

**TOWN OF VALDESE  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 2, 2018**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, April 2, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., in the Town Council Chambers at Town Hall, 102 Massel Avenue, SW, Valdese, North Carolina. The following were present: Mayor John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., Councilman Keith Ogle, Councilwoman Frances Hildebran, Councilwoman Susan Stevenson, Councilman Gary L. Delp and Councilman Roy F. Sweezy. Also present were: Town Manager Seth Eckard, Town Attorney Marc Mitchell, Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy, and various department heads.

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Mayor Black called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He offered the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**VALDESE LAKESIDE PARK-DEBBIE BRADLEY 119 MORGAN TRACE, VALDESE** Ms. Bradley expressed her gratitude to Council for giving her the opportunity to speak about the town's new park. Ms. Bradley informed Council that she has been reading about emerging trends in parks. The two trends she would like to suggest that Council consider are a dog park and senior park, or playground. Ms. Bradley feels that there is a need for a dog park in Valdese as many dog owners have to travel to other municipalities for this amenity. Ms. Bradley also shared that there are only 15 senior parks in the United States, one is in Charlotte. Ms. Bradley finished by offering her assistance with promoting the park and seeking grant opportunities.

**HISTORY MUSEUM OF BURKE COUNTY-JOHN HOWARD & CLAUDE SITTON, 201 WEST MEETING ST, MORGANTON** Mr. Howard provided an overview of the museum's budget and explained that the museum is seeking financial support from surrounding municipalities to continue delivering high quality services to the community. Mr. Howard provided a list of facts and accomplishments. Mr. Sitton invited Council to visit the museum for a tour.

**RECREATION FEES AND TAX INCREASE-JEAN-MARIE COLE, 705 BERTIS STREET SW, VALDESE** Ms. Cole informed Council that she is concerned with the increase in recreation fees as she is worried that users will stop coming here if our rates are not competitive with the surrounding area. Ms. Cole stated that she is in favor of developing the lakeside park but is not in favor of a tax increase for this as she feels there is other needs for tax dollars at this time.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** (enacted by one motion)

**APPROVED REGULAR MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2018**

**APPROVED BUDGET RETREAT MINUTES OF MARCH 19, 2018**

**SPRING LITTER SWEEP, APRIL 14-28, 2018** The Town will be participating in the North Carolina Department of Transportation's Biannual Cleanup Drive that will be held April 14-28, 2018.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned items on the Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

***End Consent Agenda***

**ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:** None.

**APPROVED TOWN OF VALDESE MISSION STATEMENT**

**Mission Statement**

The Town of Valdese welcomes growth and diversity to enhance, while preserving, our existing neighborhoods, natural amenities and rich history for current residents and future generations.

**Vision**

The Town of Valdese will be a modern and innovative town in Western North Carolina, focused on cultural, economic and environmental sustainability.

**Our Values**

Community We strive to maintain the town as a safe place to live, work, and raise a family. Our community is full of diverse individuals that have different opinions and beliefs; we value and respect the rights and differences of everyone. Our community becomes stronger when we unite with our merchants and business owners by supporting their goals and celebrating their successes.

Leadership We believe that government should be accountable, transparent in all engagements, and fiscally responsible stewards of the town’s assets. We will provide and encourage an atmosphere that supports job satisfaction and professional growth for all town staff. Management will identify programs and opportunities to engage future leaders.

Service We are responsive and service-oriented to meet the needs of our citizens. We recruit the best and highest qualified candidates and train a team with the knowledge and skills to carry out the mission of the town through transparent civic engagement and by providing the very best services to our citizens.

Heritage We will encourage growth and rehabilitation of our town through careful planning to provide an improved quality of life and standard of living for our citizens that reflects the town’s unique heritage and culture.

Integrity Our personal and professional conduct is guided by high ethical and honest standards. We are open, reliable and consistent in all activities.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned mission statement, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

**ADOPTED TOWN OF VALDESE ACTION PLAN** The Town of Valdese Action Plan was created based on the findings of the January 8, 2018 strategic planning session held at the Western Piedmont Council of Governments’ office. A copy of the Action Plan is available for inspection on the Town’s website and in the clerk’s office.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the Town of Valdese Action Plan, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

**REVISED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH VALDESE WATER RECYCLING** Mayor Black removed this item from the agenda. This item may be presented at a future meeting.

**SECOND CDBG PUBLIC HEARING-DEMOLITION GRANT TO REMOVE OLD ALBA WALDENSIAN PLANT** Mayor Black opened the public hearing and requested permission to continue the public hearing at the May 7, 2018 meeting.

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to continue the public hearing at the May 7, 2018 Council meeting, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM CDBG** Mayor Black removed this item from the agenda. This item may be presented at a future meeting.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A MAIN STREET WATERLINE PROJECT**

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM  
NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A  
DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction of wastewater or drinking water system improvements, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese has need for and intends to construct a drinking water system project described as the Main Street Water Line Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese intends to request State and/or Federal (loan, forgivable principal or grant) funding assistance for the project,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE VALDESE TOWN COUNCIL:

That Town of Valdese, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State and/or Federal (loan or grant) award.

That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the Applicant agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the Town of Valdese to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the Town of Valdese any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Seth Eckard, Town Manager, the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Applicant with the State of North Carolina for a (loan or grant) to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application for the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the Applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April of 2018 at Valdese, North Carolina.

/s/ John F. Black, Jr., Mayor

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT BLEACH CONVERSION PROJECT**

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM  
NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A  
DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, The Federal Clean Water Act Amendments of 1987 and Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996 and the North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G) have authorized the making of loans and grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost of construction of wastewater or drinking water system improvements, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese has need for and intends to construct a drinking water system project described as the Water Treatment Plant Bleach Conversion Project; and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese intends to request State and/or Federal (loan, forgivable principal or grant) funding assistance for the project,

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE VALDESE TOWN COUNCIL:

That Town of Valdese, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State and/or Federal (loan or grant) award.

That the Applicant will adopt and place into effect on or before completion of the project a schedule of fees and charges and other available funds which will provide adequate funds for proper operation, maintenance, and administration of the system and the repayment of all principal and interest on the debt.

That the governing body of the Applicant agrees to include in the loan agreement a provision authorizing the State Treasurer, upon failure of the Town of Valdese to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the Town of Valdese any State funds that would otherwise be distributed to the local government unit in an amount sufficient to pay all sums then due and payable to the State as a repayment of the loan.

That the Applicant will provide for efficient operation and maintenance of the project on completion of construction thereof.

That Seth Eckard, Town Manager, the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Applicant with the State of North Carolina for a (loan or grant) to aid in the construction of the project described above.

That the Authorized Official, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such application for the project: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the application.

That the Applicant has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to Federal and State grants and loans pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April of 2018 at Valdese, North Carolina.

/s/ John F. Black, Jr., Mayor

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING WATER RESOURCES CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING AND ACCEPTING UPDATES TO THE  
TOWN OF VALDESE WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND  
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese recognizes the need to plan for the future in all aspects related to delivering quality and efficient public services to the citizens of Valdese; and,

WHEREAS, there is a need to continue efficiently managing Town assets, to reduce cost, protect property and operate in a more proactive fashion; and,

WHEREAS, a Capital Improvements Plan for the Town's water and sewer enterprise fund aids in planning the cost of doing business, improve the level of service, protect the local environment, ensure continued viability of the Town's enterprise fund, and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese is ready to implement an updated Capital Improvements Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the matter has been reviewed by Town Council, Town Manager, and other Town staff.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VALDESE, NORTH CAROLINA:

The Town Council acknowledges, accepts, and approves the document entitled Capital Improvements Plan, March 2018, Town of Valdese.

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The Town Manager of the Town of Valdese is hereby directed to cause Town staff to follow the items found in the Capital Improvements Plan as reasonably as possible for the operation and maintenance of the Town of Valdese Water and Sewer Systems.

Adopted and approved this the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2018.

/s/ John F. Black, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Frances Hildebran, Town Clerk

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

**UPDATE ON STUDY OF INTERSECTIONS AT ST. GERMAIN AVE, RODORET ST, AND MASSEL AVE** Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth provided an update on the traffic signal control panel issue at the intersection of St Germain Ave and Rodoret Street. J.M. Teague Engineering and Planning studied the intersection to determine whether or not a traffic signal is necessary at this intersection. During this study, traffic at the intersection of Rodoret Street and Massel Ave was also analyzed. Mr. Duckworth stated that normal traffic in this section of Valdese has traffic flowing east /west and stopping north/south; the intersection of Rodoret St and Massel Ave is the exception. Staff recommendation that Council follow J.M. Teague's advice and make changes to the intersection of St. Germain Ave and Rodoret St, and Rodoret St. and Massel Ave. A resolution will be presented, for adoption, at the next meeting.

**RESOLUTION FOR OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT WHISNANT STREET** Public Works Director

#### RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO SELL REAL PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Roger Neil Shatley (Shatley) has offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$61,490 that parcel containing approximately 4,116 square feet, which is identified as "Portion of Town of Valdese Property to be Recombined with PIN 2743346272" in that map prepared by West Consultants, PLLC titled, "Town of Valdese (Whisnant Street SE Relocation)", which is on file at the Valdese Town Hall (the Map), together with that part of the adjoining parcel identified on the Map as "Portion of Whisnant Street SE to be Closed and Recombined", that is owned by the Town (both adjoining parcels are referred to as "the Property"); and

WHEREAS, the Property is located near the Alray Tire facility; and WHEREAS, the town council proposes to accept Shatley's offer; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 160A-269, Shatley has deposited an amount equal to 5% of his bid; and

WHEREAS, the town council is required to publish a notice containing a general description of the Property, the amount and terms of the offer and notice that within ten (10) days any person may raise the bid as provided by G.S. 160A-269;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The town council intends to accept Shatley's offer to purchase the Property for the sum of \$61,490.
2. Shatley shall be required to deposit with the town clerk the sum of at least 5% his bid as required by G.S. 160A-269.
3. A notice of this offer shall be published as required by G.S. 160A-269.

This resolution was adopted April 2, 2018.

/s/ John F. Black, Jr., Mayor

Councilman Ogle made a motion to adopt the aforementioned ordinance, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

#### **BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

Valdese Town Council Meeting

Monday, April 02, 2018

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Budget Amendment No. 13

Subject: Fire Truck Purchase

Memorandum:

As per discussions held in previous council meetings pertaining to the subject, the following budget amendment is essential in order to appropriate the necessary funds.

Action Suggested:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina that the following amendment is made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Acct. No.		<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.5300.740	Capital Equipment	-----	851,097
Total	\$	=====	\$851,097

This will result in a net increase of \$851,097 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide funding for the above, the following revenue budgets will be increased. These additional revenues have already been received.

Acct. No.		<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.3970.762	Loan Proceeds	851,097	-----
Total		\$851,097	=====

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Valdese Town Council Meeting Monday, April 02, 2018

Budget Amendment No. 14

Subject: Transfers From Capital Project Funds

Memorandum:

As per discussions held in previous council meetings pertaining to the subject, the following budget amendment is essential in order to appropriate the necessary funds.

Action Suggested:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina that the following amendment is made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Acct. No.		<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
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10.5100.021	Police Over Time	4,000	
10.5100.330	Mobile Phone Analyzer	1,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 5,000	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$ 5,000 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide funding for the above, the following revenue budgets will be increased. These additional revenues have already been received.

Acct.			
<u>No.</u>			
10.3970.302	Capital Project Fund		4,000
10.5300.912	Fire Truck Debt Service		1,000
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$ 5,000
		=====	=====

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

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Budget Amendment No. 15

Subject: Public Art Donation

Memorandum:

As per discussions held in previous council meetings pertaining to the subject, the following budget amendment is essential in order to appropriate the necessary funds.

Action Suggested:

BE IT ORDAINED by the Governing Board of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina that the following amendment is made to the annual budget ordinance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018:

Section 1. To amend the General Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Acct.			
<u>No.</u>			
10.6250.926	Public Art	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
		25,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 25,000	
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$ 25,000 in the expenditures of the General Fund. To provide funding for the above, the following revenue budgets will be increased. These additional revenues have already been received.

Acct.			
<u>No.</u>			
10.3350.002	Donation - Art		25,000
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$ 25,000
		=====	=====

Section 2. Copies of this budget amendment shall be furnished to the Clerk to the Governing Board, to the Budget Officer and the Finance Officer for their direction.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the aforementioned budget amendments, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

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**MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:** Councilman Delp shared that the residents on Laurel Street have noticed that traffic speeds had been slower for some time but appear to be increasing in the recently changed zone. Police Chief Jack Moss asked if there was a specific time period where this issue is most notable. Mr. Delp indicated that it happens throughout the day, with no time more significant than another. Chief Moss offered to monitor this area closer.

Councilwoman Stevenson mentioned the increase in activity near the property for the proposed lakeside park, sharing that she was recently out there and noticed a lot of people walking. Ms. Stevenson expressed concern regarding vehicles not abiding to the posted speed limit. Ms. Stevenson requested that department heads encourage their staff to be cautious while driving in the area, as there are more people using this road now.

Councilman Ogle thanked the Valdese Police Department for their quick response to a recent issue. Mr. Ogle hoped that the department will be able to continue to resolve these types of issues as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Councilwoman Hildebran shared the following update on the library: Burke County Public Library Director Jim Wilson informed Ms. Hildebran that surveying work has started and meetings have been held with the architect to discuss preliminary drawings. The size of the addition is almost 3,000 sq. ft. and will include a large programming room that will be the largest program area the county has, a sliding partition between the large program room and the demonstration kitchen, as many as four areas for programs and/or activities, additional office/workspace for staff, more storage and additional restrooms for the public. The current plans include approximately 12 parking places adjacent to the expansion and a small concrete plaza in front of the expansion that could be used for outdoor programs and activities. This plan should allow enough funds to make the following renovations to the existing building: redo interior finishes, some new flooring, replace lights and ceiling tiles/grids, exterior paint, window coverings, sidewalk replacement and restroom alterations.

Mayor Black informed Council that the park dedication that was held on Thursday, March 29, 2018, was well attended by a lot of excited people. Mr. Black recognized the volunteers for their hard work to clean the site. Mr. Black expressed his appreciation to North Carolina Department of Transportation for recent modifications to some downtown sidewalks to meet ADA compliance for handicap access, at no cost to the town. Planning Director Larry Johnson shared that staff has submitted an application for additional sidewalks.

**MANAGER'S REPORT:** Town Manager Seth Eckard commended Public Works for their litter clean-up efforts around town. Mr. Eckard shared that he has received a lot of positive feedback as a result of their hard work. Mr. Eckard informed Council of the following upcoming events:

Valdese Lakeside Park Public Input Meeting, Tuesday, April 3, 2018, Old Rock School, 6:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m.

Movies at the Rock, "Wonder", Friday, April 6, 2018, 7 p.m.

April Craft Market-Saturday, April 14, 2018, Old Rock School, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Emerge Valdese Social, Tuesday, April 17, 2018, 100 Main, 6 p.m.-8 p.m.

Budget Workshop Dinner Meeting, Monday, April 23, 2018, Valdese Town Hall Community Room, 6:00 p.m.

WPCOG Annual Meeting, Thursday, April 26, 2018, 6:30 p.m., Crowne Plaza, Hickory

Special Council Workshop scheduled for Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall Community Room

Next Regular Council meeting scheduled for Monday, May 7, 2018, 6 p.m.

Family Friday Nights begin May 4, 2018.

**CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (a)(5)** To instruct the public body's staff concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange or lease.

At 6:47 p.m., Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to recess into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(5) to instruct the public body's staff concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange or lease. The motion was seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Black said the Closed Session was only an informational item and there would be no action taken afterwards.

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At 7:13 p.m., Councilman Delp made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

**ADJOURNMENT** At 7:14 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

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Town Clerk

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Mayor