

a Coastal Ride and a Mountain to Coast Ride. In 2019 they will have an overnight stay in our area with over 1200 riders.

Banners, Maps, Wine Trail Guide: They have re-done the banners, which are multi-colored.

Foothills Shared Dropbox: working with Polk County Tourism to gather photos

Pending Press: Advertising in Foothills Visitors Guide, Southern Farm & Garden, Blue Ridge Motorcycle Magazine, Bold Life Magazine, Carolina Home & Garden, Hendersonville Times New, Elsian Magazine, Sidelines Magazine, SC Relocation Guide, Edible Upcountry, Scout Guide and the Love Landrum billboard on I-26.

Commissioner Armbrust asked when the Art of the Horse map will be available. Ms. Wiener stated when they nail down all of the locations. Armbrust offered the location of 289 S. Trade Street if they need an additional location. Ms. Strickland stated they are working on the Culinary/Wine Trail.

A lady stated that she has just heard that they were putting a horse in the corner park at Town Hall. They haven't received all the locations of the sprinklers. The wall hasn't been fixed yet. Ms. Strickland stated they are working with Zach and the landscapers to find the sprinklers. The lady asked about the grass where the horse is placed and asked if the horse was going to be permanent. Mayor Peoples stated that Zach will be the one to make the decisions. Town Manager Ollis stated he met with Ms. Nichols of the Garden Club about the spot and he will be meeting with the construction company at the park to go over the construction on the wall. He has already talked with Ms. Nichols about the scaffolding and not placing it on the plants. The Garden Club takes such pride in the park and we are not going to do any damage. Ms. Strickland stated the horse will be auctioned off and when removed they will plant grass back in its place.

The Board thanked Ms. Strickland for all they have done for our community.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION

Town Manager Ollis stated last month he presented properties in order to discuss their future use as a greenway or other area of service. Identified properties were T8-F4, T7-A46 and T7-A47. Those were two at the cemetery and one off of Howard. As a reminder he will get a map made of everything we own.

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to purchase F4, A46 and A47. Two of those will be contiguous to the cemetery, so we can expand it and the third one is contiguous to a piece of property that we already own. We think that will make this property large enough maybe to be sold and buildable or if it is close enough to the cemetery we might incorporate that also. Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to purchase the three properties, T8-F4, T7-A46 and T7-A47. The motion carried unanimously.

HUCKLEBERRY'S DEPOT REQUEST

Mayor Peoples stated Huckleberry's had a made a request to use the Depot Plaza and to use the restrooms at the Depot. The board had decided earlier they will be able to use the Depot Plaza, but would need to contact the people at Parsec Financial for the use of the Depot restrooms.

Commissioner Armbrust made a motion to approve the request to use the Depot Plaza. The motion carried unanimously.

POLK COUNTY TDA DISCUSSION AND VOTE

Town Manager Ollis stated they spoke earlier regarding the inter-local agreement and the by-laws for the Tourism Development Authority. Most questions were answered in our work session. Mr. Morgan stated in paragraph 1b. This agreement may only terminate upon passing of special legislation and redistricting of the special tax district. It would be hard to terminate, if not impossible. Commissioner Armbrust is very uncomfortable with this. Commissioner Crowell stated he feels that it would be good for the town. Mayor Peoples stated he feels that if you went to the legislation and had a rationale reason they would possibly let us opt out of it. Crowell stated if we were unhappy and Saluda were unhappy he felt something could be done. Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adopt as presented by the Manager. Commissioner Ingham stated he was unclear about a few things, but felt this has been going on long enough that we need to vote. Ollis asked what questions he had. Ingham stated the termination of contract, but he is okay with it now and how the money would be distributed. He is comfortable with everything now. Commissioner Booker stated it depends if you want to be tied to something indefinitely. Crowell stated he likes the extra money and it takes it off of our backs to collect the money. Mayor Peoples stated there are positives and negatives. The only negative is that you have to go back to legislation to get out of it. Ingham stated there are more positives than negatives. Armbrust agreed.

Crowell stated the contract somewhat protects us about getting our percentage of the money to market Tryon. Peoples asked how much we received last year. Ollis stated around \$20,000. You will get an extra two cents. Out of the six cents the county will get one cent. In the inter-local agreement it states eighty three percent of revenue collected within the boundaries of each participating municipality shall be placed in a special travel and tourism development grant for each municipality. Peoples asked if we met every criteria of the state for the portion of tax, could the county board turn us down. Mr. Morgan stated no, they are signing this agreement also.

Ollis stated both municipalities would see their tax raised and only they will be able to use that. The county tax will also have a fund that can be used anywhere.

Commissioner Crowell made a motion to accept the TDA proposal by Polk County with Tryon and Saluda. The motion carried unanimously.

FINANCE POLICY

Town Manager Ollis stated in front of you is the Finance Policy that was passed on the second reading on August 15, 2017. It's up for discussion. Mayor Peoples stated the discussion is whether or not to leave the fund balance at thirty percent or reduce it. Ingham stated he didn't want to do anything until we get the audit. Crowell stated he wanted to see the audit and hold another work session and work on it. Armbrust asked when we would receive the audit. Ollis stated we received an e-mail today that they will be prepared in April. Armbrust asked prepared and presented. Ollis stated it could be presented at the April meeting. Peoples stated then we will put this on the agenda for next month.

MONTHLY PROJECT PRIORITIZATION LIST

Town Manager Ollis wanted to go over the delays with the leaf pickup. We were put behind a month for the tornado and in doing the daily jobs. It has proven to be more than the crews can handle at one time.

If you would like to call we can tell you where your street is on the list. We had some repairs made to the water plant. Greg and staff did a great job on the repairs. We had a water loss and the crews came in and worked overtime to process the water. We have had insurance inspections and state inspections. Travis is getting ready to start the riverbank restoration project. The bulk of it will be underway further toward the end of this month. We've had a lot of water line breaks. A tree down in Woodland Park. The guys are checking on this and if it is down the way it is said, we will have to get a crew in to take the tree out. Cleared the bank behind Town Hall, because of a landslide that we had. Met with the contractor about Streetscape. Met with contractor regarding the wall at Town Hall. A lot of things are in transition. Armbrust stated there seems to be a missing item on the list. Ollis stated the hitching posts were painted by Commissioner Armbrust. Armbrust would like the sign straightening added back to the list.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Ollis has already done this.

COUNCIL/MAYOR REPORT

Commissioner Armbrust thanked the Polk County Community Foundation for the grants to all the municipalities for them to attend the N. C. Main Street Conference. It was an excellent conference. The keynote address was phenomenal. Congratulations to Gayle and Scott Lane. The Missildine project received the Award of Merit for design, an excellent recognition of their contribution. Harper's Restaurant will be opening in a couple of weeks. They will be paving the parking lot on Thursday at the 289 S. Trade Street building. Thank you to the Fire Department for their efforts regarding several fires, particularly Red Dog Relics.

Commissioner Crowell thanked staff for all their work they have done and Zach. He would like to make a request of council to move the September 18th meeting to September 11th because he will be out of the country and the November 20th to 13th because this is the week of Thanksgiving. Just think about this. Ingham has no problem with that.

Commissioner Booker thanked everyone for coming and wished them a safe trip home.

Mayor Pro Tem Ingham stated the presentation from Our Carolina Foothills was fantastic. A lot of hard work. He was really impressed. Thanks to our staff for all the hard work that you do. Thanks for coming out tonight.

Mayor Peoples stated he went to see Gayle and Scott receive their award. It was fantastic to hear Tryon talked about. Three members of the board attended the Dallara fundraiser. He has raised \$400,000 for the project. Bobby Richardson, New York Yankee Second Baseman was the featured speaker.

He has twenty-three teams coming out this Saturday. There is a cemetery cleanup this Saturday also starting around 9:00 a.m. Thanks to the staff for all that you do. He hears about leaf pickup also. If you get out at times and see what our employees do you would be amazed. He started twelve years ago with forty-six employees and now we have twenty-nine.

CITIZEN COMMENTS & RESPONSES

Karandall Gary asked if we were in the process of the budget, could we put out trash cans. He picks up trash throughout the town. Ollis stated we are working on trash cans to place around town. He is working with Mr. Fox. Rebecca Nesbitt asked where the trash cans will be placed. Ollis stated W. Livingston and Peake if he remembers correctly. Ms. Nesbitt stated you probably need three. Peoples stated he could get with Mr. Fox and see where they need to be.

Jamie Carpenter thanked Mayor Peoples, Commissioner Armbrust and Zach for attending the Main Street Conference. She also recognized Dean Trakas for being the N. C. Main Street Champion. She would like for him to be recognized at the May meeting. April Fools celebration will be April 7th. It will be a small event with street musicians. May 4th will be planting day for Tryon Blooms. The garden clubs are helping us. The Polk County High School FFA are growing the flowers. June 24th will be Farm to Trade. Cost \$40. May 12th is the AFROfest. There will be a new restaurant opening in town along with a new flower shop.

ADJOURN

Mayor Peoples entertained a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Armbrust so moved. The motion carried unanimously.

J. Alan Peoples, Mayor

Attest:

Susan B. Bell, Town Clerk