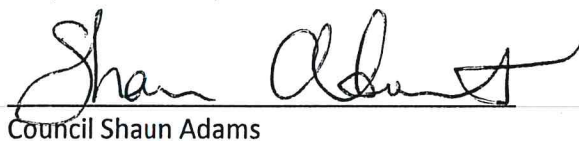
With no further business, Steve motioned to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. Vote unanimous.



Mayor Steve Hooper



Council Brian Johnson



Council Shaun Adams



Council Debbie Beasley