

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND THE TOWN COMMISSIONERS OF
BILTMORE FOREST HELD JULY 14, 2020.

Be it remembered by those that follow these proceedings that the Governing Board of the Town of Biltmore Forest met and conducted the following business:

Roll call taken by the Clerk:

Mayor George F. Goosmann, III, present

Commissioner Doris P. Loomis, present

Commissioner E. Glenn Kelly, present

Commissioner Fran Cogburn, present

Mr. Jonathan Kanipe, the Town Manager was present and Mr. William Clarke, the Town Attorney were also present.

Mayor Goosmann called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Mayor Goosmann asked for a motion to approve the June 9, 2020 and June 10, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion was made by Commissioner Cogburn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kelly. Both sets of minutes were unanimously approved.

Chief Chris Beddingfield gave the Police Department monthly report. Chief Beddingfield said there were multiple attempted break-ins at various homes and vehicles throughout Town, and one break-in to a house. The County also had break-ins of a similar nature. The video footage obtained by Biltmore Forest police matched the description of the suspect the County had encounters with. The suspect from the County was wearing identical clothing. There were also many hours dedicated to watching surveillance footage from hotels to determine whether others were involved.

Residents were notified via Nixle and CodeRed about the break-ins. One individual is currently in custody and one is at large but not believed to be in the area.

Chief Beddingfield emphasized the importance of residents using security cameras and how effective it has been solving crimes in Town. Mayor Goosmann thanked Chief Beddingfield for all their hard work.

Mr. Harry Buckner gave the monthly report for the Public Works Department. The annual CCR water report was sent out. Mr. Buckner said Mr. Austin Tucker and Ms. Laura Jacobs put a great deal of effort into putting this together.

The Powell Bill map is almost complete and will be used more heavily for street assessments. Shoulder repairs have also been done on Brookside and Brooklawn Chase. Mr. Buckner is very pleased with the new employees, Mr. Cody Bartlett and Mr. John Divello.

Commissioner Loomis said Mr. Buckner's report was very detailed and thanked him for a great report. Mr. Buckner said 4,975 miles are driven every month for all of the public works vehicles.

Commissioner Kelly asked Chief Beddingfield what the combined mileage is for police cars. Chief Beddingfield was unsure at that moment but will obtain the data for Commissioner Kelly.

Commissioner Cogburn asked Mr. Buckner about the cleanup of Brooklawn Park. Mr. Buckner asked the Board for suggestions on how they would like the park to look. Commissioner Cogburn said she would like to revisit putting in a walking path especially with the bridge being redone. Commissioner Cogburn said it would be a safer place to walk and it would be free of traffic. Mr. Buckner said he would also like to get control of the underbrush. Mr. Buckner would like to bring in some equipment to mulch the underbrush because it would be much more efficient than simply bush hogging the area.

Commissioner Cogburn said it would be a great asset for the Town to create a walking path and have that area cleaned up. Mayor Goosmann appreciated all of the hard work and thanked Mr. Buckner.

Chief Ryan Cole gave the monthly report for the Skyland Fire Department. Chief Cole said the call volume is back up again and starting they are transporting a lot more COVID patients.

Buncombe County has been at a 2% positive rate for all tests conducted, and last week that jumped to 4%. The state average is about 7%. The state of Florida is at 17.5%. Fall will be challenging with kids going back to school on Plan B and the increase in flu. Chief Cole urged people to maintain social distancing and wear a mask. Mayor Goosmann thanked Chief Cole.

The Board considered Resolution 2020-03- A Resolution Approving the Sale of Surplus Town Property. This is for two vehicle that are no longer needed at the Police Department and also old equipment. This would all be listed on GovDeals. Commissioner Loomis moved to adopt Resolution 2020-03. Commissioner Kelly seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Town Clerk and the Resolution passed unanimously.

The Board considered Resolution 2020-04-A Resolution regarding the Dedication of Land Adjacent to Arboretum Road. Commissioner Kelly moved to adopted Resolution 2020-04. Commissioner Cogburn seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Town Clerk and the Resolution passed unanimously.

The Board considered Resolution 2020-05-A Resolution regarding the Dedication of Land Adjacent to Greenwood Park. Commissioner Cogburn made a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-05. Commissioner Loomis seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Town Clerk and the Resolution passed unanimously.

The Board considered Resolution 2020-06 A Resolution of Appreciation for Dr. Richard Landau for his service on the Board of Adjustment. Commissioner Loomis made a motion to adopt

Resolution 2020-06. Commissioner Cogburn seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Town Clerk and the Resolution passed unanimously.

The next topic of discussion was brush pick up procedures. Mr. Kanipe said brush pickup will be done twice in August and September. Next year this twice monthly pickup will occur in July and August. The current brush ordinance was discussed. Mr. Kanipe discussed enforcement of this ordinance. Mr. Kanipe asked the Board for feedback if they would like to see any changes or improvements. Mr. Kanipe said there have been three calls placed with the CodeRed system as to when they can put brush out.

Mr. Kanipe also discussed existing language in the brush pick-up ordinance. Mr. Kanipe suggested take the word “tree” out and leaving it as “commercial services.”

Commissioner Loomis asked where the brush should be placed. Mr. Buckner said it can be placed 2-3 feet from the road. Mr. Buckner said brush is sometime placed on thee road outside of the five day window. Mr. Buckner said the number one compliance issue is the brush being placed on the roadside outside of the placement window.

Commissioner Cogburn suggested having brush pickup twice a month.

Mr. Kanipe asked the Board if they would like to have the Ordinance clarified as to what the street right-of-way is for brush pickup. Commissioner Loomis said yes.

The next topic of discussion was Consideration of Appointments to Town Advisory Boards. Those members include Ms. Martha Barnes as a new member of the Board of Adjustment to be voted on. A reappointment to the Design Review Board for Ms. Trudy Cappiello and Ms. Andrea Eglington. Commissioner Cogburn made a motion to approve all Board members. Commissioner Loomis seconded the motion. Roll call was taken by the Town Clerk. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mayor Goosmann and the Commissioners recognized Rachel Kuehn for being named All-American in golf. She is a resident of Biltmore Forest, and the daughter of Eric and Brenda Kuehn. Ms. Kuehn is a freshman at Wake Forest University. The Mayor noted that being named All-American is a something only few college freshman receive. The Town of Biltmore Forest wishes to congratulate her for being named an All-American in golf. The Board wishes her well in the many years to come and well done.

Mr. Kanipe gave the manager's report and said the Town is doing well in terms of PPE equipment and cleaning/disinfecting buildings. The staff is doing an excellent job with wearing face coverings. Governor Cooper said the State of North Carolina will remain in phase two for another three weeks.

Mr. Kanipe spoke about the Board of Adjustment meeting last month. The meeting went well considering all the cases that were presented. The second remote meeting is scheduled for next week on June 20th. There will be four cases presented.

Mr. Kanipe discussed the targeted underground program. Most easement are secure and Duke Energy has necessary access. A buried line will be placed within the Town's right of way on Stuyvesant Road, allowing Duke to design around a property for which they could not gain an easement.

Mr. Kanipe told the Board about a current code enforcement action. The nuisance within includes a very large hazardous tree removal for a dead tree off the Town right of way. The tree has been dropping large limbs in the road. There will also be weed and grass removal along with some other significant nuisances of a property. This work will be done on Friday. Four notices have been sent to the resident of this property.

The dispatch office is being updated and the fixtures and furniture were moved in. It is still a work in progress but it is moving along.

There was no Public Comment.

The meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Laura Jacobs". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ms. Laura Jacobs
Town Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George F. Goosmann III". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

George F. Goosmann, III
Mayor