

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - BUDGET WORKSHOP
APRIL 23, 2018**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, April 23, 2018, at 6:00 p.m., in the Community Room 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, Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy, Planning Director Larry Johnson and Finance Director Jerry LaMaster.

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Others present: Dwayne Wilson and Nancy Walsh with Dwayne Wilson Insurance & Financial Services.

Mayor Black called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., and invited members of Council to enjoy dinner catered by Old World Baking Company.

SET TIME AND DATE FOR CDBG FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FOR MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018, 6:00 PM, VALDESE TOWN HALL Planning Director Larry Johnson informed Council that North Carolina Department of Commerce is accepting grant applications for housing revitalization funds through the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. This program provides local governments with funding for housing, housing related activities, and public facilities that support housing activities for low-to-moderate income persons. Mr. Johnson stated that this program could be beneficial for the town and requested that Council hold a first public hearing to solicit citizen input.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to set the date for the first CDBG public hearing for Monday, May 7, 2018 at 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

VALDESE BUILDING REUSE PROGRAM The proposed Building Reuse Program was discussed with Council at the budget retreat held on Monday, March 19, 2018. Town Manager Seth Eckard informed Council that staff is recommending that this program not be developed; wishing to allocate additional funds to the current Façade Grant program. Mr. Eckard stated that this program currently receives \$10,000 annually, he would like to increase that to \$20,000 in the FY 18-19 budget.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE Mr. Wilson and Ms. Walsh discussed United Healthcare's renewal quote, provided an overview of their experience with UHC over the past year, and informed Council that our coverage is being discussed with other providers. Mr. Wilson shared that our renewal rate last year was 42%. During FY 17-18, claims totaled \$700,000. Mr. Wilson expects to obtain rates within a range of 5-10% and will update staff as soon as the quotes are received.

SPECIAL PROJECTS BUDGET Town Manager Seth Eckard offered an update on Town projects.

PROPOSED BUDGET AND HIGHLIGHTS - FY 18-19 Town Manager Seth Eckard and Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the proposed budget for FY 18-19. They reviewed the General and Utility Funds Revenues and Expenditures.

PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE FY 18-19 Town Manager Seth Eckard briefly reviewed the proposed rate structure which was also presented at the budget retreat.

ADJOURNMENT At 7:37 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 7, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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