

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, January 9, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF BURKE COUNTY PROCLAMATION Mayor Black presented the following proclamation to Cathy Williams and Gene Gaither:

PROCLAMATION HONORING BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF BURKE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese, North Carolina, believes that all young people deserve the opportunity to become healthy, happy and productive citizens; and

WHEREAS, we community leaders recognize the value that supportive and committed adult mentors play in the lives of young people, which in turn helps build a strong, sustainable community; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese encourages all adults to play a role in supporting youth mentoring through volunteering, financial support or advocacy about the benefits of mentoring; and

WHEREAS, the Big Brothers Big Sisters Program of Burke County give adults an opportunity to do their part to strengthen our community and our world by providing youth with long-term quality mentoring that is proven to help them reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, in Valdese there are many young people who would benefit from the mentoring movement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, John F. Black, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Valdese, do hereby proclaim January 2017 as NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH in Valdese, and call upon all citizens, businesses, public and private agencies, as well as religious and educational institutions, to join the mentoring movement and be a part of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Burke County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of January 2017.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – DECEMBER 5, 2016

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE OF MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2017, 6:00 P.M., FOR TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE (4-12-16)

ADOPTED RESOLUTION APPROVING THE GRANTING OF AN OPTION TO WESTERN NC HOUSING PARTNERSHIP, INC., TO PURCHASE TOWN PROPERTY (CROWHILL) PURSUANT TO G.S. 160A-279

**RESOLUTION APPROVING THE GRANTING OF
AN OPTION TO WESTERN NC HOUSING PARTNERSHIP, INC.
TO PURCHASE TOWN PROPERTY PURSUANT TO G.S. 160A-279**

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese owns two adjoining lots, a 5.62-acre more or less tract (PIN 2733637157) and a .388-acre more or less tract (PIN 2733639402), said parcels being the parcels on which the Crow Hill Park was located (the property); and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-279 authorizes a town to convey real property by private sale to a nonprofit corporation if the town is authorized to appropriate money to that corporation; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-456(b) authorizes a town council to exercise directly those powers that are granted to housing authorities; and

WHEREAS, a basic power granted to housing authorities is the power to prepare, carry out, and operate housing projects; and

WHEREAS, a housing project, as defined in G.S. 157-3(12), includes programs that assist developers of multifamily housing; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 160A-20.1 authorizes towns to appropriate money to private organizations to carry out any activity that a town could carry out directly; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese is therefore authorized to appropriate money to private organizations that develop multifamily housing for persons of low or moderate income; and

WHEREAS, because a town may appropriate money to such organizations, G.S. 160A-279 authorizes the private sale of real property to such organizations; and

WHEREAS, Western NC Housing Partnership, Inc. (WNC) proposes to purchase the property and use the property to provide housing for persons making not more than 60% of the median income of the area; and

WHEREAS, providing affordable housing to such low or moderate income persons would benefit the Town of Valdese and help meet the housing needs of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, WNC has asked the Town of Valdese to grant to WNC an option to purchase the property at a purchase price that is the lesser of the fair market value of the property as determined by appraisal, the sum of \$60,000 or \$10,000 per acre; and

WHEREAS, the proposed option would terminate on July 1, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the town council is of the opinion that providing housing for persons of low and moderate income would be in the best interest of the citizens of the town and that the construction of housing units would increase the town's tax base;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Pursuant to G.S. 160A-279, the mayor of the Town of Valdese is authorized to execute on behalf of the Town of Valdese an option agreement with WNC upon the terms set forth above.
2. If WNC exercises its option to purchase the property, the mayor is authorized pursuant to G. S. 160A-279 to execute on behalf of the Town of Valdese a deed conveying the property to WNC.
3. The town clerk shall publish a notice pursuant to G.S. 160A-267 summarizing the contents of this resolution, and the sale of the property may not be consummated until 10 days after the publication of that notice.

THIS, the 9th day of January, 2017.

TOWN OF VALDESE
By: /s/ John F. Black, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

ACCEPTED GRANT AGREEMENT (CDBG 14-E-2698) FROM NC RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR MERIDIAN SPECIALTY YARNS WATER PROJECT Grant in the amount of \$1 million for public water improvements including the back-up generator at the water plan and valve work to benefit the proposed Meridian Specialty Yarns

expansion. The \$900,000 Economic Development Incentives Agreement to be paid over five years serves as the local match for the water project grant.

ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT AGREEMENT (U-465) FROM NC RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FOR MERIDIAN SPECIALTY YARNS SEWER PROJECT Grant in the amount of 898,425 to assist with sewer improvements to benefit operations at Meridian Specialty Yarns. There is a Town match of \$299,475 which will be included in future budgets Capital Improvement Plan.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA None.

DOWNTOWN WI-FI PRESENTATION BY KATALYST REPRESENTATIVE SAM WARNECKE Town Manager Seth Eckard said last September the Town was awarded a \$50,000 Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) grant for the purpose of installing free downtown Wi-Fi on Main Street from Church Street to Eldred Street. A \$15,000 grant was also awarded from The Rostan Family Foundation for the project. Two bids were received and he introduced Sam Warnecke and Kit Johnston with Katalyst. They offered information on their company which had been in business for 11 years and was located in Hickory, North Carolina, with 60 employees with three offices in addition to Hickory, Charlotte and Spartanburg, South Carolina. They offered a PowerPoint presentation regarding solution, functionality, design access points, and wireless technology.

Mr. Eckard said the other vendors he spoke with did not have the capability to collect data of where high density areas were, high foot traffic, where users were going and when accessing network, and for how long. The network picks up wireless devices without someone physically logging on. A lot of knowledge could be obtained during events.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked who would monitor. Mr. Eckard said Katalyst and the Town Manager and Larry Johnson would also have access.

Access points would be installed on downtown buildings as identified because NCDOT and Duke Energy would not allow additions to their facilities.

Councilman Delp asked who determined how far east and west Wi-Fi would be served. Mr. Eckard said Sherry Long with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments said the amount of funding determined the length to be served. Councilman Delp said the barber shop on the east end of town would not be served.

Mr. Eckard said regarding to equipment added to downtown buildings that staff would recognize the building owners as there would be a small cost of approximately \$15 per year for electricity. Mr. Eckard asked Community Affairs Director Morrisa Angi to update Council on how the building owners would be recognized. Ms. Angi said the merchants would be showcased on the Town's website.

Town Attorney Marc Mitchell asked how long the commitment would be for the building owners and if it was permanent. Mr. Warnecke said as long as the Town had the Wi-Fi network.

Mr. Kit Johnston reviewed Plan A and Plan B. He reviewed a list of buildings for access points. He said the building owner may have their own staff or may prefer their own contracted staff to mount the equipment on the buildings. They could locate a subcontractor to penetrate the roof.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked who would pay to install equipment on the downtown buildings and was staff asking the owners of buildings to upfront costs and was this part of the package.

Councilman Ogle asked if Katalyst would run the cable. Katalyst Representatives said the cable would be done by a contracted cable company.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked if a building owner decided it no longer wanted the equipment on their building what would happen. Mr. Eckard said Katalyst would assist the town in those decisions.

Councilman Ogle asked who would pay for pulling the cable. Katalyst Representatives said as stated in the contract, cabling would be the responsibility of the Town of Valdese. Councilman Ogle said that would not be part of the \$66,000 and it would not be a turnkey.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if the money available would take care of all the cable. Councilman Ogle said it would not cover running the cable.

Mr. Eckard asked how involved the issue of running cable was. Larry Johnson said Charter would need to run the cable.

Mr. Kit Johnston further explained about running an Ethernet cable.

Councilman Delp said next year the cost would be approximately \$16,000 and where would the funds come from. Mr. Eckard said funds would come from the budget.

AWARD OF BID FOR WI-FI

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the award of bid to Katalyst in the amount of \$66,084, seconded by Councilman Delp.

(Other bid: Trificient in the amount of \$70,034; Frontier Communications – no bid received.)

Mr. Eckard said a budget amendment would be presented at the next Council meeting.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she understood that this included everything except the cable.

Mayor Black said the business owners may not understand that they would not have Wi-Fi inside their buildings, only on the street.

Councilwoman Hildebran said there were still unanswered questions. Mr. Eckard said yes, regarding the cable.

Mr. Eckard said staff recommended that Council table this item until the next Council meeting. Larry Johnson said staff should have answers within 30 days as well as notify business owners they would not have Wi-Fi inside their buildings.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion (which over rides the previous motion) to Table the Award of Bid for Wi-Fi until a later time, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KATALYST TABLED

SMART METER READING PRESENTATION – ANDY HONEYCUTT Mr. Eckard said he and Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth had discussed smart metering and found an independent consultant to assist with the process. He introduced Mr. Honeycutt to offer a presentation.

Mr. Honeycutt offered a presentation on smart metering and said due diligence on the front end would pay tremendous dividends on the back end especially for 4,800 customers impacted and millions of dollars of investment over the next 15 years. He described Automated Meter Reading (AMR) and Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI). Their job would be to decide the best fit for the town. He said they would be on site for assessment and data gathering and would talk with IT, finance, billing and collections, and go into the field and ride with meter readers. They perform engineering evaluations, take data and compile into financial analysis, and propose using existing assets.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked about the billing and would we have the equipment. He said once the billing data was accurate they interface to existing software.

Councilman Delp asked if a main water line break could be detected with the system. Mr. Honeycutt said yes.

APPROVAL OF MASTER SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH METERSYS An agreement with MeterSYS to conduct a Smart Meter Feasibility Study in the amount of \$14,595.

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the Master Services Agreement with MeterSYS, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF CAPITAL PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR NC RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT GRANT AGREEMENTS – MERIDIAN WATER AND SEWER PROJECTS Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following ordinance:

**TOWN OF VALDESE
MERIDIAN SPECIALTY YARN GROUP
WATER & SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT
CAPITAL PROJECT BUDGET ORDINANCE**

Be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese that pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following project ordinance is hereby adopted.

Section 1. The project authorized is to provide improvements for the Water and Waste Water Treatment Plants to accommodate Meridian Specialty Yarn Group expansion and is to be financed by Grants and Town of Valdese contributions.

Section 2. The officers of this unit are hereby directed to proceed with the capital project within the terms of the program ordinance and the budget contained herein.

Section 3. The following revenues are anticipated to be available to contribute to this project:

Town Contributions	\$ 299,475	61.3970.001
Grant – IDF	898,425	61.3970.003
Grant – CDBG	<u>1,000,000</u>	61.3970.004
	<u>\$ 2,197,900</u>	

Section 4. The following amounts are appropriated for the project:

Architectural & Engr	\$ 276,000	61.8111.040
Administration & Environmental	55,000	61.8111.041
Construction	<u>1,866,900</u>	61.8111.150
	<u>\$ 2,197,900</u>	

Section 5. The finance officer is hereby directed to maintain within the Project Fund sufficient specific detailed accounting records to provide the accounting to town council required by the program procedures, loan agreement(s), grant agreement(s) and state regulations.

Section 6. Funds may be advanced from the General Fund for the purpose of making payments as due.

Section 7. The finance officer is directed to report quarterly on the financial status of each project element in Section 4 and on the total revenues received or claimed.

Section 8. The budget officer is directed to include a detailed analysis of the past and future cost and revenues on this project in every budget submission made to this board.

Section 9. Copies of this project ordinance shall be made available to the budget officer and the finance officer for direction in carrying out this project.

Adopted this 9th day of January, 2017.

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

Attest: /s/ Thelda B. Rhoney, Deputy Town Clerk

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to adopt the aforementioned Capital Project Ordinance, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilman Delp complimented Town staff for the nice job cleaning streets during the recent snow storm.

Councilman Delp thanked the Town for the fruit basket, cards and calls during his recent hospitalization.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked about changes in the Triathlon. Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight said the Try-A-Try Program was not available this year as Sonni Dyer was teaching at several colleges. The Triathlon would be held and information was already on the website.

Councilwoman Hildebran thanked Ms. Angi for arranging volunteer work to paint and do minor repairs on the Teachers Cottage. She appreciated staff for painting the steps at Tiger Gym. She said staff response was always quick.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked about the flower boxes on Main Street. Larry Johnson reported that more flower boxes were ordered for spring.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Eckard said Town offices would be closed on Monday, January 16, 2017, in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday.

He thanked staff for snow removal as this was the first snow event in his career where he did not receive any complaints.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) Mayor Black called for a Closed Session to consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. He did not anticipate any action after Closed Session.

At 7:16 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to recess into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) to consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran and the vote was unanimous.

At 7:43 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:44 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, February 6, 2016, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, February 6, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING AND CLOSED SESSION – JANUARY 9, 2017

APPROVED REQUEST FROM WALDENSIAN HERITAGE WINES TO SELL WINE AT THE OLD COLONY PLAYERS PRODUCTION OF "OKLAHOMA!" ON MARCH 10, 11, 17, AND 18, 2017, FROM 7:00 P.M.-9:00 P.M.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

AUDIT REPORT PRESENTATION - FY 15-16 - LOWDERMILK CHURCH & CO., LLP (Copy of audit on file in the Office of Finance Director.) Mr. Phil Church of Lowdermilk Church & Co., presented the 2015-2016 audit. He said the Town had an increase in the Fund Balance and they gave a clean, unmodified opinion. There were no compliant issues. Mr. Rick Hammer reviewed the general fund, utility funds and audit highlights. He said the fund balance increased \$325,530; ad valorem tax collections were \$1,665,129 which was 97.13 percent of the levy. Mr. Church said he would be happy to meet with any Member of Council if they would like further review of the audit.

Mayor Black said most cities and towns our size have an eight month reserve of funds. The Town's Fund Balance had increased from less than 3 months to 4.2 months and he recommended that staff continue to make progress. He said he would talk more about this at the Annual Budget Retreat.

Town Manager Seth Eckard thanked the Department Heads for the work they do.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to accept the 2015-2016 audit report as presented, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF FY 16-17 AUDIT CONTRACT - LOWDERMILK CHURCH & CO., LLP Mayor Black said the FY 2016-2017 audit contract was in the amount of \$15,960. There was an increase of \$390 (2.5 percent) from last year.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned contract for the FY 2016-2017 audit report, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE SUBDIVISION ORDINANCE (4-12-16) (NOTE: Amendments may be found in Ordinance Book. No. 9, pg. 138.) Mayor Black opened the public hearing.

WPCOG Representative Erin Schotte said there were several minor amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance of which she reviewed.

There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the text amendments to the Subdivision Ordinance as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION AT TOWN HALL AND AWARD OF BID WPCOG

Representative Erin Schotte said the Town received a \$10,000 reimbursement grant from Duke Energy for a vehicle charging station. She presented three bids for a single unit with two charge port stations. Staff recommended LilyPad in the amount of \$11,761 (Other bids: Clipper Creek in the amount of \$7,180 - simple does not have any capabilities of a networked unit, and Brightfield - \$13,700).

The LilyPad charging station would be installed by local contractor and offered several capabilities. It would be offered on a map to those with cell phones. With this unit you could charge money and collect data. Staff recommended the first year with no fees. Staff recommended one location at the eastern parking lot at Town Hall.

Town Manager Seth Eckard explained the network and non-network and said he installed the ChargePoint app on his phone and there are charging stations in Hickory, Black Mountain, and Lenoir. This is a growing industry and a good service for the citizens. This would be a free service.

Councilman Delp asked if there would be signage directing people to the stations. Mr. Eckard said signage could be an option but there was none currently proposed and a kiosk and map could be a budget item for the next fiscal year.

Councilman Ogle said he was not sure about the Town Hall location because if you wanted people to see the downtown this would not be the location. He recommended the Old Rock School, behind the Old Rock School, Village Park, or bakery. Mr. Eckard said at Village Park there was no easy access to power.

Councilwoman Hildebran brought up the issue of available parking at Town Hall.

After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the bid with LilyPad and allow staff to find the best location, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran.

Mayor Black requested that staff look at alternative locations making sure the best location is selected.

Town Manager said he would e-mail the findings to Members of Council and he asked if they would e-mail him recommended locations in addition to the Old Rock School and Village Park.

The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF CDBG AND IDF GRANT ADMINISTRATION AGREEMENTS FOR MERIDIAN SPECIALTY YARNS WATER AND SEWER PROJECT WPCOG

Representative Leah Martin said there were two agreements with the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to administer a \$1 million Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), and \$898,425 Industrial Development Fund (IDF), plus \$299,475 in local funds, for the Meridian Water and Sewer Projects. The CDBG agreement in the amount of \$25,000 plus an additional \$5,000 for all work associated with the Environmental Review, and the IDF Agreement in the amount of \$25,000. Total for both WPCOG Agreements - \$55,000. Funding would come from the grant funds.

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

AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE ENGINEERING AGREEMENTS WITH MCGILL FOR WATER AND SEWER – MERIDIAN SPECIALTY YARNS PROJECT WPCOG

Representative Leah Martin said CDBG and Industrial Development Funding (IDF) agencies desire the Town to move forward on design of water and sewer engineering agreements for the Meridian Project. Staff recommended that the Town Manager negotiate and enter into separate water and sewer contracts with McGill Associates within the budgeted amount of \$276,000 or less. She explained the environmental, minority outreach and work that led up to the project and the engineering fees were set at 17 percent which may come in lower. Funding will come from the grant funds.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to authorize the Town Manager to negotiate and execute engineering agreements with McGill Associates for separate water and sewer design contracts less than \$276,000, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

RESOLUTION ENDORSING FIXED ROUTE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR BURKE COUNTY Mayor Black said the Community Foundation several years ago did a study in Burke County to figure out what to do with the health needs. Kate B. Reynolds Foundation assisted in a study to bring better health to Burke County addressing the needs of food, access to healthcare, playgrounds, etc. As part of the community process it was found the number one problem in the county was transportation for doctor appointments, student absences at the community college, etc. The WPCOG and Greenway came up with a strategy to provide bus service to the hospital in Valdese and the community college. The Community Foundation transferred \$30,000 to the WPCOG as seed money for the project. He briefly discussed funding and the Town would need to offer some funding, possibly \$10,000 - \$15,000 per year. He introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION ENDORSING FIXED ROUTE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION FOR
BURKE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**

WHEREAS, there is a proven need for fixed route public transportation in Burke County, North Carolina, that includes many stakeholder groups such as medical providers and their patients, employers, the elderly and disabled, students, retail shoppers, and many others; and

WHEREAS, there has been a movement to bring an experimental fixed public transportation route to Burke County that includes a circulator route for the City of Morganton and connecting route to the Town of Valdese and Town of Rutherford College and includes a stop in the Town of Drexel. This route includes a connection between Carolinas Healthcare Blue Ridge - Morganton and Carolinas Healthcare Blue Ridge - Valdese; and

WHEREAS, there has been cooperation between numerous stakeholders, including both public and private entities, that have agreed to a financial commitment up to two years with discussion to extend this timeframe; and

WHEREAS, the proposed fixed public transportation route will greatly enhance the ability of Burke County citizens to travel around different areas of the County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF VALDESE does hereby endorse the efforts to bring fixed route public transportation to Burke County and urges support from all stakeholders including the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust.

Adopted this 6th day of February, 2017.

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

Attest: /s/ Frances M. Hildebran, Town Clerk

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adopt the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

REVISED RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS WITH BB&T - PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT Finance Director Jerry LaMaster said the original resolution expired during the Christmas holiday and normally BB&T extends the existing rate and they did not extend this time. Mr. LaMaster presented the following revised resolution:

RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS

WHEREAS: The Town of Valdese has previously determined to undertake a project for the financing of vehicles and equipment, (the "Project"), and the Finance Director has now presented a proposal for the financing of such Project.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, as follows:

1. Valdese hereby determines to finance the Project through Branch Banking and Trust Company ("BB&T"), in accordance with the proposal January 09, 2017. The amount financed shall not exceed \$256,899.00, the annual interest rate (in the absence of default or change in tax status) shall not exceed 2.30%, and the financing term shall not exceed four (4) years from closing.

2. All financing contracts and all related documents for the closing of the financing (the "Financing Documents") shall be consistent with the foregoing terms. All officers and employees of Valdese are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver any Financing Documents, and to take all such further action as they may consider necessary or desirable, to carry out the financing of the Project as contemplated by the proposal and this resolution.

3. The Finance Director is hereby authorized and directed to hold executed copies of the Financing Documents until the conditions for the delivery of the Financing Documents have been completed to such officer's satisfaction. The Finance Director is authorized to approve changes to any Financing Documents previously signed by Valdese officers or employees, provided that such changes shall not substantially alter the intent of such documents or certificates from the intent expressed in the forms executed by such officers. The Financing Documents shall be in such final forms as the Finance Director shall approve, with the Finance Director's release of any Financing Document for delivery constituting conclusive evidence of such officer's final approval of the Document's final form.

4. Valdese shall not take or omit to take any action the taking or omission of which shall cause its interest payments on this financing to be includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of the registered owners of the interest payment obligations. Valdese hereby designates its obligations to make principal and interest payments under the Financing Documents as "qualified tax-exempt obligations" for the purpose of Internal Revenue Code Section 265(b)(3).

5. Valdese intends that the adoption of this resolution will be a declaration of Valdese's official intent to reimburse expenditures for the project that is to be financed from the proceeds of the BB&T financing described above. Valdese intends that funds that have been advanced, or that may be advanced, from the Valdese's general fund, or any other Valdese fund related to the project, for project costs may be reimbursed from the financing proceeds.

6. All prior actions of Valdese officers in furtherance of the purposes of this resolution are hereby ratified, approved and confirmed. All other resolutions (or parts thereof) in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed, to the extent of the conflict. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Approved this 6th day of February, 2017.

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

Attest: /s/ Clerk

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

BUDGET AMENDMENTS Mr. Eckard said Meridian met the criteria for the first of five years of incentives and they used more water than proposed. Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following budget amendments:

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 15 - MERIDIAN ECONOMIC INCENTIVE

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.4200.941 Econ Incentive	<u>180,000</u>	
Total	<u>\$180,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$180,000 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.

10.3970.303 From Util - Econ		<u>180,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$180,000</u>

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.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 16 - MERIDIAN ECONOMIC INCENTIVE

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
30.8100.921 Trans to Gen Fund - Econ	<u>180,000</u>	
Total	<u>\$180,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$180,000 in the expenditures of the Utility Fund. To provide funding for the above, the following revenue budgets will be increased. These additional revenues have already been received.

30.3990.000 Fund Balance		<u>180,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$180,000</u>

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.

Councilman Delp made a motion to approve the two aforementioned budget amendments, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

STREET PAVING Councilman Delp asked about the street paving. Mr. Eckard said the proposed streets were on schedule to be paved by late spring.

WAYFINDER SIGNS Councilman Sweezy recommended as we begin the budget process to think about wayfinder signs.

MAIN STREET COMMITTEE REPORT Councilwoman Hildebran said Council had not received a Main Street report lately and she was curious about signage. Councilman Sweezy said they worked several hours on the sign issues. Mr. Eckard said there would be a presentation at the next Council meeting after which there would be reports included with reading materials in the agenda packets.

HOUSING REHABILITATION Councilwoman Hildebran said she had spoken with the Town Manager about complaints she had received about run-down homes in areas of Town. She said back in the 80s there were home rehabilitation funds and she realized those funds were gone. Citizens were talking about the conditions of those homes and was there anything the Town could do to upgrade the homes. She recommended this item for discussion during the budget process.

Mayor Black asked WPCOG Representative Leah Martin about the housing rehab money. Ms. Martin said there were only six houses in Burke County eligible for basic repairs. Mr. Johnson said the previous program was gone and the only housing program available to the citizens of Valdese is through Burke County such as the Home Program and is considered a countywide scattered site rehabilitation program. He said the citizens of Valdese could take advantage of the program but was only available to six to ten homes in the entire county. He said there was a program for urgent repair but there were requirements such as one must be elderly and meet a certain income requirement and the program is countywide and based on first come first served for those eligible. He said there are some houses that could benefit from housing rehabilitation; however, the same requirements of income, tenure type whether owner occupied or renter, and other factors would also weigh heavily. Mr. Eckard said Valdese was not the only Town facing these issues and he commended the WPCOG for initiating a Vacant and Substandard Housing Task Force and the first meeting was held last week and he and Larry Johnson attended the meeting as well as representatives from municipalities in all four counties. They will have speakers over the next few months to share ideas and best practices and hopefully staff can learn something from the task force and bring back to our community. Mr. Johnson said he spoke with someone in the Crowhill Community this date and the young lady said her mother no longer lived in the community which was changing and deteriorating and he asked why. The young lady said she believe it was due to a lot of transients people, they just move in and out and do not take ownership. They are indifferent and do not care about the community or the street they reside on, which becomes a problem and you get undesirables in the neighborhood.

Councilman Delp said we must be careful because we see houses that we think need work done but we must remember these homes belong to families, it is their homes and they are happy with what they have and not a hazard to others, and we cannot go in and say we are going to fix your house. He knows two homeowners who he speaks with and there are groups who would like to help them but they are happy with what they have.

Councilwoman Hildebran said we cannot ignore the issue because in ten years it will be a difficult situation for the Town.

CURRENT TOWN PARKS Councilwoman Hildebran also received complaints about the Town's current parks, Children's Park and McGalliard Falls Park, concerning the picnic areas. She requested the record reflect that this item was also discussed with the Town Manager and she would like the item to be discussed at the Annual Budget Retreat.

2017 CITIZENS ACADEMY Councilman Sweezy said someone asked him about the Citizens Academy. Mr. Eckard said it was in the spring last year which was tough for staff with the budget process at the same time. This year it will be moved to Fall 2017.

MANAGER'S REPORT: None.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) Mayor Black called for a Closed Session to consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. He did not anticipate any action after Closed Session.

At 7:06 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to recess into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) to consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran and the vote was unanimous.

At 7:32 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to open session, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

At 7:32 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 6, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, March 6, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

FRIENDS OF THE VALDESE REC PRESIDENT BETH HEILE Ms. Heile offered a brief update on the Lakeside Park. She said Friends of the Valdese Rec began two years ago. Grants are being applied for the Lakeside Park. There is an option on the land at \$1.4 million. They hope to be awarded \$1 million in grants from the Clean Water Trust Fund and PARTF. The Rostan Family Foundation plans to donate \$300,000 and Kellex Seating donated \$100,000. Their goal is to raise \$150,000 for park amenities and have already received \$23,000. She said the Conservation Easement, when approved by Council, would offer more points on the grant applications. They hope to start building the park in January 2018.

She thanked Deputy Town Clerk Thelda Rhoney, Parks & Recreation Direction Doug Knight, Councilman Sweezy, Mayor Black, Former Town Manager Jeff Morse, Planning Director Larry Johnson, Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth, Fire Chief Charlie Watts, Town Attorney Marc Mitchell, and Town Manager Seth Eckard. She thanked Members of Council for contracting with Foothills Conservancy. She also thanked the Friends of the Valdese Rec Board and the community.

Town Manager Seth Eckard said it would be a long process and there would not be a final park for a long time but staff was working toward the project every day.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – FEBRUARY 6, 2017

APPROVED ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURES FOR TOWN OF VALDESE SPECIAL EVENTS

**AN ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURE
FOR TOWN OF VALDESE SPECIAL EVENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese desires to schedule an Independence Day Celebration, Annual Waldensian Festival; Treats in the Streets; and the Annual Valdese Christmas Parade; and

WHEREAS, part of US 70/Main Street in Valdese will need to be closed for each of these special events; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-169 provides that local authorities shall have power to provide by ordinance for the regulation of the use of highways by processions or assemblages;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese pursuant to G.S. 20-169 that the following portion of the State Highway System be closed during the times set forth below:

2017 Independence Day Celebration
Friday, June 30, 2017, 5:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m.
(Description of Closure: 1.19 mi. US 70 Main St from Hoyle St to Eldred St)

2017 Waldensian Festival Kickoff Celebration

March 6, 2017, MB#31

Friday, August 11, 2017, 5:00 p.m., until 11:00 p.m.
(Description of Closure: 1.19 mi. US 70 Main St from Hoyle St to Eldred St)

2017 Waldensian Festival Celebration
Saturday, August 12, 2017, 5:30 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.
(Description of Closure: 1.19 mi. US 70 Main St from Hoyle St to Eldred St)

2017 Valdese Treats in the Streets
Tuesday, October 31, 2017, 3:30 p.m. until 6:30 p.m.
(Description of Closure: 1.19 mi. US 70 Main St from Hoyle St to Eldred St)

2017 Annual Valdese Christmas Parade
Saturday, December 2, 2017, 9:45 a.m. until 12 Noon
(Description of Closure: 1.19 mi. US 70 Main St from Hoyle St to Eldred St)

Signs shall be erected giving notice of the limits and times of these street closures as required by G.S. 20-169.

THIS, the 6th day of March, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

APPROVED REQUEST FROM WALDENSIAN HERITAGE WINES TO SELL WINE AT THE ROCK SCHOOL ARTS FOUNDATION EVENTS, OLD ROCK SCHOOL ON MARCH 12, 2017 (2:00 – 4:00 P.M.); JUNE 8, 2017 (5:30 – 7:30 P.M.); AND OCTOBER 1, 2017 (2:00 – 4:00 P.M.)

APPROVED REQUEST FROM WALDENSIAN STYLE WINES TO SELL WINE AT THE APRIL CRAFT MARKET ON SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., OLD ROCK SCHOOL WALDENSIAN ROOM

APPROVED REVISED AMERICAN TOWER AGREEMENT Council approved the American Tower Agreement at its December 5, 2016 meeting. A revised Management and Marketing Agreement with American Tower for wireless communication with only minor wording changes in the agreement was proposed. The tower is located at 100 Whisnant Street at the Public Works facility

APPROVED CAROLINAS HEALTHCARE SYSTEM BLUE RIDGE VALDESE CAMPUS MASTER SIGNAGE PLAN Carolinas HealthCare System Blue Ridge requested replacing signage at the Valdese Hospital Campus and they offered a Master Signage Plan which was reviewed and approved by the Valdese Planning Board at its February 20, 2017 meeting.

APPROVED FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017 AS TAX LIEN ADVERTISING DATE FOR REAL & PERSONAL PROPERTY

APPROVED REAPPOINTMENT TO VALDESE ABC BOARD Town Manager Seth Eckard was reappointed to the Valdese ABC Board for a first, full three-year term which expires April 1, 2020.

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve all items on the Consent Agenda except the Arbor Day 2017 Proclamation moved to Items Removed from Consent Agenda, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

ARBOR DAY 2017 PROCLAMATION Councilwoman Hildebran said the Town had received the Tree City USA award for 29 years. She was employed with the Town when the program began and Planning Director Larry Johnson and Fire Chief Charlie Watts worked with her to start the program in 1988. Dr. Ben Garrou and Mayor Jimmy Draughn initiated Tree City USA and the Town purchased dogwood trees and planted them all over town. She recommended additional trees be planted next year for the 30th anniversary of Tree City USA in the Town of Valdese. She thanked Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth for coordinating a program with Valdese Elementary School.

She said she was also proud of staff for participating in a Reading Program at Valdese Elementary School.

March 6, 2017, MB#31

Mr. Eckard said a ceremony would be conducted at Town Hall for the Fourth Grade Foresters at Valdese Elementary School (pending approval from Burke County Public Schools) on Friday, March 17, 2017, 1:15 p.m. Each student would be presented with a small tree.

ARBOR DAY 2017 PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1872, J. Sterling Morton proposed to the Nebraska Board of Agriculture that a special day be set aside for the planting of trees; and

WHEREAS, the holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees in Nebraska; and

WHEREAS, 2017 is the 145th Anniversary of the holiday and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world; and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut our heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen and provide habitat for wildlife; and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and beautify our community; and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese has received the prestigious Tree City USA award for the past 29 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John F. Black, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim Friday, March 17, 2017, as the 145th Anniversary celebration of

“Arbor Day 2017”

in the Town of Valdese and the Town will hold an Arbor Day Event at Valdese Town Hall on Friday, March 17, 2017, 1:15 p.m., regarding tree planting and I urge all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands; and

FURTHER, I urge all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

This 6th day of March, 2017.

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

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the Arbor Day Proclamation, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

AMENDED VEDIC BYLAWS – PRESENTED BY VEDIC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KERRI POTEAT VEDIC
Executive Director Kerri Poteat presented the following changes to the VEDIC Bylaws:

BYLAWS
OF
VALDESE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INVESTMENT CORPORATION

ARTICLE I
OFFICE

SECTION 1.1 PRINCIPAL OFFICE. The principal office of the Corporation shall be located at such place as the Board of Directors may fix from time to time.

SECTION 1.2 REGISTERED OFFICE. The registered office required by law to be maintained in the State of North Carolina may be, but need not be, identical with the principal office.

SECTION 1.3 OTHER OFFICES. The Corporation may have offices at such other places as the Board of Directors may designate or as the affairs of the Corporation may require from time to time.

ARTICLE II
MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 2.1 MEMBERS. The Corporation shall have no members.

ARTICLE III
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 3.1 MANAGEMENT OF THE CORPORATION. The property, affairs and business of the Corporation shall be managed by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.2 NUMBER AND TENURE. The Corporation shall be governed by a Board of Directors consisting of ~~eighteen (18) members~~ nineteen (19) members. ~~Burke Partnership for Economic Development, Inc. (BDI) shall appoint ten (10) of the directors, who shall represent the following nonprofit corporations and governmental entities:~~
The following nonprofit corporations and governmental entities shall appoint eleven (11) of the directors:

1. Town of Connelly Springs. The Connelly Springs Town Council shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Town of Connelly Springs.
2. Town of Hildebran. The Hildebran Town Council shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Town of Hildebran.
3. Burke County. The Burke County Commissioners shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint two (2) representatives to represent Burke County.
4. ~~Burke County. The Burke County Commissioners shall recommend to BDI a second representative to represent Burke County.~~
5. City of Morganton. The Morganton City Council shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the City of Morganton.
6. Burke County Travel and Tourism Authority. The Burke County Travel and Tourism Authority shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Burke County Travel and Tourism Authority.
7. Town of Rutherford College. The Rutherford College Town Council shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Town of Rutherford College.
8. Town of Drexel. The Drexel Town Council shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Town of Drexel.
9. Burke County Chamber of Commerce. The Burke County Chamber of Commerce shall ~~recommend to BDI~~ appoint a representative to represent the Burke County Chamber of Commerce.
10. An at large representative appointed by BDI.
11. An at large representative appointed by Western Piedmont Council of Governments.

Each of these ~~ten (10)~~ eleven (11) directors shall serve until such time as a replacement for that director is ~~recommended~~ appointed by the governmental entity or nonprofit corporation that director represents ~~appointed by BDI~~ and is qualified.

The Town Manager of the Town of Valdese shall be an ex-officio voting member of the Board of Directors. The other seven (7) directors shall be appointed by the Valdese Town Council, and they shall serve three-year staggered terms. The term of three (3) of these directors shall begin July 1, 2012; the term of three (3) of these directors shall begin July 1, 2013; and the term of two (2) of these directors shall begin July 1, 2014. Thereafter, prior to each July 1, the same number of directors whose terms are expiring shall be appointed by the Valdese Town Council. The seven (7) directors appointed by the Valdese Town Council may serve three (3) consecutive three-year terms, after which the director must be off of the board for at least one (1) year before being eligible to serve again.

~~The Valdese Town Council may also appoint two (2) nonvoting members to the Board of Directors who shall act in an advisory capacity to the board. The Valdese Town Council may be replace or remove these advisory directors at any time.~~

SECTION 3.3 RESIGNATION. Any director, other than the Town Manager, may resign at any time by giving notice thereof in writing to the Chairman or Secretary of the corporation. Such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, or if no time is specified, at the time such resignation is received by the Chairman or Secretary.

SECTION 3.4 VACANCIES. In the event of a vacancy in the members of the Board of Directors appointed by the Town Council, the remaining directors shall continue to act and such vacancy shall be filled by appointment of a successor by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese. In the event of a vacancy in the members of the Board of Directors appointed by ~~BDI~~ the nonprofit corporations and governmental entities, the remaining directors shall continue to act and such vacancy shall be filled by a successor appointed by ~~BDI~~ the nonprofit corporations and governmental entities as provided in Section 3.2. Any director appointed by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese for the unexpired three-year term of one of the directors the Town Council appoints shall hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the person who the newly appointed director succeeds, or until he shall resign or shall become disqualified

SECTION 3.5 COMPENSATION. Directors and officers of the Corporation shall not receive any salary or fee for services rendered to the Corporation as a director or officer, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for reasonable expenses incurred by them on behalf of the Corporation subject to approval of the Chairman or of the Treasurer in the case of expenses incurred by the Chairman; but nothing herein shall be construed to preclude a director from serving the Corporation in any other capacity and receiving reasonable compensation therefore, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 3.6 DUTIES. Each director shall discharge his duties as a director, including his duties as a member of a committee, in good faith, with the care an ordinarily prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances, and in a manner the director reasonably believes to be in the best interest of the Corporation.

ARTICLE IV MEETINGS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SECTION 4.1 PLACE. The Board of Directors may hold meetings, both regular and special, at such place as the Board of Directors shall determine.

SECTION 4.2 REGULAR MEETINGS. Regular meetings shall be conducted at prearranged times and places for the conducting of the business of the Corporation as established by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall hold a regular meeting at least once each quarter.

SECTION 4.3 ANNUAL MEETING. The Board of Directors meeting for the election of officers and the transaction of any other business shall be held during the month of July.

SECTION 4.4 SPECIAL MEETINGS. Special meetings may be called by the Chairman on at least one days' notice to each director; and special meeting shall be called by the Chairman in like manner and on like notice if requested in writing by two or more directors.

SECTION 4.5 QUORUM AND VOTING. At all meetings of the Board of Directors, a majority of the entire board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business, and a vote of the majority of the directors present and voting in person shall be the act of the Board of Directors, except where the Articles of Incorporation, these Bylaws or North Carolina law requires a greater vote. For all votes ~~of the Valdese Loan and Grant Advisory Committee from the Loan Review Committee~~ established under Section 6.4, a majority of that advisory committee shall constitute a quorum and a majority of the members of that committee present and voting in person or via email shall be the act of ~~that advisory committee~~ the Loan Review Committee.

SECTION 4.6 MEETING BY TELEPHONE. Any member of the Board of Directors or a committee may participate in a meeting of the Board of Directors or a committee meeting by means of a conference telephone or similar communications device which allows all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other, and such participation in a meeting shall be deemed to constitute presence in person at such meeting.

SECTION 4.7 CONSENT. Whenever a vote of directors is required or permitted to be taken in connection with any action, the meeting of directors may be dispensed with, but only if all of the directors consent in writing to such action being taken.

SECTION 4.8 REMOVAL. The Board of Directors may remove any director, other than the Town Manager of the Town of Valdeese, who is absent from three (3) consecutive scheduled meetings or who is absent from more than ~~60%~~ 50% of the board meetings during any fiscal year.

ARTICLE V OFFICERS

SECTION 5.1 OFFICERS. The officers of the Corporation shall be a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, a Secretary and a Treasurer. All of the officers shall be elected from the membership of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.2 ELECTION. Each officer shall be elected by the Board of Directors at its organizational meeting and thereafter at its annual meeting and shall hold office until the annual meeting of the Board of Directors held next after his election or until his death or until he shall resign or shall have been disqualified or shall have been removed from office.

SECTION 5.3 REMOVAL. Any officer may be removed by a majority vote of all directors at a special meeting called for that purpose whenever in their judgment the officer's removal will be in the best interest of the Corporation.

SECTION 5.4 ADDITIONAL OFFICERS. The Board of Directors may create and elect from time to time such additional officers as in its opinion are desirable for the conduct of the business of the Corporation.

SECTION 5.5 VACANCIES. If an office becomes vacant for any reason, the Board of Directors shall fill such vacancy. Any officer so elected by the Board of Directors shall fill the unexpired term of his predecessor.

SECTION 5.6 CHAIRMAN. ~~The Chairman shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation and, subject to the instructions of the Board of Directors, shall have general charge of the business, affairs, and property of the Corporation.~~ The Chairman shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee at which he may be present. The Chairman shall do and perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.7 VICE CHAIRMAN. At the request of the Chairman, or in his absence or disability, the Vice Chairman shall perform all of the duties of the Chairman and when so acting, shall have all powers of and be subject to all restrictions upon the Chairman. The Vice Chairman shall perform such other duties and have such authority as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.8 SECRETARY. The Secretary shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors and shall see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws or as required by law. The Secretary shall be the custodian of the records, books, reports, statements, and other documents of the Corporation and seal of the Corporation, and see that the seal is affixed to all documents requiring such seal. In general, the Secretary shall perform all duties and possess all authority incident to the office of secretary, and he shall perform such other duties and have such other authority as from time to time may be assigned to him by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.9 TREASURER. The Treasurer shall have supervision over the funds, securities, receipts, and disbursements of the Corporation. The Treasurer shall in general perform all duties and have all authority incident to the office of treasurer and shall perform such other duties and have such other authority as from time to time may be assigned or granted to him by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 5.10 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. The Executive Director will manage all day to day duties associated with VEDIC in accordance with the policies and procedures and bylaws, as approved by the VEDIC Board of Directors. He or she will perform a broad variety of tasks including, but not limited to, managing the process for all loan application requests, meeting with the borrower to analyze organization and proposed project and compilation of all needed loan documents, underwrite and present to the Loan Review Committee, coordinate legal services and attend loan closings, sign loan documents on behalf of the Board of Directors, provide and oversee technical assistance, board operations, maintain records and correspondence, fund development and management, marketing, grant applications, budget officer and manage other VEDIC employees. He or she will be responsible for representing the organization in its lending and helps to set strategic direction in lending based on overall loan portfolio. The Executive Director serves at

the pleasure of the Board of Directors. In the absence of the Executive Director, such duties will be given to the Chairman.

SECTION 5.11 DUTIES OF OFFICERS MAY BE DELEGATED. In the case of the absence of any officer of the Corporation or for any other reason that the Board of Directors may deem sufficient, the Board of Directors may delegate the power or duties of such officer to any other officer or to any director for such period of time as the Board of Directors may determine.

ARTICLE VI COMMITTEES

SECTION 6.1 STANDING COMMITTEES. The Board of Directors shall have the following standing committees: Executive Committee, Nominating Committee and ~~Valdese Loan and Grant Advisory Committee~~ the Loan Review Committee.

SECTION 6.2 COMPOSITION, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. The Chairman shall serve as the Chairman of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Corporation and such others as may be designated by the Chairman and approved by the Board of Directors. The duties of the Executive Committee are to advise the Chairman, Executive Director and the Board of Directors on Corporation business, review and recommend loan and grant applications and perform such other duties as may be assigned by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 6.3 COMPOSITION, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE. The Nominating Committee shall consist of at least three (3) directors and such other persons, who need not be directors, appointed by the Chairman. The duties of the Nominating Committee are to seek out and recommend qualified individuals to serve as directors of the Corporation. The names of potential directors shall be submitted by the Nominating Committee to the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors shall recommend individuals, who need not be persons nominated by the Nominating Committee, to the Town Council for its consideration and approval as directors of the Corporation.

SECTION 6.4 COMPOSITION, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ~~VALDESE LOAN AND GRANT ADVISORY COMMITTEE~~ LOAN REVIEW COMMITTEE. ~~The Town Manager of the Town of Valdese, an ex-officio board member, and the seven (7) directors appointed by the Valdese Town Council shall serve as an advisory committee to the Board of Directors. This advisory committee shall make recommendations as to whether to deny or approve all applications for loans or grants for which only businesses or other entities or people located in the Town of Valdese are eligible. The Board of Directors shall honor and approve such recommendations made by this advisory board unless the Board of Directors determines that such action would be improper or otherwise constitute a breach of the directors' fiduciary duties. The Loan Review Committee shall consist of at least five (5) members recommended by the Executive Director and appointed by the Board of Directors. The Loan Review Committee shall make recommendations as to whether to deny or approve all loan applications for which only businesses located within the VEDIC service area are eligible. See VEDIC work plan for service area details. The Board of Directors shall review and vote on such recommendations made by the Loan Review Committee.~~

SECTION 6.5 SPECIAL COMMITTEES. The Board of Directors may from time to time organize such other committees or advisory committees as it deems necessary to carry out the objectives of the Corporation.

SECTION 6.6 CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES. The Chairman shall act as Chairman of the Executive Committee. ~~The Valdese Loan and Grant Advisory Committee~~ The Loan Review Committee shall elect the chairman of that committee. The Chairman shall appoint all other committee chairmen.

ARTICLE VII NOTICES

SECTION 7.1 FORM/DELIVERY. Notices to directors shall be in writing and may be delivered personally or by mail or electronic media to the director's address appearing on the records of the corporation.

SECTION 7.2 WAIVER. Whenever a notice is required to be given by these Bylaws, a waiver thereof in writing, signed by the person or persons entitled to such notice, whether before or after the time stated therein, shall be deemed equivalent to such notice.

ARTICLE VIII

CONTRACTS, LOANS, CHECK, DRAFTS, ETC.

SECTION 8.1 CONTRACTS. The Board of Directors may authorize any officer or officers or agent or agents to enter into any contract or to execute or deliver any instruments on behalf of the Corporation, and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Any contract or other action that will or may result in the expenditure of more than \$10,000 of Corporation funds must be approved by ~~at least eight (8) members of~~ the Board of Directors.

SECTION 8.2 LOANS. No loans shall be contracted on behalf of the Corporation and no evidences of indebtedness shall be issued in its name, unless and except as authorized by the Board of Directors. Any officer or agent of the Corporation so authorized may effect loans or advances for the Corporation and for such loans and advances may make, execute, and deliver promissory notes, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness of the Corporation. Any such officer or agent, when thereunto so authorized, may mortgage, pledge, hypothecate, or transfer as security for the payment of any and all loans, advances, indebtedness, and liabilities of the Corporation any real property and all stocks, bonds, other securities, and other personal property at any time held by the Corporation, and to that end, may endorse, assign, and deliver the same, and do every act and thing necessary or proper in connection therewith. Such authority may be general or confined to specific instances. Any borrowing of an amount in excess of \$10,000 must be approved by ~~at least eight (8) members of~~ the Board of Directors.

SECTION 8.3 DEPOSITS. All funds of the Corporation shall be deposited from time to time to the credit of the Corporation in such banks or trust companies or with such bankers or other depositories as the Board of Directors may select, or as may be selected by any officer or officers or agent or agents of the Corporation to whom such power may from time to time be given by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 8.4 CHECKS, DRAFTS, ETC. All notes, drafts, acceptances, checks and endorsements or other evidences of indebtedness shall be signed by the Chairman or a Vice Chairman and by the Secretary or the Treasurer, or in such other manner as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine. Endorsements for deposit to the credit of the Corporation in any of its duly authorized depositories will be made by the Chairman or Treasurer or by any officer or agent who may be designated by resolution of the Board of Directors in such manner as such resolution may provide.

SECTION 8.5 GIFTS. The Board of Directors may accept on behalf of the Corporation any contribution, gift, bequest, or devise for the general purposes or for any special purpose of the Corporation.

SECTION 8.6 CONFLICT OF INTEREST. No board member may vote or speak to an item that they or an immediate family member may financially benefit from. Immediate family member includes: spouse, children and parents.

ARTICLE IX
GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 9.1 PURPOSES. This Corporation is organized to assist the Town of Valdese in the promotion, stimulation, development and advancement of the business prosperity and economic welfare of the Town and its citizens; to encourage and assist in any lawful manner the location of new business and industry in the Town; to assist existing business and industry in the Town; and to cooperate and act in conjunction with other organizations, public and private, in the promotion and advancement of industrial, commercial, and recreational developments in the Town. Because a strong county-wide and regional economy is essential to the economic well-being of the citizens of Valdese and the surrounding counties, the Corporation is authorized to seek funding for and establish loan and grant programs to increase the business activity in the entirety of Burke County and the surrounding counties. The Corporation is also authorized to seek funding for and establish loan and grant programs serving such other North Carolina counties as the Board of Directors determines to be in the best interest of the Corporation.

SECTION 9.2 DISSOLUTION. The Corporation may be dissolved only by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all of the members Board of Directors of the Corporation. Upon dissolution of the Corporation, the remainder of the Corporation's assets, after all liabilities and obligations of the Corporation have been paid and discharged, or adequate provisions made therefore, shall be distributed to the Town of Valdese.

SECTION 9.3 LIMITATION ON LIABILITY. No officers, director, or employee shall be liable for his actions acting in such capacity, which actions are taken in good faith, provided that such officers, directors, or employees, may be liable for gross negligence or willful misconduct. The Corporation agrees to indemnify its officers, directors, and employees for any expenses, claims, or liabilities, suffered by or against any of such persons acting in their respective capacities as officers, directors, or employees of the Corporation, to the extent permissible by law. Such indemnification shall not

apply to the extent that such actions of the officers, directors, or employees constitute gross negligence or willful misconduct.

SECTION 9.4 CORPORATE SEAL. The corporate seal shall be in such form as shall be approved from time to time by the Board of Directors.

SECTION 9.5 FISCAL YEAR. The fiscal year of the Corporation shall be from July 1 to June 30.

SECTION 9.6 AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS. These Bylaws may be amended or repealed and new bylaws may be adopted by affirmative vote of a majority of the directors then holding office at any meeting of the Board of Directors; however, notice of the proposed action and text of the proposed bylaw amendment must be provided to the directors at least five (5) days before the meeting at which action on the proposed amendment is to be taken or such notice must have been waived by all of the directors; and provided further that the bylaws relating to the appointment and tenure of the directors appointed by the Valdese Town Council and the bylaws relating to the composition, duties and responsibilities of the ~~Valdese Loan and Grant Advisory Committee~~ Loan Review Committee as provided in Section 6.4 shall not be amended without the prior written consent of the Valdese Town Council.

SECTION 9.7 GENDER. As used in these Bylaws, the masculine gender shall be deemed to include the feminine and feminine the masculine.

THIS THE 6th DAY OF MARCH, 2017.

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

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the VEDIC amendments as written, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

MAIN STREET UPDATES - PRESENTED BY COMMUNITY AFFAIRS DIRECTOR MORRISSA ANGI Ms. Angi said a current list of projects could be found on the Main Street webpage and Town's Facebook page and meetings were held the first Thursday of the month at 5:30 p.m., Old Rock School. She shared the Main Street Vision Statement. She offered an update on the business opportunities webpage from the Economic Vitality Committee and the available resources. The Promotions Committee was working to create a Then and Now Walking Tour of Downtown Valdese and have compiled photographs from years ago and are working to gather more information of what Valdese looked like in yesteryear. The committee hosted a Community Sharing event at the Old Rock School on February 27, 2017. The Promotions Committee created flyers to solicit businesses to fill vacant storefronts. Staff coordinated a new event called the April Craft Market and proceeds from the event will be dedicated to the Movie Theater Project. She said the Design Committee works on projects to beautify the downtown district and recently met with the Valdese Planning Board to discuss the idea of setback requirements for future building in downtown and they are continuing with the Façade Grant Program.

Members of Council thanked Ms. Angi for her work on the Main Street Program.

FAÇADE GRANT REQUEST FROM LOS COMPADRES RESTAURANT Ms. Angi presented a request from Los Compadres Mexican Restaurant for a Façade Grant in the amount of \$2,500. The proposed costs of the façade improvements are \$5,200 for paint, inspect and repair underlying support system, and sign installation with elliptical lighting. The Design Committee recommended the grant.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the aforementioned Façade Grant in the amount of \$2,500, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

PROPOSAL FOR BEER & WINE GARDEN FOR SPECIAL EVENTS Ms. Angi said there was no manpower to move the beer and wine garden to and from the Wells Fargo parking lot to Main Street during special events. She said currently those that purchase beer or wine stay in a gated area. She meets with Main Street Directors and Downtown Development Coordinators and Lenoir has a similar program that she was proposing which has been very successful. She recommended that the beer and wine garden be set up in the Town's parking lot at Wells Fargo and have one or two food vendors in addition to the concession trailer manned by the Merchants Association for Independence Day. During last year's event, the restaurants could not keep up and there were long wait times. She recommended removing the beer and wine garden fencing and open up to several areas she reviewed on a map. There would be barricades at the intersections, patrons having beer and wine would receive identification checks and wristbands by the vendors and the alcohol would be served in a cup with the rules printed on the cup.

Councilman Ogle asked about soft drinks for the cups as well and Ms. Angi said that would be a big expense for the cups for soft drinks.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the use of cups for beer and wine and the boundary limits as presented by Ms. Angi, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

AWARD OF BIDS FOR AMPHITHEATER TECH SHACK REPAIRS AND CONCRETE SEATING REPAIRS Ms. Angi presented bids for the Amphitheater Tech Shack Repairs with Brushy Mountain Builders in the amount of \$16,200. (Other bid: Conover Construction in the amount of \$17,490.) The bids for Concrete Seating Repairs with Steelcon in the amount of \$27,890 plus the cost for handrail creation and installation - \$3,435 for a total amount of \$31,325. (Other bid with Valdese Concrete - \$29,660 plus the cost for handrail creation and installation - \$3,435 for a total amount of \$33,095.)

Councilman Ogle said many years ago staff was directed to come up with a list of items that needed repair and Councilwoman Stevenson served on a committee. Councilwoman Stevenson said the committee voted to keep the theater in place and the list of repairs was massive.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to award the bid to repair the concrete seating to Steelcon - \$27,890, with the addition of handrail by Powell Welding in the amount of \$3,435 for a total amount of \$31,325. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran and carried unanimously.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to award the bid for the Tech Shack repairs to Brushy Mountain Builders in the amount of \$16,200 which includes a roof for the two lighting towers, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

AWARD OF BID FOR DOWNTOWN WIFI Town Manager Seth Eckard said the project had been redesigned and staff solicited new bids and two of the three company's submitted bids. He introduced Jim Ingram with Trificient Technologies.

Mr. Ingram said they first came to Valdese in 2004 when the former manager contacted them. He offered a brief overview about his company. He made recommendations of locations for WiFi for all downtown events. On a map he identified poles that would be installed. Mr. Eckerd said that was a natural solution on public spaces with no buildings. Mr. Ingram said the Town was working with Duke Energy to get power to the site and then they would make the installations. They would also make the installation on the tower located at the Police/Fire Complex and verified that the WiFi would not interfere with emergency services. He described how they would do a survey in the Town to determine the coverage and what they need to do to maximize everything. They provide data collection and monitoring as part of the contract. There would be time limits for free WiFi and he described how the system could be used.

Mr. Eckerd presented the following bids:

Bids for Downtown WiFi from Trificient:

Option 1:	
Steel poles with no light fixtures	\$67,810
One year of Charter Internet fiber service	5,400
Electrical service to poles	3,000
Total:	<u>\$76,210</u>
Option 2:	
Steel poles with light fixtures	\$69,010
One year of Charter Internet fiber service	5,400
Electrical service to poles	3,000
Total:	<u>\$77,410</u>

Staff recommends Option 2 in the amount of \$77,410.

Other Bids - Prodigy:

Option 1:	
Steel/wooden poles with no light fixtures	\$106,739
One year of Charter Internet fiber service	5,400
Total:	<u>\$112,139</u>

Option 2:		
Steel poles with light fixtures		\$111,139
One year of Charter Internet fiber service		<u>5,400</u>
Total:		<u>\$116,539</u>

Katalyst did not submit a bid for the redesign.

Revenue Sources:		
ARC Grant		\$49,094
Rostan Family Foundation		\$15,000
Town Fund Balance		<u>\$13,316</u>
Total:		<u>\$77,410</u>

Councilwoman Hildebran asked if this would create a new budget item. Mr. Eckard said yes, an additional \$13,000 per year to maintain downtown WiFi.

Mayor Black said there may be some sources of revenue to underwrite if businesses could benefit from WiFi, and with the data we should know if there were some possibilities.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to award the bid for Downtown WiFi to Trificient (Option 2 with light fixtures) in the amount of \$77,410, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

DISCUSSION OF BRICK PAVER CROSSWALK AT INTERSECTION OF RODORET STREET/MAIN STREET

Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth presented a plan to expand asphalt that was being proposed at the intersection of Rodoret/Main. Several years ago there was a downtown streetscape study and stamped crosswalks were recommended in the study. NCDOT plans to resurface Main Street (Hwy 70) and the Town would like to partner with NCDOT to include the stamped crosswalk. The street could be resurfaced as early as March or as late as October this year. Mr. Eckard said staff spoke with the paving contractor and would like the paving done before the Independence Fireworks display if possible. Mr. Duckworth described the process for the brick paver. The estimated cost of the stamped, four-way crosswalk would be \$16,000. Mr. Duckworth said the second option would be to remove the bump-out on Main Street which was difficult to maintain and clean and was a safety issue for citizens, and with the bump-out removed there would be four or five parking spaces added to Main Street. West Consultants was procuring bids for the removal of the bump-out and it is estimated to cost \$31,000 to remove and patch then NCDOT would resurface during the street paving. Mr. Eckard offered proposals for funding for these two projects.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Sweezy made a motion to approve the stamped crosswalk with NCDOT in the amount of \$16,000 and \$31,000 for the removal of the bump-out and paving (total of \$47,000), seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENT Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following budget amendment:

Budget Amendment No. 17 - Amphitheatre Repairs

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.6250.150 M&R Bldg & Grounds	<u>48,815</u>	
Total	<u>\$48,815</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$ 48,815 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.

10.3970.303 From Util - Econ	30,000
10.3990.000 Fund Balance	<u>18,815</u>

Total

\$ 0

\$48,815

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.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned budget amendment with the fact that funds will go back into fund balance at the beginning of next budget year, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

STREET SIGN Councilman Delp requested that staff look at the possibility of a warning sign on Laurel Street prior to Bouchard Avenue NE, If you leave Bouchard and turn right on Laurel Street toward town someone is always on your bumper due to a blind curve. Mr. Eckard said staff would investigate.

TOURISM SIGN AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL Councilwoman Hildebran said the sign was beautiful and asked if that was part of the Main Street Program. Ms. Angi said the sign was designed in house and the logo and color palette was chosen by the Main Street committee.

FLAG – OLD ROCK SCHOOL Councilman Ogle reported that the flag was missing at the Old Rock School and he said he was made aware that it was damaged during the recent wind storm. Ms. Angi said the rope also broke and staff was working on repairs.

STREET LIGHT FIXTURE Councilman Ogle reported a street light fixture that was about to fall in the lower parking lot closest to Main Street at the Old Rock School.

NEW BUILDINGS IN VALDESE Councilman Delp said it was nice to see new buildings going up in Valdese – Meridian expansion and the Downtown Park.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

ANNUAL BUDGET RETREAT, OLD ROCK SCHOOL – WALDENSIAN ROOM, MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017, 1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

At 7:48 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 20, 2017, 1:00 p.m., Old Rock School, Waldensian Room - Annual Budget Retreat.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
ANNUAL COUNCIL/DEPARTMENT HEAD BUDGET RETREAT
MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017**

The Valdese Town Council met on Monday, March 20, 2017, 1:00 p.m., for its Annual Budget Retreat, Old Rock School, Waldensian Room, 400 Main Street West, Valdese, North Carolina. The following members were present: Mayor John F. (Chip) Black, Jr., Councilman Keith Ogle, Councilwoman Frances Hildebran, Councilwoman Susan Stevenson, Councilman Gary Delp, and Councilman Roy Sweezy. Also present: Town Manager Seth Eckard, Deputy Town Clerk Thelda B. Rhoney, and all Department Heads.

Absent: None

A quorum was present.

CALL TO ORDER At 1:00 p.m., Mayor Black opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He said the Town had a lot going on since the last budget retreat. He complimented Town Manager Seth Eckard on an article published in "The Morganton News Herald" on Tuesday, March 7, 2017 about being optimistic.

OPENING COMMENTS – TOWN MANAGER SETH ECKARD Mr. Eckard welcomed everyone and said staff was looking for feedback from Members of Council.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH NCDOT FOR STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS Mayor Black introduced the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT WITH
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FOR STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese has requested that the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) perform certain work under the Streetscape Improvement Program. This work is to consist of installing stamped brick crosswalks on Main Street.

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese proposes to enter into an agreement with the NCDOT for said work wherein the NCDOT or a contractor selected by the NCDOT will install the said improvements.

WHEREAS, under the proposed agreement, the Town of Valdese shall reimburse the NCDOT for all costs of the work incurred by the NCDOT for the said improvements.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VALDESE RESOLVES:

Section 1. That the agreement for the hereinabove referenced Streetscape Improvement Program is hereby formally approved by the Town of Valdese and the Town Manager and Town Clerk of this municipality are hereby empowered to sign and execute the required agreement between the Town of Valdese and the North Carolina Department of Transportation.

Section 2. This resolution shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this 20th day of March, 2017.

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

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to adopt the aforementioned resolution authorizing the Town Manager to enter into an agreement with NCDOT, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

FINANCE DIRECTOR JERRY LAMASTER - CAPITAL RESERVES, TAXES, REVENUES CURRENT BUDGET, ANTICIPATED CHANGES IN REVENUE Mr. LaMaster said revenues were coming in as predicted and the Department Heads were staying within budget. He saw an increase in sales taxes from last year. He said Mr. Eckard would review Capital Reserves.

UPDATE ON UTILITY FUNDS SPENT: WATER - JERRY CONLEY & WASTEWATER - GREG PADGETT Mr. Conley and Mr. Padgett offered brief updates on the first year of the 10-year CIP as well as needed equipment replacement.

MCGILL ASSOCIATES – UPDATE UTILITY CIP FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER DEPARTMENTS RJ Mozeley and Steven Miller with McGill Associates offered updates and presented a Water and Sewer Fund Capital Improvements Plan Summary, current and proposed water and sewer rates, and water and sewer fund financial analysis.

Councilwoman Hildebran said she continues to be concerned about rate increases to our citizens on fixed incomes.

GREENWAY FIXED ROUTE - GREENWAY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR CAMILLE STERLING Ms. Sterling and WPCOG Transportation Planner Cody Moneymaker said they were in the early stages of planning and would know by the end of April if they were awarded grant funds. If grant funds were awarded they were looking at an August route. The Town of Valdese had committed \$10,000 per year. There was a brief discussion regarding fares, some municipalities charge fares and some pay an annual fee and do not charge fares.

DUKE ENERGY – STREET LIGHTING – District Manager Robin Nicholson, Tom Grantham and Craig Parks were in attendance.

Ms. Nicholson introduced Mr. Grantham who reviewed the scope of work and plan for outdoor lighting projects. He said there were two types of lighting, high pressure sodium and white LED. He reviewed types of poles from 12 to 35 feet with different fixtures for up light, sidelight and downlight. Their poles must be placed out of harm's way and he described the installation and said there would need to be research to find the rights-of-way. We currently have 100-110 poles which could be reduced to 38 poles. An engineering study would need to be conducted to determine where to set the poles. Light depends on the height of pole, wattage, and type of fixture.

Duke Energy would send Planning Director Larry Johnson information (they also have a lot of information posted on their website) for Council to decide what it wanted and then Duke Energy could provide cost estimates. They would also need the number of poles and the area covered. Mr. Grantham briefly described two ways to pay for lightning from Duke Energy. He said the Town would need a lighting plan.

Ms. Nicholson said with any type pole there could be no Christmas lighting or hanging baskets.

SMART METERS – ANDY HONEYCUTT Mr. Honeycutt introduced Lauren Brown with his firm. He thanked staff for gathering and providing needed data. He reviewed an AMI system which uses radio frequency from a cell tower and an AMR system, a drive by radio read. He said the industrial customers, 29 total accounts, use 44 percent of the water produced. An AMI deployment with meter replacement would cost approximately \$1.8 - \$2 million with a seven or eight year payback. There would need to be policy and ordinance changes, organization redesign and timing, large meter infrastructure management, rate study and CIP. Billing would be through FoxPro.

Council recommended that Mr. Honeycutt provide an agreement for a meter replacement program at a cost of approximately \$2 million for a turnkey job which would take two years to implement. Mr. Honeycutt would provide an agreement for the April agenda.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS – MORRISSA ANGI – DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS INCLUDING 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN 2018 Ms. Angi offered a brief update of projects completed in the current budget year. She would include the following in the FY 17-18 budget: Third floor façade improvements for three sides of the building - \$45,000; Teachers Cottage roof and floor replacement; flooring in back hallway at Old Rock School, paint auditorium ceiling and walls. She also said the Clock Tower needed some repairs. She recommended a modest rate increase for rentals and the addition of \$10 per hour for sound and lighting technician.

The 125th Anniversary Celebration would be encumbered from two budget years. The Town was asked to provide 10 commemorative signs at an estimated cost of \$10,000. The committee would decide the amount of funding to request when the preliminary design was complete. Also, if a national act or entertainment was brought in for Independence Day Festivities and Waldensian Festival in 2018 that could cost an additional \$25,000 per event.

Council was concerned about the request and cost for 10 signs for the walking tour. Mr. Eckard said this item would be presented to Council at a future meeting.

MS. ANGI AND MR. DUCKWORTH - PLAN B STREETScape AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS Ms. Angi and Mr. Duckworth presented a possible streetscape plan for downtown and Christmas lighting on some of the larger trees at the Old Rock School and Wells Fargo Parking Lot.

Mr. Eckard said if Council decided on a street light plan there would be no available funding for a streetscape plan or Christmas lights.

Councilman Ogle recommended the Town do both street lights and streetscape/Christmas lighting.

It was also recommended that staff look at Christmas lighting at the Town entrances.

WATER AUDIT & UTILITIES PERFORMANCE REPORT – BRYAN DUCKWORTH Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth said the unaccounted water went from 5 percent to 8 percent. One reason could be the aging meters. We need technology ahead of growth. He said 75 percent of our meters were over 10 years old. They are replacing 500 meters per year. They have 400 eligible for cut off each month but not enough manpower to cut off each meter. The industrial customers could be better served with an updated system.

PUBLIC WORKS - BRYAN DUCKWORTH - DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS; DATA ON SOLID WASTE; AND SANITATION SERVICES PROPOSAL Mr. Duckworth said the new brush truck just arrived. He offered options for solid waste and said a new trash truck was needed as the current truck was 10 years old and with the cost of purchasing and financing a new trash truck, a truck with a side arm would be even more expensive – additional \$100,000 plus purchase of new bins; or, the Town could contract with Republic Services to pick up solid waste which would relieve Public Works staff and there would be no upfront equipment costs. The negative would be some loss of control and level of service. The Town would lose two employees and they could apply with Republic Services and go through their employment process. The solid waste fee would increase from \$10 to \$12 per month and solid waste pick up would be on Mondays and Tuesdays.

Councilman Ogle said a contract with Republic Services would lower the Town's liability as it was dangerous for employees to ride the back of a garbage truck.

Mr. Duckworth said a contract with Republic Services would be on the May Council meeting agenda.

DINNER At 6:15 p.m., Mayor Black invited everyone to enjoy dinner catered by Myra's Catering. At 7:00 p.m., Mayor Black called the meeting back to order.

ADMINISTRATION & PLANNING LARRY JOHNSON & SETH ECKARD - DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS; HOUSING; IT NEEDS; WAYFINDER SIGNS Mr. Johnson offered a PowerPoint with housing information from the early 80s to current. He said seven housing permits have been approved for 2017 and only five were approved in 2016. He said a housing analysis and plan could be offered in January 2018. He requested \$15,000 for the demolition of a mobile home park and funding for updating computers and iPads for Members of Council.

PARKS & RECREATION DOUG KNIGHT – DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS; CURRENT PARKS & PICNIC AREAS AND CIP FOR PARKS & RECREATION Doug Knight said the Downtown Park was under construction and asked about naming the facility. Mayor Black recommended that the building not be named after a person and said guidelines needed to be drafted. Mr. Knight said Kellex Seating donated \$100,000 to the Lakeside Park Project and The Rostan Family Foundation would offer matching funds of 3 to 1.

FIRE DEPARTMENT CHARLIE WATTS – DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS AND 911 COMMUNICATION CENTER Chief Watts said the new fire engine should arrive in October 2017. He offered a brief update on the 911 Communication Center. He said the Police and Fire Departments would need a new complex within the next 10 years. He said the Fire Department needed bay door replacement and resurfacing of the front pad and as a future budget item they would need a Rescue UTV.

POLICE DEPARTMENT JACK MOSS - DEPARTMENTAL REQUESTS & POLICE SERVER Chief Moss thanked Council for reinstating a full-time police officer which offered a lot of relief for the Police Department and the new vehicles were working out very well. He said they would budget for a new server, and the police officer salaries were the lowest in Burke County, even lower than detention officers. Tasers would need replacing soon.

BUDGET STRATEGY – TOWN MANAGER SETH ECKARD Mr. Eckard briefly reviewed the utility rates, street lighting project and Town parks. He also reviewed capital reserves and capital improvement needs for FY 2017-2018.

March 20, 2017, Budget Retreat, MB#31

ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Black thanked the Department Heads for a tremendous job. He adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 3, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, April 3, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

JIM JACUMIN, TRAIL OF FAITH Mr. Jacumin mentioned his family's accomplishments to make the town better. He said there are approximately 25 Artist in the Heritage Center which had been open 16 years at a cost of \$192,000. He requested that the Town sponsor the Trail of Faith Fireworks at a cost of \$5,000 on July 4. He said the singing on Friday night started out from 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., which changed to 10:00 o'clock versus 9:00 o'clock. He asked for consideration to start the music earlier so they could end at 9:00 p.m. They would like to add a roof over the plaza or sails over the seating as an improvement. He invited everyone to Sunrise Service on Easter Sunday, 6:45 a.m., at the Plaza. They are changing all Christmas Lighting at the Trail of Faith to LED and approximately 8,000 people came to see the lights. This year is the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation of the folks who settled the Town and mid May they will have the tour guide automation set up and he invited everyone to stop by.

Mayor Black thanked Mr. Jacumin and said staff would get back with him on the issues.

100TH BIRTHDAY PROCLAMATION Mayor Black read the following proclamation into the record:

**PROCLAMATION
ANNA REFOUR THORNBURG
April 6, 2017**

Whereas: Anna Refour Thornburg will be honored by friends and relatives on the celebration of her 100th birthday on Thursday, April 6, 2017; and,

Whereas: Anna Refour Thornburg is a lifelong resident of Valdese, North Carolina.

Therefore: The Mayor, Members of Town Council, and staff of the Town of Valdese, on the celebration of the 100th birthday of Anna Refour Thornburg, do hereby proclaim April 6, 2017 as Anna Refour Thornburg Day in Valdese.

Proclaimed this the 3rd day of April, 2017.

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

/s/ Councilman Keith Ogle

/s/ Councilwoman Frances Hildebran

/s/ Councilwoman Susan Stevenson

/s/ Councilman Gary Delp

/s/ Councilman Roy Sweezy

/s/ Town Manager Seth Eckard

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – MARCH 6, 2017 REGULAR MEETING AND MARCH 20, 2016 ANNUAL BUDGET RETREAT

SPRING LITTER SWEEP, APRIL 15-29, 2017 The Town would participate in Spring Litter Sweep.

ADOPTED WATERLINE BREAK STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

Town of Valdese

April 3, 2017, MB#31
Water Breaks
Standard Operating Procedures

<u>Pre Plan</u>	<u>Initials</u>
1. Work Order Created – Number _____	_____
2. Location Request Called and Locate Number on Job Site _____	_____
3. Internal Locate of Towns Facilities	_____
4. Map Verification and Valves accessible	_____
5. Verify parts availability	_____
6. Verify availability of correct PPE's	_____
<u>Work Plan</u>	
1. Set up Work Zone and Traffic Control	_____
2. Assign a competent person and a backup competent person to the work site	_____
3. List all material used	_____
4. A detailed Description of the repair listing the type and size of line repair	_____
5. Site Rehab – Patch (add to list) Seed (if needed)	_____
<u>Line Shut Down Procedures</u>	
1. Call Customer Service, Fire Department, and Director	_____
2. Call Industry – and / or issue Code Red to effected Industry	_____
3. Issue Code Red Message indicating Boil Water Advisory to all effected customers	_____
4. Flush until clear and Chlorine residual in present	_____
5. Take clear sample to water plant for testing	_____
6. Send all clear notice resending boil water advisory	_____

Adopted this 3rd day of April, 2017.

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

APPROVED BEER AND WINE REQUESTS FROM AMERICAN LEGION POST 234, WALDENSIAN HERITAGE WINES AND WALDENSIAN STYLE WINES

American Legion Post 234 – sell beer and malt beverages at the Beer Garden, 101 W Main Street, Wells Fargo Parking Lot on the following dates/times: Independence Day Celebration, June 30, 2017, 5:30 – 10:30 p.m.; Waldensian Festival, Friday August 11, 2017, 5:30 – 10:30 p.m.; and Saturday, August 12, 2017, 11:30 a.m. – 10:30 p.m.

Waldensian Heritage Wines – sell wine on the following dates/times in the Town parking lot: Independence Day Celebration, June 30, 2017, 5:00 – 11:00 p.m.; Waldensian Festival, Friday August 11, 2017, 5:00 – 11:00 p.m.; and Saturday, August 12, 2017, Noon – 11:00 p.m.

Waldensian Style Wines - sell wine on the following dates/times in the Town parking lot: Independence Day Celebration, June 30, 2017, 5:00 – 11:00 p.m.; Waldensian Festival, Friday August 11, 2017, 5:00 – 11:00 p.m.; and Saturday, August 12, 2017, Noon – 11:00 p.m.

APPROVED DATE AND TIME FOR CDBG FIRST PUBLIC HEARING ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017, 5:30 P.M., VALDESE TOWN HALL

APPROVED DATE AND TIME FOR PUBLIC HEARING FOR PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION ON MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017, 5:30 P.M., VALDESE TOWN HALL

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA None

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Town Manager Seth Eckard presented the following Resolution authorizing resolution application for funding from NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure for a Drinking Water Improvement Project for a loan or grant for a Meter Replacement Project 2018 (AMI). The Town

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could possibly obtain a 25 percent grant (up to \$525,000) on a \$2.1 million Meter Replacement Project or a 100 percent loan.

**TOWN OF VALDESE
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM
NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A
DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROEJCT**

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 Meter Replacement Project 2018 (AMI);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) Federal 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 (unit of government) to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the (unit of government) 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 or 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 3rd day of April, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR WASTEWATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

Town Manager Seth Eckard presented the following Resolution application for funding from NC DEQ Division of Water Infrastructure for a loan or grant for a Wastewater Plant Improvements CIP Project 2018 for WWTP Improvements for the Backdrive Centrifuge estimated at \$300,000 for construction alone.

**TOWN OF VALDESE
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION**

April 3, 2017, MB#31

**APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM
NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A
WASTEWATER PLANT IMPROVEMENTS**

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 wastewater system project described as the Wastewater Plant Improvement Project 2018, 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) Federal 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 (unit of government) to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the (unit of government) 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 or 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 3rd day of April, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the aforementioned Resolution, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

AWARD OF BID FOR MAIN STREET PARKING ADDITION PROJECT Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth recommended the lowest bid for the Main Street Parking Addition Project to Midstate Contractors, Inc., Hickory, in the amount of \$18,180. This project would add parking to the downtown and improve safety. (Other bids: J. T. Russel & Sons, Inc., Conover - \$21,000 and Evans Construction Co., Inc., Connelly Springs - \$21,545.) He said there may be some unknown costs with this project as a power pole may need to be relocated.

Mr. Eckard said \$36,500 (following Budget Amendment 20) was budgeted for the parking addition project and the stamped street crossing and the parking addition project bids came in lower than budgeted which may cover the cost of the power pole issue.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to award the bid for the Main Street Parking Addition Project to Midstate Contractors in the amount of \$18,180, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF ADDENDUM TO AGREEMENT WITH METERSYS FOR ADVANCED METERING PROCUREMENT SERVICES Mr. Eckard said the Addendum to Agreement with MeterSYS for Advanced Metering Procurement Services was in the amount of \$14,850. Council approved an agreement with MeterSYS at its January 9, 2017 meeting. Mr. Andy Honeycutt presented a proposed Meter Replacement Program at the March 20 Annual Budget Retreat and Council recommended that Mr. Honeycutt provide an agreement to begin work on the \$2.1 million meter replacement project that will take two years to complete. The Addendum to the Agreement would allow MeterSYS to evaluate and select metering technology in support of operations, finance and customer service.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned addendum with MeterSYS, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following three budget amendments:

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 18 - W&S CONSTRUCTION TRUCK

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
30.8120.741 Capital Outlay	<u>14,000</u>	
Total	<u>\$14,000</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$14,000 in the expenditures of the Utility Fund. To provide funding for the above, the following revenue budgets will be increased. These additional revenues have already been received.

30.3810.080 Connelly Springs Maint		<u>14,000</u>
Total	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$14,000</u>

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.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 19 - WIFI PROJECT

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.4900.450 WiFi Project	<u>83,400</u>	
Total	<u>\$83,400</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$83,400 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.

10.3350.001 WiFi – Donation		15,000
10.3970.490 WiFi - Grants		49,000
10.3980.000 WiFi – Town		<u>19,400</u>

Total	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$83,400</u>
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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.

BUDGET AMENDMENT NO. 20 - STAMPED CROSSWALKS & PARKING ADDITION

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.

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, 2017:

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

<u>Acct. No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.5600.150 Maint & Repair	<u>36,500</u>	
Total	<u>\$36,500</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>

This will result in a net increase of \$36,500 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.

10.3970.700 Main St Grants-CRF		<u>36,500</u>
Total	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$36,500</u>

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.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the three aforementioned Budget Amendments, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

HOMES NEEDING REPAIR Councilman Delp said he continues to get several calls per month regarding homes in his neighborhood that need repair. He said we may need to look at regulations for home maintenance issues.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

VALDESE TRIATHLON - SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017, 9:00 A.M.

FIRST APRIL CRAFT MARKET - SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., OLD ROCK SCHOOL WALDENSIAN ROOM

TOWN OFFICES CLOSED ON FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017 FOR GOOD FRIDAY

RIBBON CUTTING AND RECEPTION PRESENTED BY CAROLINA MANAGEMENT TEAM GIVES BACK (CMT)– VALDESE WATER PLANT, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2017, 9:30 A.M. CMT donated \$70,000 for the flume at the Water Plant.

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND BUDGET WORKSHOP DINNER MEETING, MONDAY, APRIL 24, 2017, 5:30 P.M., VALDESE TOWN HALL COMMUNITY ROOM

WPCOG ANNUAL MEETING, THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2017, 6:00 P.M., CROWNE PLAZA, HICKORY

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (C) (A) (3) Mayor Black called for a Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) To consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. Mayor Black said he did not anticipate any action after Closed Session.

April 3, 2017, MB#31

At 6:24 p.m., Councilman Sweezy made a motion to enter into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (c) (a) (3) To consider and give instructions to the Town Attorney concerning the settlement of claims between the Town of Valdese and Bond Safeguard Insurance Company. The motion was seconded by Councilman Delp and carried unanimously.

At 6:40 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:40 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, April 24, 2017, 5:30 p.m., Valdese Town Hall Community Room for Public Hearings and Budget Workshop Dinner.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – PUBLIC HEARINGS & BUDGET WORKSHOP
APRIL 24, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, April 24, 2017, at 5:30 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 and Finance Director Jerry LaMaster.

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Others present: Sherry Long, WPCOG Assistant Executive Director, Dwayne Wilson and Chip Harvey with Dwayne Wilson Insurance & Financial Services, and HR Officer/Utility Customer Services Manager Debbie Jones.

Parks & Recreation Director Doug Knight; Beth Heile, President of Friends of the Valdese Rec; and Richard Garrison were also in attendance.

Mayor Black called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., and invited Members of Council to enjoy dinner catered by Myra's Catering.

CDBG FIRST PUBLIC HEARING Mayor Black opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against.

Ms. Sherry Long said each year North Carolina receives approximately \$45 million in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding. Local governments can apply for these funds for various activities that benefit low-to-moderate income persons with severe needs. Public hearings are required to receive public comment before the City can submit a CDBG application. This first public hearing is to assist the City in the development of CDBG projects for the coming year. The two programs funded yearly with CDBG funds to North Carolina are Infrastructure and Economic Development. She offered the following brief summaries of both programs:

INFRASTRUCTURE (CDBG-IF) There would be approximately \$25 million available this year from the NC Department of Environmental Quality for this program. The funds can be used for water and wastewater transmission lines or improvements to water and sewer treatment facilities to serve low to moderate-income areas to correct severe health or environmental needs. Maximum grant amount based on 2016 will be \$2 million with no required match. Applications anticipated due in September 2017.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CDBG-ED) The North Carolina Department of Commerce will have approximately \$15 million available in 2017 to assist local governments. The funds may be used for the construction of public utilities – road, water, sewer, gas, electric city, etc. (up to \$1 million); demolition of industrial buildings (up to \$500,000); building reuse projects (\$750,000); loans to local governments for shell buildings or industrial park development; and low interest loan funds in tandem with a bank for private industrial investment. For all categories besides the demolition grants and loans for shell building and industrial park development, the industry or business must commit to create or retain permanent full-time jobs. Of the committed job creation, persons with low to moderate income must hold 60% of the jobs and this is based on their prior 12-month household income (below 80% of median). A local match of 25% (which can be paid by the developer) is required for public facilities and demolition grants. Applications accepted on a continuous basis.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR CDBG SECOND PUBLIC HEARING

Councilman Ogle made a motion to set the date for the Second CDBG Public Hearing for Monday, June 5, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

At 5:45 p.m., Ms. Long left the meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING - PARKS AND RECREATION TRUST FUND GRANT APPLICATION Mayor Black opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against.

Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight said the Town of Valdese had begun to seek funding for the purchase of a 302-acre parcel to become Lake Rhodhiss Park. The total cost of the project was estimated at \$1.35 million. Approximately 50 percent of this had been requested from the Clean Water Management Trust Fund, and \$400,000 had been committed by private donors. Staff would like to apply for a Parks and Recreation Trust Fund (PARTF) grant in the amount of \$ 300,000, which—if secured—would cover the remainder of the project costs. The purpose of the public hearing was to discuss the project, including any sources of matching funds, and to assess Town Council support and if Council was comfortable with the proposed application. Staff requested a formal approval of the application. He briefly reviewed a sheet with “Basic Facts and Assurances.”

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to approve the PARTF Application submission, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

At 5:50 p.m., Mr. Knight, Ms. Heile as well as Mr. Garrison left the meeting.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE UPDATE Mr. Wilson and Mr. Harvey offered an overview of employee insurance and said there were seven high claims. Mr. Wilson said he would advise staff as soon as the quote for the renewal rate was received.

Town Manager Seth Eckard said there would be a significant increase in insurance costs and briefly discussed ways to budget for the increase.

At 6:30 p.m., Mr. Wilson, Mr. Harvey and Ms. Jones left the meeting.

DOWNTOWN STREET LIGHTS Council discussed the street light project and recommended delaying this project.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION GRANT PROPOSAL Mr. Eckard said since the grant funds would not go toward the downtown street light project that perhaps a committee could be formed for downtown revitalization recommendations. He said after payment for the brick stamped pavers and removal of bump-out on Main Street that approximately \$50,000 remained of the grant.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Black appointed Councilwoman Stevenson and Councilman Delp to serve on a committee with the Town Manager, Community Affairs Director, Planning Director, and Public Works Director.

SANITATION OPTIONS Mr. Eckard offered an update on sanitation options and said there would be an agreement on the May 1 agenda for approval.

SPECIAL PROJECTS BUDGET Mr. Eckard offered an update on Town projects.

PROPOSED BUDGET AND HIGHLIGHTS - FY 17-18 Mr. Eckard and Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the proposed budget for FY 17-18. They reviewed the General and Utility Funds Revenues and Expenditures.

PROPOSED RATE STRUCTURE FY 17-18 Mr. Eckard briefly reviewed the proposed rate structure which was also presented at the budget retreat.

ADJOURNMENT At 8:32 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, May 1, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 5, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, June 5, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

DOG ISSUE - MS. PAMELA GARRISON, 1001 COLONIAL STREET, VALDESE. Ms. Garrison said Councilwoman Hildebran would speak on her behalf.

Councilwoman Hildebran said Ms. Garrison lived in her ward. Councilwoman Hildebran said she had talked with Ms. Garrison at length as well as the Town Manager, Police Chief, Public Works Director, and Animal Control Officer regarding someone's dog being killed by a neighbor's dog. The Animal Control Officer did a great job under the current Animal Ordinance. There are several citizens concerned, although a first occurrence, why the dog had not been declared vicious and the dog's owner was not required to pay a fine. The concern was, it would have happened to a child. They believed it was time to review the Town's current ordinance to see if it needs to be brought up to date and in-line with other towns and cities. Staff recommended that a special committee be appointed to review the current Animal Ordinance.

It was the consensus of Council to appoint a special committee to review the Town's Animal Ordinance made up of the following: Councilwoman Hildebran, Pamela Garrison, Town Manager Seth Eckard, Planning Director Larry Johnson and Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth.

FOOD TRUCKS IN VALDESE - LARRY EARP, 104 PINEBURR AVENUE, SE, VALDESE Mr. Earp addressed Council regarding food trucks at special events in Valdese. He said with him were the owner of Giovanni's Pizza and the Manager of McDonalds. He said there were 12 eating places in the Town of Valdese and they were here 365 days per year and pay taxes and he asked why the Town needs more food vendors. When the festival started 40 years ago, it was set up for the local businesses, churches and civic clubs. Then they said there were not enough food vendors and they went with the NC Festival Association and there were 38 food vendors. He said the local restaurants could not make any money. He said if you wanted food trucks in town, then invite them on a day it snows and they would not be here. They would only be here during crowds. For 18 years he had done the car show and Myra's Restaurant spends \$450 per week to put the car show on. He also paid \$500 for a circular this year. He doesn't get a grant or ask any other business for assistance, so why would you allow a food truck to pay \$50 or \$100 then take the money out of town and they would be working some other location the next day.

He said he had 18 employees and McDonalds and Giovanni's had even more employees as well as the other food establishments who pay taxes. He said he had statistics on a \$1,200 to \$3,500 night. He said the Town Manager told him the food trucks would eliminate the food lines. Mr. Earp said that was what they liked, the long lines. He said he had been open 40 years. Mr. Earp said the two best nights for restaurants in Valdese would be the Family Friday Night/Independence Day event with fireworks and the Friday night before Waldensian Festival. He asked why would you bring food trucks into town during those two nights.

Mr. Eckard said two food trucks were proposed to be at the June 30, 2017 event, and the Town would not pay them to be in town nor would they pay a fee. Mr. Earp said why bring in food trucks when you have food establishments in town trying to make a living. He said the population had decreased in town and there were no jobs. He recommended that this issue be reconsidered and do away with food trucks.

Mayor Black said there would be a conversation about food trucks.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – MAY 1, 2017

APPROVED VALDESE ABC BOARD TRAVEL POLICY

VALDESE ABC BOARD TRAVEL POLICY

The following guidelines will be used as a travel policy for all employees traveling on Valdese ABC Board business:

1. Reimbursement of travel expenses-

Meals will be covered on a per day rate. (Based on the current Federal Per Diem Rate) The Federal Per Diem Rates listing (found online at www.gsa.gov) is updated on an annual basis in October. If the traveler's destination is not listed on the website, the standard rate, \$51 currently, is used.

When traveling to attend a conference, where some meals are provided by the conference, remaining meals not provided by the conference will be eligible for reimbursement on a reasonable and actual basis (receipts required).

When on a trip not involving an over night's stay, expenses (i.e. mileage, meals) will be eligible for reimbursement on a reasonable and actual basis (receipts required).

Lodging will be covered for reasonable and actual cost (receipt required). Unless attending a conference, the Federal Per Diem Listing should be used as a guideline in determining reasonable cost.

2. Board credit cards may be used to reserve lodging. Travel related cost however, should not be charged to the credit cards. All travel expenses will be covered through travel advances and / or reimbursements.

3. It is the responsibility of the General Manager to determine which meal allowances are eligible for reimbursement to employees for partial day travel. Reimbursement will be for reasonable and actual cost (receipt required).

4. All requests for travel expense reimbursement (i.e. meals, lodging, mileage, etc. must be accompanied by a travel expense report.

5. Other issues:

-Transportation: As a general rule, it is the Board's policy that an employee is authorized to use a private vehicle and be reimbursed at current standard mileage rate. The current standard rate shall be the same as paid by the Town of Valdese following the IRS rate.

-Telephone: Any employee traveling out of town and staying overnight will be allowed a personal telephone call up to \$4 per night. Board business related calls will be paid by the Board.

-Registration: Registration fees are generally paid in advance directly to the vendor, not from travel advance.

-Advances: The Board does permit employees to request advances whenever an estimated trip cost exceeds \$25. If the cost is less than \$25, employee must seek reimbursement when the trip is completed.

Adopted the 17th day of May, 2017, by the Valdese ABC Board of Directors.

Approved this 5th day of June 2017.

/s/ John F. (Chip) Black, Jr., Mayor

Attest: /s/ Town Clerk

ADOPTED RESOLUTION UPDATING VALDESE INFORMATION ON THE NC ABC COMMISSION WEBSITE

RESOLUTION
NORTH CAROLINA ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL COMMISSION

June 5, 2017, MB#31

RESOLUTION of the Town of Valdese, County of Burke, regarding the designation of an official to make recommendations to the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission on ABC permit applications.

WHEREAS, G.S. 18B-904(f) authorizes a governing body to designate an official, by name or by position, to make recommendations concerning the suitability of persons or locations for ABC permits, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese, County of Burke, wishes to notify the NC ABC Commission of its designation as required by G.S. 18B-904(f);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that Seth Eckard, Town Manager is hereby designated to notify the North Carolina Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission of the recommendations of the Town of Valdese, County of Burke, regarding the suitability of persons and locations for ABC permits within its jurisdiction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT notices to the Town of Valdese, County of Burke, should be mailed or delivered to the official designated above at the following mailing address: P O Box 339, 102 Massel Avenue, SW, Valdese NC 28690; Phone 828-879-2120.

This the 5th day of June, 2017.

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

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of June, 2017.

/s/ Clerk

APPROVED REAPPOINTMENTS TO VEDIC BOARD OF DIRECTORS The VEDIC Board of Directors recommended the reappointment of Kevin Frederick (second term) and Rick McClurd (third term) to the VEDIC Board. The 3-year terms would expire July 1, 2020.

APPROVED AGREEMENT WITH WPCOG FOR ASSISTANCE IN SUPPORTING THE WESTERN PIEDMONT STORMWATER PARTNERSHIP An agreement with WPCOG for assistance in supporting the Western Piedmont Stormwater Partnership for FY 2017-2018 in the amount of \$2,111 (same amount as last fiscal year).

ADOPTED RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UPPER CATAWBA RIVER TRAIL SIGNAGE AND MAPS PROJECT – CITY OF MARION 2018 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

TOWN OF VALDESE

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UPPER CATAWBA RIVER TRAIL SIGNAGE AND MAPS PROJECT – CITY OF MARION 2018 RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS the North Carolina Division of Parks and Recreation has designated the Upper Catawba River Trail as a State Designated Trail; and

WHEREAS the Upper Catawba River Trail is a natural and recreational resource of regional significance that passes through or adjacent to McDowell, Burke, Caldwell, Alexander, and Catawba Counties and provides economic, health, and environmental benefits; and

WHEREAS branding and consistent signage along the Upper Catawba River Trail will serve residents and visitors to the area; and

WHEREAS the City of Marion has been invited by the North Carolina Trails Committee to apply for 2018 Recreational Trails Program funds for the State designated Upper Catawba River Trail and more specifically the Upper Catawba River Trail – Signage and Maps project; and

WHEREAS the grant would fund signage, kiosks, and maps for up to 30 access points in four different counties along the river; and

WHEREAS the project is supported by a diverse stakeholder group including Duke Energy, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Trout Unlimited, North Carolina Wildlife Federation, local governments along the trail, and river users.

June 5, 2017, MB#31

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Valdese Town Council resolves to support the City of Marion's 2018 Recreational Trails Program application for the Upper Catawba River Trail – Signage and Maps project.

ADOPTED this 5th day of June, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Frances M. Hildebran, Town Clerk

APPROVED LEASE AGREEMENTS AT THE OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH DREAM CONNECTIONS AND STILL WATERS COUNSELING, INC. Lease agreements for rental space at the Old Rock School. The Dream Connections Lease in the amount of \$970 per month and the Still Waters Counseling Lease in the amount of \$283 per month.

APPROVED REVISED CONSERVATION EASEMENT AGREEMENT FOR MCGALLIARD CREEK AND FALLS Council approved an agreement at its May 1, 2017, Council meeting. Mr. Damon Hearn from Clean Water contacted staff and recommended that the agreement be revised to remove all reference to Clean Water. Other than that, the agreement remained unchanged. The revised agreement would give the Town an additional 5 – 10 points on the Clean Water Grant Application, which should help put an even more competitive position for the Grant award. This agreement essentially protects 50 ft. on each side of the creek and 100 ft. on each side of the bottom of the falls.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

NC DEPARTMENT OF LABOR SAFETY AWARDS Fire Chief Charlie Watts presented safety awards to the following departments: Wastewater – 1st year Gold; Fire Department – 2nd year Gold; Police Department – 3rd consecutive year; Triple Water – 4th year Gold; Recreation – 6 consecutive year Gold; Community Affairs – 6 consecutive year; Public Works – 10 consecutive year; and Administration – 29 consecutive year.

He commended Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth. He said the Water Department did not receive an award this year due to an injury while taking down the swimming pool bubble at the Recreation Department. He also commended Jerry Conley, Water Plant Superintendent. He commended Council and the Town Manager for assisting in keeping all employees safe.

Councilman Ogle asked about using other departmental employees to take down the bubble. Mr. Eckard said it had always been a practice to use any available departmental employees. Staff was working to make it safer and the cost estimate was \$12,000 to take down the bubble and the same amount to put the bubble up. Councilman Ogle said it would be cheaper than pay a Workers Comp claim. Mr. Eckard said staff was also looking at that issue.

Mayor Black thanked all Department Heads to make sure their employees were safe which would help on insurance premiums.

SECOND CDBG PUBLIC HEARING Mayor Black opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against.

WPCOG Assistant Director Sherry Long said the purpose of the public hearing was to receive input regarding a CDBG-ED grant request to the NC Department of Commerce for the Alba Waldensian building demolition project. Through the pre-application process, \$500,000 in CDBG grant funds had been set aside for demolition of the Alba Waldensian building located at 408 Praley Street, SW. The property was owned by Valdese Water Recycling, LLC, and the company had committed to pay the 25 percent required match for the CDBG project. The 61,739 square foot Alba Waldensian Mill was constructed in 1927, has been vacant for over five years and has exceeded its useful life. The property was purchased in December, 2016 by Valdese Water Recycling, LLC, a subsidiary of Leonhardt Environmental. The \$650,000 cost estimate provided by Demolition Excavating Group for the demolition and clean-up of the site included removal of all structures (including abatement of asbestos and lead paint), removal of any and all foundations to a minimum of 3' below grade, transporting all materials, and grading to leave the site smooth and free from all debris. In addition to the demolition costs, \$25,000 was budgeted for grant administration. The total project cost - \$675,000. In order for this project to occur in Valdese, the Town would need to have site control of the property while the demolition was taking place. The Town would need to enter into an option on the property before the demolition was started and kept in place until the demolition was complete. The Town would be responsible for bidding and contracting for the demolition of the site. Once the property was cleared, the Town would let the option lapse and the property would be released to the owner. Valdese Water Recycling, LLC, would be required to sign a

deed restriction for the property for a period of five years. The post demolition restriction would require the site not be used for parking, recreation, residential housing (single or multi-unit), or retail. The 25 percent match commitment for the CDBG program was \$175,000 and would be paid by Valdese Water Recycling, LLC, and would be deposited into the Town account before the demolition contract was signed.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked who would be liable if something were to happen during the time the Town had control of the property. Ms. Long said there would need to be some insurance taken out which was considered part of the project. Ms. Long said the Town would not actually take control of the property, it was called site control which was different and would never be transferred by deed.

Mr. Derr Leonhardt said they were aware of the terms and conditions of the grant. He said the building was about to fall in on itself and if it were not to be demolished that Mother Nature would demolish. Mr. Eckard said that 10 years of rainwater had been coming in through the roof.

Mr. Eckard said the Town of Valdese was the first in North Carolina to receive this new type of grant funding.

Councilwoman Hildebran said this was a great project for improving our community and she thanked Mr. Leonhardt for his commitment to the project.

Ms. Jean Marie Cole, 735 Bertis Street, Valdese, said she traveled the street where the demolition would take place and she asked about street closures. Mr. Eckard said Praley should remain open except to get temporary equipment in and out.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

Mayor Black and Town Manager Eckard thanked Ms. Sherry Long for her hard work on this project.

ADOPTION OF CDBG RESOLUTION FOR ALBA WALDENSIAN BUILDING DEMOLITION PROJECT

**RESOLUTION TOWN OF VALDESE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT APPLICATION
ALBA WALDENSIAN BUILDING DEMOLITION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Valdese Town Council has previously indicated its desire to assist in economic development efforts within the Town; and,

WHEREAS, the Valdese Town Council has held two public hearings concerning the proposed application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit Valdese Water Recycling, LLC; and,

WHEREAS, the Valdese Town Council wishes the Town to pursue a formal application for Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit Valdese Water Recycling, LLC; and will require the property owner to invest monies in the amount of \$175,000 (or 25% of the project costs) into the project as committed to in the application.

WHEREAS, the Valdese Town Council certifies it will meet all federal regulatory and statutory requirements of the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program,

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

That Seth Eckard, Town Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file an application on behalf of the Town of Valdese with The NC Department of Commerce for approval of a Community Development Block Grant for Economic Development to benefit Valdese Water Recycling, LLC.

That Seth Eckard, Town Manager, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as The NC Department of Commerce may request in connection with such application or 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 Town of Valdese has substantially complied or will substantially comply with all Federal, State, and local laws, rules, regulations, and ordinances applicable to the project and to the grants pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 5th day of June, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Thelda B. Rhoney, Clerk

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned resolution for the CDBG Grant, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

FY 2017-2018 BUDGET REVIEW AND SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR MONDAY, JUNE 26, 2017 The budget was submitted to the Valdese Town Council on Friday, May 19, 2017.

Mr. Eckard said, "Honorable Mayor Black and Members of the Valdese Town Council: It is my pleasure to respectfully submit to you the Proposed Budget for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018. The proposed total of the FY 2017-2018 budget is \$10,746,313. The proposed budget includes a total General Fund Budget of \$5,646,362 and a total Utility Fund Budget of \$5,099,951. The proposed budget includes a property tax rate of 54.5 cents per \$100 valuation. Economic Improvements and Constraints - The FY 2017-2018 proposed budget continues existing service levels while striving for a more balanced financial foundation. The Town of Valdese continues to be in a period of slow growth, and continues to experience the negative effects of the Great Recession. Valdese has, over the last few years, maintained a high level of service to our citizens by forgoing expensive repairs to Town maintained facilities, as well as, postponing major capital improvements. The Town has successfully begun the slow process of addressing these capital projects with the funds generated by the fiscal year 2016-2017 tax increase.

After reviewing demographic data trends provided by the Western Piedmont Council of Governments, it is clear our largest concern for the future of our community is our aging population. Our aging population is the result of a number of factors. Baby Boomers are expected to live longer than previous generations, birth rates are declining and the most significant factor is a decline in young families moving or returning to our area. This budget proposes strategic investments that will reverse this trend. Anticipated State collected local revenues have been calculated utilizing data supplied by the North Carolina League of Municipalities and local economic data. The Town is anticipating small increases in most of these revenue sources as a result of the slowly improving local, state and national economy.

The Town of Valdese successfully recruited Valdese Water Recycling Inc., to our community. Valdese Water Recycling will develop and clean up the blighted former Burke Mills and Alba Waldensian Warehouse properties. They propose approximately two million dollars of capital investment and propose to create 12 new jobs. The Town has been awarded a \$500,000 Community Development Block Grant from the North Carolina Department of Commerce to be used to demolish and cleanup the dilapidated Alba Waldensian Warehouse property.

General Fund - In Fiscal Year 2017-2018, the Town will privatize our sanitation garbage collection service due to the expected costs associated with needing to purchase a new garbage truck. To avoid having to raise our monthly sanitation fee, the Town of Valdese will contract with Republic Services to service our weekly collection routes. The Town will continue to provide all other sanitation services that citizens currently enjoy. With the success of this fiscal year's recycling service transition, staff feels that we will see similar positive results with the new sanitation service.

To address our aging population problem, staff has identified two areas of priority investment that will hopefully begin to reverse the negative trend and attract young families to our Town. The two areas that have been identified are downtown enhancements and a focus on our public parks.

Downtown Enhancements Include:

- Implementation of Main Street improvements that, include but are not limited to, brick-stamped crosswalk, increased safety and number of parking spaces by removing the bump-out, a redesign of flower beds and a hanging flower basket solution to be incorporated with our planters. Funds to pay for these projects will come from the Downtown Revitalization Grant, awarded to the Town in Fiscal Year 2016-2017.
- Launch of our downtown free public Wi-Fi project, paid for by a \$50,000 Appalachian Regional Commission grant and a Rostan Family Foundation gift.
- Opening of our new Downtown Park that offers amenities for families with young children and an exercise facility that will accommodate various new and existing workout classes.
- Revamped and expanded partnership with Old Colony Players, with the hopes to offer more in the area of the performing arts.
- Completion of the "Movies at the Rock" project.

Public Park Improvements and Additions:

- The Town's older parks (McGalliard Falls Park, Children's Park and Fletcher Ballfields) are beginning to show their age. The proposed budget allocates \$141,000 for the cosmetic and functional upgrade of these parks. The Town Council has wisely prioritized the repair and maintenance of existing park facilities, while taking advantage of opportunities for new facilities.
- Staff has submitted grant applications requesting approximately \$1 million for the purchase of 302 acres on Lake Rhodhiss for a new public passive park. The total purchase price is \$1.4 million, and via partnership with Friends of the Valdese Rec, the Town has secured pledges from local industry and charitable foundations for the remaining \$400,000. The Valdese Lakeside Park has the potential to be a unique attraction in the region due to its size and proximity to the Central Business District and forthcoming lakefront subdivisions. If the purchase of the property is successful, the Town will go through a public master park plan process so that the amenities are a reflection of the needs of the community.

The General Fund Budget reflects expenditures of \$350,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund for projects across multiple departments. Highlights include:

- Cosmetic and functional repairs and upgrades to McGalliard Falls Park, Children's Park and Fletcher Ballfields
- Phone system upgrades
- Phase Two of Old Rock School exterior repairs
- Upgrade Police Department computer server
- Resurface pool
- Fire Department paving and bay door repairs to accommodate new fire truck
- Fire Department thermal imaging camera

The 2017-2018 proposed budget includes one key operational change. Due to the needs of the Town's aquatics program, this budget proposes restoring the part-time aquatics position to its former full-time status.

Staff is recommending a 2 percent cost-of-living increase for our employees. Insurance premium increases continue to be a major constraint on the budget. Our strategy for this upcoming fiscal year is to adjust the benefits in a reasonable manner to compensate for the predicted premium increases. The HSA contribution of \$1,000 is recommended to remain the same.

Utility Fund - The Utility Fund budget for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 is \$5,099,951.

In Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the Town conducted a comprehensive capital improvement study for the Utility Departments. The study revealed that the Town has pressing needs which should be addressed in order to ensure high quality water and wastewater treatment for citizens. The Town is heading into implementation year two of our 10 year plan.

The Capital Improvement Plan contains a recommended funding model that restructures our utility rates to ensure that we will be able to pay for all of our capital needs. The second year of the plan calls for the rebuilding of the Utility Fund Balance due to a successful year of major capital investment in Fiscal Year 2016-2017 totaling approximately \$1.3 million. In order to restore the Fund Balance to a level that will accommodate future projects, this budget proposes a 4 percent increase in revenues.

The Capital Improvement Plan does call for several major investments next fiscal year. According to the model, these projects will be paid for by either grants, loans or a combination of both. Each project will be presented to the Council as we wait for various grant funders to announce their decisions.

In conclusion I would like to thank the dedicated employees of the Town for their hard work and good stewardship of the Town's resources. These people work hard and take pride in carrying out their duties. I would like to thank Mayor Black and the Town Council for their dedication in carrying out their responsibilities in providing leadership and guidance during the budgeting process." Mr. Eckard asked if there were questions.

Councilwoman Hildebran said there had been discussion regarding employee health insurance and there were two options offered to the employees. She was in favor of Option 1 as it was similar to what the Town currently offered its employees and that the Town was fortunate to have the Department Heads and employees who worked very hard and were committed and dedicated to the Town. Benefits were important and she had employees tell her that they stayed with the Town because it provided insurance after 25 years of employment, until Medicare eligible at 65. For the past 10 years, there had been cuts in the insurance benefits such as the 50 percent paid by the Town for dependent coverage which had been discontinued, the dependent insurance was too expensive for employees to buy, at one

point the employees had to buy-up for better coverage, the Town used to cover retirees insurance (25 years with the town) which was discontinued for new employees, those retired with 25 years of service now must pay \$150 per month for health insurance. Because of the aforementioned, she preferred Option 1.

Councilman Ogle said he would go along with Councilwoman Hildebran and recommended Option 1 for employee insurance due to the same items she discussed, plus it was not about money for the lower paid employees. He recommended paying the \$150 per month for retiree insurance and restoring the employees to whole employees and not part employees as called in the human resources industry. He said Council had been consistent about not taking from employees.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she had spent several hours going over the employee insurance and initially Option 1 was her choice but the same employee exposure was the same for both Option 1 and Option 2, with Option 2 having a \$500 less deductible. Therefore, she recommended Option 2 due to the cost difference saving the taxpayers approximately \$43,000 annual amount.

Councilman Delp said he agreed with Councilwoman Stevenson. He said he did not participate in the Town's insurance. The \$43,000 savings to the Town is why he recommended Option 2. He said both options offered very good health insurance coverage.

Councilman Sweezy agreed that Option 2 would save the Town \$43,000 and offer excellent insurance coverage with \$500 less exposure for the employee, plus \$1,000 HSA for employees who participated in the insurance.

Mayor Black asked Dwayne Wilson, Dwayne Wilson Insurance & Financial Services, to explain Options 1 and 2.

Mr. Wilson said there was actually a third option – which did not offer a \$1,000 HSA. He briefly reviewed the three options and said staff would be invited to insurance presentations at Town Hall this week and employees could chose to buy-up. Mr. Wilson said if the Town went with United Health Care they have a different HSA vendor and he recommended that the Town stay with Health Equity for a fee which was built into the health insurance pricing. He said all plans offered were at platinum level based on the Affordable Care Act guidelines for the different levels such as platinum, gold, silver, and bronze.

Mayor Black said two Members of Council recommended Option 1 for employee insurance and three Members of Council recommended Option 2. Therefore, the Town would offer Option 2 and employees would have an opportunity to buy-up.

Councilwoman Hildebran thanked Mr. Wilson for the services he provided to the Town.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to set the Public Hearing for the FY 2017-2018 Budget on Monday, June 26, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION STUDY GRANT Community Affairs Director Morrissa Angi and Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth presented proposals for the downtown business district. Project One consisted of flower bed surrounds - \$38,000 and removal and stucco flower beds at several locations in the downtown district. Project Two consisted of adding "arches" to the existing planter boxes to allow for hanging flower baskets and staff would get final approval from Council. Also, there could be solar lighting and Christmas lighting added to the arches. Mr. Duckworth said there were several other projects on the wish list such as removal of the railroad ties between Myra's Restaurant and the beauty shop to make the area more attractive; removal of entrance and exit signs at Formal Showcase, which used to be a bank; and build a stucco wall at the daylily flower bed across from Myra's Restaurant, beside the Tim Newton building as the area washes during heavy rain events. Mr. Duckworth said when the bump-out was removed on Main Street, it was discovered old Hwy 70 was in the ground below and contained 16-inches of concrete which had to be removed. He reviewed funding for the project which would come from a \$94,340 grant the Town received from NC Department of Commerce Rural Economic Development Division Rural Grant Programs as initiated by NC Representative Hugh Blackwell.

Councilman Ogle recommended that staff look at stamped streets in other towns.

After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the downtown projects up to \$94,340, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

WHISNANT STREET REDESIGN Planning Director Larry Johnson and Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth presented the street redesign. An agreement with Roger Neil Shatley, Alray Tire Service, would need to be approved

to relocate a portion of Whisnant Street NE. Currently, Public Works and Alray Tire share Whisnant Street for ingress and egress. The proposed agreement with Mr. Shatley would initiate a series of steps including street closure, surveying, construction bids, and property acquisition to relocate a portion of Whisnant Street further east to abate safety concerns. The Town would also need to have access to the cell tower. Cost estimates for the project are in the amount of \$61,490. A portion of funds would come from the proceeds from the sale of Town-owned property to Mr. Shatley and the remainder of costs would be paid by Mr. Shatley. Mr. Johnson recommended that Council approve an agreement with Roger Neil Shatley (Alray Tire) that explained the process to close Whisnant Street and relocate further east.

After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to proceed with the concept and Whisnant Street Redesign and approve an agreement with Mr. Shatley, Alray Tire, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: None

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard requested that Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth offer a brief update on the following projects: Street Paving – Mr. Duckworth said the company paving the streets should be in Town the week of June 19 and they were behind schedule; and Bump-out Removal – staff and Duke Energy staff would be in Town this week to discuss relocating the street light, the curb would be poured and paving could be completed which would take several weeks and several street lights would be out during this time; and Downtown Wi-Fi – bases for Main Street had been poured for the poles with poles to be installed within the next few weeks with a goal to go live by June 30 Independence Day events. Also, Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight provided a brief update on the Downtown Park. He said the rock work should be completed shortly and Bimbo Bakery staff would join Town staff on June 12 for plantings and staff was working with Settlemysre Nursery for purchasing plants. Painting was being completed, HVAC was being installed, and fencing was being installed around the splash pad. The original plan was to install some fescue and straw. Staff recommended some sod to reduce maintenance and make the area look better year round. The project was on schedule.

Councilwoman Hildebran said she read an article recently where kids were getting their feet burned at splash pads due to the materials used. Mr. Eckard said staff discussed this issue at staff meeting. Mr. Knight said there would be water spraying and he did not see an issue but would do more research. Also, this issue could be added to the sign which listed the rules.

Mr. Knight said a buffer would be planted and it was recommended that the trees be planted in the fall.

Councilwoman Stevenson said she had received a complaint about people speeding along the street by the new Downtown Park. Police Chief Moss said the officers had sat in the area and believed the area would become congested but did not believe speeding was an issue.

Mr. Knight said a date needed to be set for the ribbon cutting for the new Downtown Park before the Trust Fund had its next meeting.

Councilman Delp asked if there could be signage installed at Mural Park by the new Mexican Restaurant listing items that were in the mural.

At 7:35 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, June 26, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall, for the FY 2017-2018 Budget Public Hearing. This meeting also serves as the July Council meeting.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 26, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, June 26, 2017, 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 Thelda B. Rhoney, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – JUNE 5, 2017

APPROVED AGREEMENT WITH WPCOG FOR 2017-2018 TECHNICAL PLANNING ASSISTANCE The agreement with WPCOG for Technical Planning Assistance in the amount of \$22,560, no increase in cost from FY 16-17.

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:

APPROVAL OF LEASE EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH WALDENSIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF VALDESE FOR CENTENNIAL PARK In 1992 a Lease Agreement was approved between the Town and Waldensian Presbyterian Church for Centennial Park with an option for an additional 25 year extension of which the church was requesting. Attorney Mitchell briefly reviewed the lease and said it would be recorded at the Register of Deeds Office.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the aforementioned Lease Extension Agreement, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE Town Manager Seth Eckard introduced Tim Pons, Aquatics and Fitness Director. Mr. Pons transferred from the Wastewater Department.

PRESENTATION OF AWOP AWARD TO WATER PLANT SUPERINTENDENT JERRY CONLEY Mr. Conley introduced Randy Hintz, NC Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Asheville Regional Office, Regional Supervisor for the Public Water Section.

Mr. Hintz offered a presentation on the Value of Water. He said, "I was reminded of a situation many years ago. I was a young consulting engineer out on a project watching a contractor install a water line in the shoulder of the road through a residential area when an older lady came out of her house and approached him to ask what was going on. I explained what was going on and how her water service was going to improve. She immediately began to complain about the cost of her water bill and how she couldn't understand why water cost so much. I remembered her statement to this day as she looked at me and said, "Honey, it's just water." I thought for a moment and replied, "But imagine your life without water." With this background, I made a few observations: We live in a world where the average cable TV bill is now \$103/month and the cost of this service is rising at a rate 4 times the rate of inflation. Our average cell phone bill for an individual is now \$73/month, that's an increase of 50 percent since 2007. I have recently seen family plans that start at about \$160/month (plus taxes and fees of course). The cost for a gallon of gasoline is currently over \$2. I was in the grocery store recently and noted that bottled water was on sale for \$2.48, for a 24-pack of 16.9 ounce bottles and when you do the math, that equates to about 78 cents per gallon. At the same time, a residential water customer in the Town of Valdese, who uses 5,000 gallons of water every month, pays a bill of \$34.50

(if my math is correct). That equates to less than 0.7 cent/per gallon. That's a bargain! In our "civilized society" we often accept the increased costs of these "essential" items without a second thought. But yet when we open our water bill to find it has gone up a couple bucks, we're calling our neighbors to begin organizing protests at Town Hall. There is truly only one of these items that is essential to our survival -- Water! Safe, reliable water. And while 71 percent of our earth is covered with water, approximately 97 percent of that water is saltwater, which, despite our technological advances, is generally cost-prohibitive for use as drinking water. Therefore, approximately 3 percent of the water on earth is fresh water. Of that 3 percent almost 70 percent of that water is locked up in polar ice caps, glaciers and permafrost. So, we're down to less than 1 percent of the water on earth that is available to sustain our existence. So it's important to manage and care for this precious resource. The Area Wide Optimization Program, or AWOP, award was created by the EPA in 2002 and is awarded to water treatment facilities which consistently achieve an enhanced level of water treatment that exceeds regulatory standards during any given calendar year. Specifically, the treatment goals associated with this award target the treatment plant's ability to remove turbidity from the treated drinking water. Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of the water. The objective of this enhanced turbidity goal is improved public health protection. Studies have shown that achieving the enhanced turbidity goals associated with this program, provides a 10-fold reduction in microbial contaminants in the finished drinking water, including cryptosporidium and giardia parasites, which are known to cause intestinal illness."

Mr. Hintz said he was at the meeting to present the AWOP award for the 2016 calendar year to the Town of Valdese. This was the first year the Town of Valdese had received this award, but hopefully not the last. Understand that this award is only possible through the dedication and hard work of Jerry Conley and the water treatment plant staff in protecting public health, but most importantly, through the support of this Town Council. Receiving this award demonstrates this community's commitment to providing safe, reliable drinking water. As a representative of the NC Public Water Supply Section, he could say that the Town's efforts were very much appreciated. He congratulated all involved. You should be very proud of the often unheralded work these employees do every day in achieving this award, managing this planet's precious resource, and protecting the public health. He presented the award to Water Plant Superintendent Jerry Conley.

Councilwoman Hildebran said she heard facts that she had not heard before and the award and recognition needs to be publicized about Mr. Hintz's comments.

Mr. Eckard said he would recommend that the information be published.

Mr. Hintz said there were 160-170 water plants in the state with 50 receiving the award and 14 from the Asheville region.

FY 2017 – 2018 BUDGET (1) PUBLIC HEARING AND (2) ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE Mayor Black opened the public hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against.

Town Manager Seth Eckard asked if there were any questions regarding the budget. There were no questions or comments.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

**TOWN OF VALDESE BUDGET ORDINANCE
FISCAL YEAR 2017 - 2018**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VALDESE, NORTH CAROLINA, THAT:

Section I: The following amounts are hereby appropriated to the fund set forth for the operation of the town government and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, in accordance with the chart of accounts heretofore established for this town:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 5,646,362
Governing Body	\$ 62,210
Administration	1,114,630
Public Works	354,463
Maintenance & Grounds	205,233
Planning	84,163
Police	908,008
Fire	832,333

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Street	345,489
Powell Bill	145,258
Sanitation	247,727
Recreation	830,163
Tourism/Community Affairs	516,685

UTILITY FUND	<u>\$ 5,099,951</u>
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Water	1,913,842
Wastewater	1,792,086
Water/Sewer Const.	1,394,023

TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$10,746,313</u>
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Section II: It is estimated, and therefore appropriated, that the following revenues will be made available to the respective funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 as follows:

GENERAL FUND	\$ 5,646,362
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UTILITY FUND	\$ 5,099,951
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TOTAL REVENUES	<u>\$10,746,313</u>
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Section III: There is hereby levied an ad valorem tax at the rate of fifty four and one half cents (\$0.545) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2018, for the purpose of raising a portion of the revenue listed in the General Fund appropriation in Section II of this ordinance. This rate, based upon an estimated total valuation of \$328,892,270 will generate a levy of \$1,580,982 with an estimated collection rate of 98% less \$17,000 reserved for discounts.

Section IV: As set forth in the Utility Fund Non-Departmental Section of the FY 2017-2018 budget document, the amount of \$320,876 is appropriated for the purpose of debt service and that this amount is sufficient for the complete and proper payment of all bond principal, bond interest and commissions on the outstanding debt of the town relating thereto for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018.

Section V: Long Term Monitoring surcharge for industrial pretreatment program.

Program Cost: \$14,573

Section VI: The fee schedule for utility services is as follows:

WATER:

INSIDE WATER - RESIDENTIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$30.25

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$2.95 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE WATER - RESIDENTIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$49.85

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$5.90 per 1,000 gal

INSIDE WATER - COMMERCIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$30.25

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$2.95 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE WATER - COMMERCIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$60.65

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$5.90 per 1,000 gal

INSIDE WATER - INDUSTRIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$11.85

Volume Charge (3,001 - 300,000 gal) \$2.25 per 1,000 gal

Volume Charge (300,001+ gal) \$1.10 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE WATER - INDUSTRIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$23.70

Volume Charge (3,001 - 300,000 gal) \$4.50 per 1,000 gal

Volume Charge (300,001+ gal) \$2.20 per 1,000 gal

SEWER:

INSIDE SEWER - RESIDENTIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$6.35

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$2.15 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE SEWER - RESIDENTIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$12.70

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$4.30 per 1,000 gal

INSIDE SEWER - COMMERCIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$6.65

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$2.25 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE SEWER - COMMERCIAL

Minimum (3,000 gal) \$13.30

Volume Charge (3,001+ gal) \$4.50 per 1,000 gal

INSIDE SEWER - INDUSTRIAL

Admin Billing Charge \$6.45

Volume Charge (0+ gal) \$2.15 per 1,000 gal

OUTSIDE SEWER - INDUSTRIAL

Admin Billing Charge \$12.90

Volume Charge (0+ gal) \$4.30 per 1,000 gal

Utility Deposits

Non-owner Resident \$100.00

Non-owner Commercial 100.00

Non-owner Industrial 100.00

Non-Payment Fee \$ 25.00

Water Meter Tampering \$100.00

Late Penalty 10% after 15th of month bill is due. Amended policy now included for large users. If the penalty exceeds \$200.00 the amended policy becomes effective.

Section VII: The Budget Officer is hereby authorized to transfer appropriations within a fund as contained herein under the following conditions:

- (A) He may transfer amounts between objects of expenditures within a department without limitation and without a report being required.
- (B) He may transfer amounts of \$1,000 between departments of the same fund with an official report on such transfer at the next regular meeting of the Town Council.
- (C) He may not transfer any amounts between funds or from any contingency appropriation within any fund without approval of the Town Council.

Section VIII: Copies of this budget ordinance and accompanying documents shall be furnished to the finance office, budget officer, and other department heads of the Town of Valdese to be kept on file by them for their direction in the disbursement of funds.

This ordinance is adopted on this the 26th day June, 2017.

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

Attest: /s/ Town Clerk

Upon introduction by Town Manager Seth B. Eckard, motion to adopt by Councilman Sweezy, and seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote to adopt was 5-0.

RESOLUTION FOR OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1117 PRALEY STREET (RADIO STATION BUILDING) Planning Director Larry Johnson said staff recommended separating the house and parking lot from the remainder of the property for Town use. The property was zoned residential. The property (house/parking lot) was appraised at approximately \$55,000 one year ago and at the time there was a heat pump, which is no longer there. Staff solicited several real estate agents and contractors and none of them were interested in the property. He presented the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION
(Sale of property at 1117 Praley Street SW)**

WHEREAS, Justin A. Orders has offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$30,000 that parcel containing 0.314 acre parcel shown in plat book 45, page 298 Burke County Registry, said parcel being located at 1117 Praley Street, SW, in Valdese, North Carolina and being part of that property described in book 2030, page 990 (hereafter "the property"); and

WHEREAS, the Town Council proposes to accept Justin A. Orders' offer; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 160A-269, Justin A. Orders is required to deposit 5% of his bid with the Town Clerk; 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 Valdese Town Council intends to accept Justin A. Orders' offer to purchase the property for the sum of \$30,000.
2. Justin A. Orders shall be required pursuant to G.S. 160A-269 to deposit with the town clerk the sum of \$1,500, which is 5% of his \$30,000 bid.
3. A notice of the offer shall be published as required by G.S. 160A-269.

This resolution was adopted June 26, 2017.

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

/s/ Town Clerk

Councilman Ogle asked how many gravesites could be placed on the remaining property. Mr. Johnson said staff would obtain that number and ask the Town Manager to advise Members of Council.

After a brief discussion, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adopt the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor Black requested that the upset bid notice, in addition to the newspaper, also be placed on the Town's website and Facebook page.

FY 2016 - 2017 YEAR END BUDGET AMENDMENT Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following amendment:

SUPPLEMENTAL YEAR END BUDGET AMENDMENT

GENERAL FUND

Total Revenue:

-180,721

2015 Ad Valorem Tax	10.3010.151	(16,300)	
2015 Motor Vehicle Tax	10.3010.152	10,000	
Tax Penalty & Int	10.3170.000	6,300	
Donations	10.3550.000	5,000	Rostans - PW Help
Bowling	10.3970.033	19,000	
From Utility - CA Lights	10.3970.300	18,000	CA
From Utility – Admin	10.3970.302	12,000	Lights
From Utility - Library	10.3970.302	9,000	
Proceeds From Financing	10.3995.560	(342,421)	
From CRF	10.3980.000		
Fund Balance - Sales Tax	10.3990.000	15,000	
Fund Balance – St	10.3990.000	8,000	
			Payroll 4200, 4250, 4350, 4900, 5100, 5300, 5600, 6200, 6250
Fund Balance - Salaries	10.3990.000	70,700	
Fund Balance-Powell Bill	10.3990.001	5,000	

Expenditures:

Governing Body			500
Misc	10.4100.570		
Insurance & Bonds	10.4100.540	500	
Administration			53,000
Salaries & Wages	10.4200.020	16,500	
Professional Services	10.4200.040	500	
NC Sales Tax	10.4200.370	15,000	
County Sales Tax	10.4200.390	7,000	
Contracted Services	10.4200.450	5,000	
Library	10.4200.930	9,000	
Public Works Admin			7,500
Salaries & Wages	10.4250.020	7,500	
Dept Supplies	10.4250.330		
Maintenance & Grounds			8,500
Salaries & Wages	10.4350.020	4,000	
Over Time	10.4350.021	4,500	
Part Time	10.4350.022		
Planning			1,200
Part Time	10.4900.022	1,200	
Professional Services	10.4900.042		
Maint & Repair Bldg-Handicapped	10.4900.150		
Maint & Repair Bldg-Car Charge	10.4900.150		
Correction	10.4900.720		
Police			19,000
Salaries & Wages	10.5100.020	19,000	

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	Over Time	10.5100.021		
Fire				11,000
	Salaries & Wages	10.5300.020	11,000	
	Part Time	10.5300.022		
Street				(331,921)
	Salaries & Wages	10.5600.020	2,500	
	Utilities Street Lights	10.5600.133		
	Maint & Repair Bldgs	10.5600.150	8,000	
	Paving	10.5600.151	(342,421)	
	Maint & Repair Equip	10.5600.160		
Powell Bill				5,000
	Utilities Electric	10.5700.040	5,000	
	Utilities Street Lights			
Sanitation				(3,000)
	Salaries	10.5800.020		
	Auto Supplies - Tires	10.5800.313		
1	Dept Supplies	10.5800.330	-3000	(3,000)
Recreation				26,500
	Salaries	10.6200.020	4,500	
	Part Time	10.6200.022		
1	Professional Services	10.6200.040	3000	3,000
	Utility Exp - Gas	10.6200.131		
	Contract Services	10.6200.450	19,000	
Community Affairs				22,000
	Salaries & Wages	10.6250.020	4,000	
	Maint & Repair Bldg	10.6250.150	18,000	lights from Util
	Contract Services	10.6250.450		
Total Expenditures				<u>-180,721</u> 0

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to approve the aforementioned year-end budget amendment, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

ISSUES WITH HOME IN WARD 1 Councilman Delp thanked Larry Johnson for working with a homeowner in his neighborhood that had issues with his home. A lot of action had taken place recently to remedy the situation.

SPEED LIMIT ON LAUREL STREET Councilman Delp said there were issues on Laurel Street between Walnut Avenue and Bouchard Avenue which was a dangerous area for traffic and he recommended lowering the speed limit on Laurel Street from Main Street from 35 mph to 20 or 25 mph to slow down traffic at the curve.

Councilwoman Stevenson asked if a yellow stripped line would be beneficial.

Councilman Delp said there were still semi-trucks traveling on Laurel Street.

Town Manager Seth Eckard recommended that staff study the issue and come back with a recommendation.

OLD WORLD BAKERY Councilwoman Hildebran said several citizens had asked her about the status of Old World Bakery. Mr. Eckard said Mr. Pizzelanti was working on a late summer opening.

PAVING OF MAIN STREET Councilwoman Hildebran asked when Main Street was going to be paved. Mr. Eckard said by October and it was up to NCDOT and the contractor and he would notify Council when he received word of the paving date.

EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION DAY Councilman Sweezy commended Water Plant Superintendent Jerry Conley and he said all departments had excellent leadership. He recommended an Employee Appreciation Day with all employees receiving a T-shirt.

Councilwoman Hildebran said the Town used to provide a picnic at the Recreation Center and perhaps this could be held again to recognize the employees.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

Family Friday Night and Independence Day Celebration with Fireworks, June 30, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

Town Offices Closed on Tuesday, July 4, 2017, in Observance of Independence Day

Grand Opening of Los Compadres Mexican Restaurant, Thursday, July 13, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

Ribbon Cutting for New Downtown Park, Tuesday, July 18, 2017, 2:00 p.m. There would be a future date to dedicate the park.

Next Council Meeting – Monday, August 7, 2017

Hanging Baskets – Mr. Eckard requested that Members of Council look at the hanging basket in front of Los Compadres Mexican Restaurant and please let him know if they approved the concept for the hanging flower baskets.

CLOSED SESSION Mayor Black called for a motion to recess into Closed Session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran and the vote was unanimous.

At 6:43 p.m., Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to recess into Closed Session pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (6) To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran and the vote was unanimous.

At 7:01 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

TOWN MANAGER'S SALARY ADJUSTMENT Councilman Ogle made a motion to increase the Town Manager's base salary by \$3,000 for FY 2017-2018, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

Town Manager Seth Eckard thanked the Members of Council.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:03 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, a motion was made by Councilman Ogle to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting for Monday, August 7, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, August 7, 2017, 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., Councilwoman Frances Hildebran, Councilwoman Susan Stevenson, and Councilman Roy F. Sweezy. Also present were Town Manager Seth Eckard, Town Attorney Marc Mitchell, Deputy Town Clerk Thelda B. Rhoney, and various department heads.

Absent: Councilman Keith Ogle and Councilman Gary L. Delp

A quorum was present.

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

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE NOON ON SUNDAYS – JEAN-MARIE COLE, 705 BERTIS STREET SW, VALDESE Ms. Cole informed Council that she was opposed to the sale of alcoholic beverages before noon on Sundays. Ms. Cole's main concern was the example it would set for young people and children in the community; providing a bad example of how important alcohol, and other drugs, are in their lives. Ms. Cole thanked Council for their time.

WALDENSIAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – WT SORRELL, 102 OAKLAND COURT NE, VALDESE & DR. ROBERT STEVENSON, 1009 CREEKSIDE DRIVE NE, VALDESE Mr. Sorrell provided a brief overview of the process the Waldensian Presbyterian Church is following in preparation for the 125th Anniversary and of future landscaping plans. The church is looking to upgrade and replace some of the landscape and would like to work with the town once a plan is implemented. The gentlemen thanked Council for their time.

Mayor Black thanked Mr. Sorrell and Mr. Stevenson for their time and shared his appreciation for all that they, and the church, do and stated that he looks forward to working with them.

SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE NOON ON SUNDAYS – BRIAN THOMPSON, 100 MAIN STREET, VALDESE Mr. Thompson wished to share a positive view of the sale of alcoholic beverages before noon on Sundays. Mr. Thompson explained that some members of the community would like to have the option to purchase a beverage earlier in the day. Mr. Thompson thanked Council for their time.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES – JUNE 26, 2017

APPROVED EASEMENT WITH DUKE ENERGY CAROLINAS FOR TEMPORARY POWER TO AARON BERRY OFF OF CURVILLE STREET NE Duke Energy requested approval of a temporary easement to provide service to Mr. Berry's new construction on his property located off of Curville Street NE.

APPROVED FLOWER BED MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH ROCK DRUG An agreement allowing the town to continue to make improvements to the flower bed located on the Rock Drug Store property. Improvements will include adding block and stucco around the flower beds as part of the Main Street Improvements Project.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017 FOR AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE – GATED/EXEMPTED DEVELOPMENTS A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 to consider amendments to the Valdese Zoning Ordinance regarding Gated Subdivisions and Exempted Developments under certain conditions.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES Town Manager Seth Eckard introduced Courtney Kennedy, Deputy Town Clerk. Water Resource Director Greg Padgett introduced Clay Cannon and Chris Fredell, Treatment Plant Operators and Norman Cook, Laboratory Technician. Mr. Cook was a part-time employee who became full-time on July 1, 2017.

NAME OF NEW DOWNTOWN PARK Council reviewed the list of recommendations for a name for the New Downtown Park. Requests were received from The Rostan Family Foundation, Members of Council, and through a post on the Town's Facebook page. Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to officially name the new downtown park Valdese Family Splash Park, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

FEE SCHEDULE FOR NEW DOWNTOWN PARK Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight proposed the following fees for the new downtown park:

Picnic Shelter:	\$30.00 (for 2 hours) /\$15.00 for each additional hour
Small Meeting Room:	\$30.00 (for 2 hours) /\$15.00 for each additional hour
Multi-Purpose Room:	\$70.00 (for 4 hours) /\$20.00 for each additional hour
Security Deposit:	\$25.00

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the fee schedule for the new downtown park as presented and requested that staff perform an analysis of fees levied within the town. Councilman Sweezy seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

RECOMMENDATION TO REDUCE SPEED LIMIT ON LAUREL STREET NE BETWEEN MAIN STREET EAST AND ELDRED STREET NE A traffic study was conducted after receiving a recommendation from Councilman Delp to reduce the speed limit on a portion of Laurel Street, between Main Street East and Eldred Street NE, due to safety concerns. The traffic data collected at this location showed that the average daily traffic count was 2,000 vehicles per day and also identified that 15 percent of the vehicles exceeded the 35 mph speed limit. Councilman Sweezy made a motion to adopt an ordinance authorizing a reduction in speed to 20 mph on a portion of Laurel Street between Main Street East and Eldred Street NE, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion passed unanimously. Town Attorney Marc Mitchell informed Council that an ordinance may not be adopted on the date it is introduced, except by a vote equal to or greater than two thirds of all the actual membership of Town Council. Because the ordinance was first introduced at this meeting and it did not receive the four votes that were required, the ordinance was not adopted. Instead, the vote taken by Council acknowledges introduction of the ordinance. The ordinance may be adopted at a subsequent meeting by an affirmative vote of a majority of all members of the Town Council.

AWARD OF BID FOR WHISNANT STREET RELOCATION Planning Director Larry Johnson presented a bid tabulation prepared by West Consultants for the Whisnant Street Relocation Project. The lowest bidder was Evans Construction Company, Inc., Connelly Springs, in the amount of \$52,875.45. (Other bids: J. T. Russell & Sons, Inc., Conover - \$66,030 and Midstate Contractors, Inc., Hickory - \$61,360)

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to award the bid for the Whisnant Street Relocation Project to Evans Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$52,875.45, contingent upon the purchase of the related property by Alray Tire or Neil Shatley, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE NOON ON SUNDAYS AT LICENSED PREMISES Councilman Sweezy made a motion to adopt an ordinance permitting establishments that hold ABC permits to sell beverages allowed by those permits beginning at 10 A.M. on Sundays, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. Motion passed with voting as follows; Ayes: Stevenson, Sweezy; Nays: Hildebran. Town Attorney Marc Mitchell informed Council that an ordinance may not be adopted on the date on which it is introduced except by a vote equal to or greater than two thirds of all the actual membership of the Town Council. Because the ordinance was first introduced at this meeting and it did not receive the four votes that were required, the ordinance was not adopted. Instead, the vote taken by Council means that the ordinance is deemed to have been introduced at the meeting and that the ordinance may be adopted at a subsequent meeting by an affirmative vote of all the members of the Town Council.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilwoman Stevenson informed Council that she had been approached by a citizen with concerns about a trailer park located near Hauss Ridge Road. Ms. Stevenson visited the property and noted that there are five or six condemned trailers on the property; however, it is visible the people are going in and out of trailers. Planning Director Larry Johnson informed Councilwoman Stevenson that staff is aware of the situation and is able to abate the nuisance; however, it will require resources that are not currently available in the budget. The

property has been condemned and an order was issued to the property owner to address the nuisance. Mr. Johnson stated that any abatement of this property will not change the permitted uses of the property; it must be used for residential purposes only, with a principle use on the property. Town Manager Seth Eckard noted that three years of property taxes have not been paid and suggested that the town could consider foreclosing on the property as a means to get the property cleaned up.

Councilwoman Hildebran stated that she felt something needed to be done with regard to the number of complaints that are being received about eyesores throughout the community. Ms. Hildebran recommended developing a plan of action to address these issues. After discussion, it was determined that staff will develop an enforcement strategy for Council to review.

Councilwoman Stevenson discussed concerns with the Valdese Public Library, specifically the lack of progress after holding fundraisers and planning for improvements. Town Manager Seth Eckard offered to have a conversation with the County to obtain more information on the project.

Councilwoman Stevenson would like to receive an update on the Youth Council.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

42nd Annual Waldensian Festival and Footrace – August 11 & 12, 2017

Town Offices will be closed on Monday, September 4, 2017, in observance of Labor Day

Next Council Meeting - Tuesday, September 5, 2017, due to Labor Day holiday

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THELDA B. RHONEY Mayor Black presented the following Resolution to Thelda Rhoney:

RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR THELDA B. RHONEY

WHEREAS, Thelda B. Rhoney has been a public servant for over 30 years; and for the past 13 years has served the Town of Valdese with distinction as our Deputy Clerk; and

WHEREAS, these 13 years of service have been marked with outstanding dedication and devotion to the Town of Valdese as she has worked endlessly towards the betterment of our community, leading the charge on many crucial Town projects, including the grant that created the Valdese Economic Development Investment Corporation (VEDIC); and

WHEREAS, Thelda B. Rhoney has served as a member of the North Carolina Association of Municipal Clerks, International Institute of Municipal Clerks, and Association of Administrative Professionals; and

WHEREAS, Thelda B. Rhoney, in her capacity as Deputy Clerk, has maintained the vital municipal records for the Town and we have relied on her to be our community historian; and,

WHEREAS, Thelda B. Rhoney has been a committed mentor to the many young men and women who have served as Interns with the Town of Valdese, and has earned admiration and respect from her fellow public servants, and from all of those whom she has encountered;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina, hereby expresses its sincere appreciation and gratitude to Thelda B. Rhoney for her guidance and outstanding contributions to the Council, staff, surrounding governments, and citizens of Valdese for the past 13 years as Deputy Town Clerk, and we extend congratulations and best wishes upon her retirement.

This 7th day of August, 2017

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

At 6:58 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

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**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Tuesday, September 5, 2017, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

WATER BILL – TIM BROWN, 4393 LEGER ROAD, VALDESE Mr. Brown shared concerns about the water bill for his rental property. Mayor Black requested that Mr. Brown provide his contact information for Town Manager Seth Eckard to call to discuss the issue more thoroughly.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED REGULAR MINUTES – AUGUST 7, 2017

APPROVED ORDINANCE FOR STREET CLOSURE - DRAUGHN HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2017

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURE FOR TOWN OF VALDESE SPECIAL EVENT

WHEREAS, for many years the Town of Valdese has sponsored the Draughn High School Homecoming parade; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese desires to schedule the Draughn High School Parade on Tuesday, October 10, 2017; and

WHEREAS, part of US 70/Main Street in Valdese will need to be closed for the parade; and

WHEREAS, G.S. 20-169 provides that local authorities shall have power to provide by ordinance for the regulation of the use of highways by processions or assemblages;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese pursuant to G.S. 20-169 that the following portion of the State Highway System be closed during the times set forth below:

DRAUGHN HIGH SCHOOL PARADE

DATE: Tuesday, October 10, 2017

TIME: 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

ROUTE: Main Street (US 70) from Hoyle Street to Eldred Street

Signs shall be erected giving notice of the limits and times of these street closures as required by G.S. 20-169.

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption.

THIS, the 5th day of September, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

APPROVED RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH P & W RAILROAD

CLUB Annual Lease Agreement at the Old Rock School with P & W Railroad Club in the amount of \$210 per month.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE TO REDUCE SPEED LIMIT ON LAUREL STREET NE BETWEEN MAIN STREET EAST AND ELDRED STREET NE

An Ordinance Reducing the Speed Limit on a Section of Laurel Street NE

WHEREAS, the speed limit for Laurel Street NE is presently 35 mph; and

WHEREAS, the town council has determined that in order to provide for the safety of the citizens of the Town of Valdese the speed limit for the section of Laurel Street NE between Main Street East and Eldred Street NE should be reduced from 35 mph to 20 mph;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Valdese Town Council of the Town of Valdese that the following section of Laurel Street NE is added to Appendix I, Section 122, of the Code of Ordinances, the section where streets with a 20 mph speed limit are listed:

“The section of Laurel Street NE between Main Street East and Eldred Street NE”

This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this 5th day of September, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

After a brief discussion, Councilman Delp made a motion to adopt the aforementioned ordinance, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

OATH OF OFFICE Councilwoman Hildebran administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy.

PRESENTATION OF VALDESE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENT CORPORATION (VEDIC) – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KERRI POTEAT

Ms. Poteat stated that VEDIC is authorized to service any area in North Carolina that meets the USDA eligibility requirements; with a main focus on Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Iredell, McDowell, and Rutherford counties. Ms. Poteat shared the following report:

Loan Production 7/1/2016 – 6/30/2017

- Total Loan Production: \$938,152.08
- # of loans: 13
- # of loans made in Burke County: 10
- # of loans made in Other Counties: 3

Total Loan Production as of September 2017

- # of Loans: 83
- Total Loan Production: \$3,903,391.81

Jobs Created and or Retained as of September 2017

- Full Time Jobs: 379
- Part Time Jobs: 123

- Total Jobs: 502

Default Rate

- 7%- 6 loans out of 83
- 1%- 1 loan that required payback

Ms. Poteat finished her presentation by expressing her gratitude to Council, for their partnership and for making it possible for VEDIC to do what they do.

Mayor Black thanked Ms. Poteat and commended VEDIC for their remarkable success.

PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

Mayor Black introduced Jack McConnell of Burke County Health Department. Mr. McConnell informed Council that September was National Recovery Month and shared information on new programs that will be started for recovery and prevention, to help with the opioid epidemic in the county. Mr. McConnell invited Council to an interactive learning program on September 28, 2017. Mayor Black presented the following proclamation to Mr. McConnell:

PROCLAMATION NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH

WHEREAS, National Recovery Month is a national observance that promotes the societal benefits of prevention, treatment, and recovery for mental and substance use disorders; celebrate those in recovery; applauds the contributions of treatment and service providers; and, promotes the message that recovery is possible, and

WHEREAS, prevention efforts to address mental health and/or substance use disorder works, treatment is effective, and people recover in our area and around the nation, and

WHEREAS, preventing and overcoming substance use disorder is essential to achieving healthy lifestyles both physically and emotionally, and

WHEREAS, we must encourage relatives and friends of people with substance use disorders to implement preventive measures recognize the signs of a problem, and guide those in need to appropriate treatment and recovery support services, and

WHEREAS, substance use disorder is a major public health problem that impacts society on multiple levels, and

WHEREAS, according to the 2016 Community Health Needs Assessment for Burke County, our community is one of the highest in NC for unintentional medication drug overdose death rates along with a 22% increase in EMS response to overdose calls. Burke County Highway Patrol found that 58% of DWI's were not alcohol related, and

WHEREAS, to help more people achieve and sustain long term recovery, Burke Wellness Initiative invites Burke County residents to participate in activities held to recognize National Recovery Month, and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Town of Valdese and I, John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., Mayor of the Town of Valdese, do hereby proclaim September 2017 as National Recovery Month in Burke County, North Carolina. As the Mayor, I also call upon citizens, government agencies, public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Burke County to recommit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of substance use disorder and the need for appropriate and accessible services for all people with substance use disorders in order to assist them with overcoming complications and struggles that will allow for daily living in wellness.

Adopted this 5th day of September, 2017.

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

APPROVAL OF BRIAR CREEK APARTMENTS REDEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE Mr. Eckard informed Council that a developer is purchasing the Briar Creek Apartments complex located at 135 Ribet Avenue SW, Valdese. A Building Rehabilitation Grant Agreement is being presented to encourage the developer to purchase and rehabilitate the property; whereby, the developer will purchase thirty (30) water taps at a cost of \$1,000 each. After fully rehabilitating

all of the apartments, the developer may qualify for incentive funds on a prorated basis. The incentive is performance based; the developer will have to show evidence of spending at least \$100,000 in order to qualify for the full incentive.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to approve the Building Rehabilitation Grant Agreement as presented, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES BEFORE NOON ON SUNDAYS AT LICENSED PREMISES

An Ordinance To Allow the Sale of Alcoholic Beverages before Noon on Sundays at Licensed Premises

WHEREAS, on June 29, 2017, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted Senate Bill 155, entitled "An Act to Make Various Changes to the Alcoholic Beverage Control Commission Laws"; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Ratified Senate Bill 155 authorizes city and county governments to adopt an ordinance to allow alcohol sales beginning at 10 am on Sundays; and

WHEREAS, Ratified Senate Bill 155 was signed into law by Governor Roy Cooper on the 30th day of June, 2017 and became effective on that date (Session Law 2017, Chapter 87); and

WHEREAS, by enacting Senate Bill 155, North Carolina joins 47 other States in allowing alcohol service before noon on Sunday; and

WHEREAS, Sunday morning alcohol service will help restaurants in our community meet the needs of their customers and that service may cause more people to visit Valdese;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Valdese Town Council that:

Section 1. A new Section 6-1031 of the Town of Valdese Code of Ordinance is hereby enacted to read as follows:

"Sunday Sales

Pursuant to the authority granted by S.L. 2017-87, any establishment located in the Town of Valdese that holds an ABC permit issued pursuant to G.S. 18B-1001 is permitted to sell beverages allowed by its permit beginning at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays."

Section 2. All laws and clauses of law in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of any such conflict.

Section 3. This ordinance shall become effective upon adoption.

Adopted this 5th day of September, 2017.

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

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to adopt the aforementioned resolution, seconded by Councilman Delp. Motion passed with voting as follows; Ayes: Councilwoman Stevenson-aye, Councilman Delp-aye, and Councilman Sweezy-aye. Nays: Councilman Ogle and Councilwoman Hildebran.

APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY PLAT PHASE III LAKE VISTAS SUBDIVISION Planning Director Larry Johnson informed Council that Phase III of the Lake Vista Subdivision will consist of 47 lots, each lot measuring one acre or greater. This phase will be developed by Larry Bragg. The final plat will be presented upon completion of the infrastructure and specific lot designs. Roads will be paved a minimum width of 20 feet with cul-de-sacs sized to accommodate fire apparatus.

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the preliminary plat for Phase III of the Lake Vistas Subdivision, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE – EXEMPT DEVELOPMENTS AND GATED SUBDIVISIONS Mayor Black opened the Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against the proposed amendments.

Planning Director Larry Johnson presented to Council, the Planning Board recommendation for Text Amendment #02-05-17 regarding Ten-Acre Exempt Developments, Gated Subdivisions and Legislative Updates. **(Amendments may be found in Ordinance Book No. 9, page 139.)** Mr. Johnson informed Council that a developer has presented to the town, a ten-acre development known as McGalliard Pointe. This lake front development is located at the end of Lakeview Acres Road.

Mayor Black asked about the restriction of five building sites. Mr. Johnson stated that the restriction of five building sites in a ten-acre development is the recommendation of the Town Planning Board.

Councilman Delp asked about the roads being able to accommodate a fire apparatus, specifically if the road condition deteriorates and the town is not able to use the road, does this present a liability on the town. Assistant Chief Greg Stafford informed Council that the fire department would do as much as possible to gain access to a fire including contacting other emergency response units. Town Attorney Marc Mitchell recommended sending the developer and/or home owners a notice, shall this situation occur, informing them that the condition of the road presents an issue that may delay emergency response times. Mr. Johnson advised that this can be addressed with the developer and detailed during the conditional use permit process.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked about zoning of the property and if the lots can be subdivided. Mr. Johnson informed Ms. Hildebran that the property is currently zoned R-12 Residential; lots cannot be subdivided below a ten-acre lot. The only reason the subdivision will be exempt from the subdivision regulation is because the minimum lot size is ten-acres. Councilwoman Stevenson asked if more than one dwelling can be built on the ten-acre lot. Mr. Johnson informed Ms. Stevenson that this would not be allowed.

There being no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve Text Amendment #02-05-17 as presented, to become effective immediately, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

SET PUBLIC HEARING DATE AS OCTOBER 2, 2017 FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION #1-9-17

Planning Director Larry Johnson informed Council that McGalliard Pointe Development Group will be seeking a conditional use permit for the McGalliard Pointe Development. A conditional use permit for this type of development is a provision that was approved in Text Amendment #02-05-17.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to call a public hearing on October 2, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. for Conditional Use Permit Application #1-9-17, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR THE SALE OF THE RADIO STATION PROPERTY, 1117 PRALEY STREET SW

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
(1117 Praley Street)

WHEREAS, Justin A. Orders offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$30,000 that parcel of land containing 0.314 acres more or less located at 1117 Praley Street in Valdese, North Carolina, said parcel being more particularly shown in that plat recorded in Plat Book 45, page 298, Burke County Registry, and being a part of that property described in that deed recorded in Book 2038, page 990, Burke County Registry (hereafter “the Property”); and

WHEREAS, at its June 26, 2017 regular meeting, the town council adopted a resolution proposing to accept this offer; and

WHEREAS, the town council directed town representatives to publish notice of the town council’s intent to accept the offer and notice that any person could raise the bid as required by G.S. 160A-269, and that notice was published on June 28, 2017; and

WHEREAS, after several raised bids, Gregory E. Refour was the last and highest bidder with a bid of \$43,000; and

WHEREAS, the town does not need the Property, and the town therefore desires to accept the offer made by Gregory E. Refour to purchase the Property for the purchase price of \$43,000;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED pursuant to G.S. 160A-269 that the sale of the Property to Gregory E. Refour for the purchase price of \$43,000 is approved. The proper officials of the town are authorized and directed to execute and deliver to Gregory E. Refour a special warranty deed for the Property upon receipt of the \$43,000 purchase price.

Adopted this 5th day of September, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

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

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE RIBET PROPERTY Planning Director Larry Johnson informed Council that \$30,000.00 was donated to the town for the purchase of the property located at 404 Hill Street SE, Valdese. Town Manager Seth Eckard stated that the goal is to clear the property and use the space as an addition to the Valdese Family Splash Park.

Councilwoman Stevenson moved to authorize Town Manager Seth Eckard to enter into a contract to purchase the Ribet Property located at 404 Hill Street SE, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

AWARD OF BID – PARKS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight provided an update on the Parks Improvement Project. After identifying items to be addressed, West Consultants created a proposed budget and requested bids for the improvements. Mr. Knight presented a bid tabulation prepared by West Consultants for the Parks Improvement Project. The lowest bidder was Wilkie Construction Company SE, LLC, Lenoir, in the amount of \$238,558.00. (Other bid: Neill Grading & Construction, Inc., Hickory-\$298,541.00)

Mr. Knight stated that the bids came back higher than the budget for the project. The proposed budget is \$169,000.00, requiring some items to be prioritized by identifying which ones are the most important and visible. An item that was not considered a priority by staff was modification of the tennis courts at McGalliard Falls Park to create a dog park, as the cost of the project is significantly higher than expected. Mr. Knight recommended clearing the area and keeping it an open space.

After discussion, Council requested that staff bring options to the next council meeting for their consideration regarding a dog park at McGalliard Falls tennis courts. Councilman Ogle made a motion to award the bid for the Parks Improvement Project to Wilkie Construction Company SE, LLC, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

ADOPTED RESOLUTION FOR AIA STATE FUNDING – 2018 SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM ASSESSMENT PROJECT

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF VALDESE

WHEREAS, The North Carolina Water Infrastructure Act of 2005 (NCGS 159G), as amended, has authorized the making of grants to aid eligible units of government in financing the cost to inventory the existing water and/or sewer systems and document the condition of the inventoried infrastructure, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese has need for and intends to inventory and assess a portion of its wastewater collection system by undertaking a project described as the 2018 Sewer Collection System Assessment Project, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese intends to request state grant assistance for the project,

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

That Town of Valdese, the Applicant, will arrange financing for all remaining costs of the project, if approved for a State grant award.

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 grant to aid in the implementation 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 or 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 pertaining thereto.

Adopted this the 5th day of September, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

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

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Water Resource Director Greg Padgett presented the following resolution:

TOWN OF VALDESE
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
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 Plant Upgrades (Motor Control Centers for Raw Water & Finish Water); 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) Federal 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 (unit of government) to make scheduled repayment of the loan, to withhold from the (unit of government) 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 or 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 5th day of September, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

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

AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM NC DEQ DIVISION OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR A DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT Water Resource Director Greg Padgett presented the following resolution:

TOWN OF VALDESE
AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION
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 2018 Water System Upgrades Project; and

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

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 loan and/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 Town Council 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 Town of Valdese 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 and 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 or 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 5th day of September, 2017 at Valdese, North Carolina.

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

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

AWARD OF BID FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FACILITY GRIT SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS Water Resource Director Greg Padgett presented a bid tabulation prepared by McGill Associates for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Grit System Improvements project. The lowest bidder was Brushy Mountain Builders, Inc., in the amount of \$621,000.00. (Other bids: Gilbert Engineering Company-\$858,880, NHM Constructors-\$931,000, State Utility Contractors, Inc.-\$873,000, The Harper Corporation-\$1,192,000, Turner Murphy Co. Inc.-\$801,474)

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to award the bid for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facility Grit System Improvements project to Brushy Mountain Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$621,000.00, seconded by Councilman Ogle. The vote was unanimous.

CHARGE TO COLLECT TAXES FOR 2016 Mayor Black read the charge for Tax Collector Gregory Cannon to collect taxes for 2017 and Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy administered the oath.

TAX STATEMENT ANNUAL SETTLEMENT FOR 2016 – PROPERTY AND MOTOR VEHICLE Tax Collector Greg Cannon presented the following report:

Tax Statement Annual Settlement for 2016 Property and Motor Vehicle

Property Valuations	
Real Estate	\$265,513,996
Personal Property	67,898,316
Senior Citizen Exemptions	-4,473,152
Total Property Valuation Subject To Tax Rate per \$100(.485/100)	\$328,939,160
Gross Levy	
Levy	1,792,719
Discoveries	52,456
Late List Penalties	2,022
Total Levy	1,847,197
Less Collected As Of 6/30/2016	1,830,697
Uncollected 2015 Taxes	16,500
Ratio of Taxes Collected To Total Levy	99.10%
Annual Settlement of the Classified Motor Vehicle Taxes for 2015.	
Levy	\$115,000
2015Collection by Burke County	\$163,519
Collection Cost (1.5% Levy)	\$1,725

Mayor Black said 99 percent was very good.

TAX FORECLOSURE-TRAILER PARK LOCATED AT 595 PERKINS ROAD SE Tax Collector Greg Cannon informed Council of the process to foreclose on a property for failure to pay taxes. Planning Director Larry Johnson

updated Council on code enforcement issues with the property. Town Attorney Marc Mitchell will send a letter to the property owner.

Councilman Ogle mad a motion to authorize staff to proceed with the foreclosure process on the trailer park located at 595 Perkins Road SE, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS Finance Director Jerry LaMaster presented the following three budget amendments:

Valdese Town Council Meeting Tuesday, Sept 05, 2017

Budget Amendment No. 01

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, 2017:

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

Acct. No.		<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
10.6250.150	Rock School Repairs	50,000	
10.5100.330	Police Dept Servers	6,500	
10.5300.150	Fire Bay Doors	22,000	
10.5300.150	Fire Bay Paving	16,500	
10.6200.150	Pool Bubble Repairs	65,000	
10.6200.151	Parks Renovation	149,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$309,000	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$309,000 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. No.			
10.3970.302	Capital Project Fund		309,000
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$309,000
		=====	=====

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.

Valdese Town Council Meeting Tuesday, Sept 05, 2017

Budget Amendment No. 02

Subject: Inter-Departmental Transfers

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, 2017:

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

Acct. No.		Debit	Credit
10.5300.150	Fire Dept		30,500
10.5300.150	Fire Bay Doors Tinting	4,500	
10.5800.450	Old Tash Carts	6,000	
10.6200.151	Parks Renovation	20,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 30,500	\$ 30,500
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$0 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.			
10.3970.302	Capital Project Fund		0
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$ 0
		=====	=====

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 Tuesday, Sept 05, 2017

Budget Amendment No. 03

Subject: CE Foam Solutions Economic Development Incentive

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, 2017:

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

Acct. No.		Debit	Credit
10.4200.742	Economic Development -	20,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 20,000	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$20,000 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. No.			
10.3990.000	Fund Balance		20,000
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$20,000
		=====	=====

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.

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

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

Draughn High School Parade, Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 6:30 p.m. Mr. Eckard requested that Council meet at the Fire Department at 6:00 p.m.

Family Friday Nights will be held through September 29, 2017

Fall Litter Sweep is being held September 16-30, 2017

The WNC Railroads & Regional Economic Development Conference is being held on Friday, September 22, 2017 in Asheville.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (A)(3) To consider and give instructions to the town attorney concerning a possible claim on behalf of the town.

At 7:35 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to recess into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(3) to consider and give instructions to the town attorney concerning a possible claim on behalf of the town. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

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

At 7:54 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:54 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, October 2, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

Mayor

ck

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, October 2, 2017, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

BURKE COUNTY YOUTH COALITION Burke County Youth Health Coalition informed Council of various projects they are working on. The Coalition would like to place signage at McGalliard Falls Park to inform visitors that the park is being monitored and that smoking is prohibited on the premises. Another goal is to place additional garbage receptacles throughout the park and host park clean up days. The Coalition has requested permission and financial support from Council. Town Manager Seth Eckard requested that Burke County Youth Health Coalition provide contact information to Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

APPROVED REAPPOINTMENT TO VALDESE HOUSING AUTHORITY Ms. Faith Kaplan was appointed to another five-year-term. The term will expire on October 31, 2022.

APPROVED REQUEST FROM WALDENSIAN STYLE WINES TO SELL WINE AT CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2017, 9:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M., OLD ROCK SCHOOL, WALDENSIAN ROOM

APPROVED AWARD OF BID FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT GENERATOR ADDITION TO PAGE POWER SYSTEMS, INC. Water Resources Director Greg Padgett presented a bid tabulation prepared by McGill Associates for the Water Treatment Plant Generator Addition project. The lowest bidder was Page Power Systems, Inc., in the amount of \$841,001.00. (Other bids: Fountain Services - \$945,300, Hickory Construction Company - \$957,203, and Smart Electric Company - \$930,000)

APPROVED RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO CLOSE A SECTION OF WHISNANT STREET

RESOLUTION OF INTENT

(A Resolution Declaring the Town Council's Intent to Close of a section of Whisnant Street)

WHEREAS, the Town Council intends to close a section of Whisnant Street; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council is required by G.S. 160A-299 to call for a public hearing on the matter;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Town Council of the Town of Valdese that:

1. The Town Council intends to close a section of Whisnant Street as shown on an unrecorded plat dated September 12, 2017, and entitled "Town of Valdese (Whisnant Street SE Relocation)", which is available for inspection at the Valdese Town Hall.

October 2, 2017, MB#31

2. A public hearing on the question will be held at 6:00 p.m. on the 4th day of December, 2017, at the Valdese Town Hall in Valdese, North Carolina.
3. The Town Clerk is hereby directed to publish this Resolution of Intent once a week for four (4) successive weeks in the Morganton New Herald.
4. The Town Clerk is further directed to send by registered or certified mail a copy of this Resolution of Intent to all owners of property adjoining the street as shown on the county tax records.
5. The Town Clerk is further directed to cause adequate notices of this Resolution of Intent and scheduled public hearing to be posted as required by G.S. 160A-299.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:

LEASE AGREEMENT AT THE OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH DAVID HARMON STUDIOS, LLC Lease Agreement for rental space at the Old Rock School in the amount of \$283 per month.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the lease and evaluate an increase in the rent for Fiscal Year 2018, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

125TH ANNIVERSARY – GRETCHEN LANE-COSTNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WALDENSIAN HERITAGE MUSEUM Executive Director Gretchen Lane-Costner provided Council with a brief presentation of the upcoming events that are being held to celebrate the 125th Anniversary. Ms. Costner introduced Analia Talmon and Kevin Frederick. Ms. Talmon and Mr. Frederick are assisting with the planning and preparation of the events. The scheduled events are as follows:

Saturday, February 17th – “Edict of Emancipation”
Sunday, February 18th – Waldensian Presbyterian Church Service
Sunday, April 29th – Tour of the Past
May 26th–June 2nd – Waldensian Archives/Genealogies
June 1st–June 2nd – A Cultural Symposium – Four Faces of Waldensianism
July 13th–August 11th – “From This Day Forward”
June 25th-29th – Community-wide Vacation Bible School
August 10th-12th – Annual Historic Waldensian Festival Weekend
December 16th – Moravian Love Feast Service

Mayor Black thanked Ms. Costner, Ms. Talmon, and Mr. Frederick for their hard work in putting these events together.

AGREEMENT WITH DESTINATION BY DESIGN FOR PARK MASTER PLAN DESIGN AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SERVICES Town Manager Seth Eckard introduced Eric Woolridge of Destination by Design. Destination by Design has been selected to assist the town with a master plan for the proposed Valdese Lakeside Park and for community engagement services related to the project. Mr. Woolridge provided Council with a presentation on Destination by Design and the services they provide. Beth Heile spoke on behalf of Friends of the Valdese Rec. Ms. Heile stated that Friends of the Valdese Rec is committed to paying \$20,000 towards the park master plan and is in favor of selecting Destination by Design, and Eric Woolridge, to assist with this plan.

Town Attorney Marc Mitchell recommended that Item 6.2 be amended to read as, “Subject to payment by the Owner of all fees and costs owed to the Consultant, the Consultant grants ownership of all Deliverables to the Town of Valdese. All Deliverables and copies thereof in the Client’s possession or control, which have not been paid for in full, shall be returned to the Consultant within 21 days of the notice of termination.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to approve the contract with Destination by Design, with the aforementioned amendment to Item 6.2, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

MCGALLIARD FALLS TENNIS COURT DISCUSSION Council discussed the possibility of creating a dog park at McGalliard Falls Park, where the tennis court is located. Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight informed Council that the previously received quotes for a dog park did not provide adequate amenities, requiring staff to obtain additional quotes. After careful consideration, Council decided to consider other options for the tennis court.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the removal of the tennis court at McGalliard Falls Park, not to exceed \$18,000.00, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. Motion passed with voting as follows: Ayes- Councilman Ogle, Councilwoman Hildebran, Councilman Delp, and Councilman Sweezy. Nays: Councilwoman Stevenson.

RESOLUTION FOR OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY LOCATED AT 1588 DREXEL ROAD

RESOLUTION
(Sale of property at 1588 Drexel Road)

WHEREAS, G.W. Stamey, Trustee of the Stamey Revocable Trust u/a 10-16-2012, (Stamey) has offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$10,000 that parcel located at 1588 Drexel Road in Valdese, North Carolina (REID 38527, PIN 2723648051), said parcel being Tract 2 as described in that deed recorded in Book 271, page 620, Burke County Registry (hereafter "the property"); and

WHEREAS, one or more Town of Valdese water lines run under the property, and the Town of Valdese will retain easement 25 feet in width, 12 1/2 feet on either side of the centerline of each water line, to allow the town to inspect, maintain, repair, and, if necessary, replace those water lines; and

WHEREAS, the town council proposes to accept Stamey's offer; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 160A-269, Stamey is required to deposit with the town clerk 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 Stamey's offer to purchase the property for the sum of \$10,000.
2. Stamey shall be required to deposit with the town clerk the sum of \$500, which is 5% of his \$10,000 bid.
3. A notice of the offer shall be published as required by G.S. 160A-269.

This resolution was adopted October 2, 2017.

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

/s/ Town Clerk

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

PUBLIC HEARING – MCGALLIARD POINTE DEVELOPMENT CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION Mayor Black introduced the Conditional Use Public Hearing and asked if anyone wished to speak either for or against to please come forward and be sworn in by Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy. Ms. Kennedy administered oaths to Planning Director Larry Johnson and Bart Shaw.

Mayor Black declared the public hearing open.

Planning Director Larry Johnson briefly reviewed highlights of the following report:

Conditional Use Permit for Ten-Acre Exempt Development, McGalliard Pointe Conditional Use Permit 1-9-17:

APPLICANT AND PROPERTY OWNER:

Caldwell Timber Partners, LLC

LOCATION:

Parcel is located at the end of Lakeview Acres Road; no physical address has been assigned. The parcel can be further identified as Burke County Tax Record Number 17374.

REQUEST:

Caldwell Timber Partners, LLC, requests a Conditional Use Permit for a ten-acre exempt development.

LAND USE AND ZONING:

This 99.5 acre parcel is zoned R-12 Residential and is designated on the map with a blue outline.

Surrounding Land Use and Zoning:

- **North** – The property is bordered to the north by Lake Rhodhiss, Essential Services, and single-family residential. The adjacent land is zoned R-12 Residential.
- **South** – Parcels are zoned R-12 Residential and are a combination of residential, vacant, and natural.
- **East** – To the east is natural land, zoned a combination of R-12 Residential and M-1 Manufacturing.
- **West** – Parcels are zoned R-8 Residential and Burke County residential zoning. These parcels are used residentially.

TRANSPORTATION

Lakeview Acres Road NE – Lakeview Acres Road is not part of the Town of Valdese road system. It is maintained by NCDOT. The traffic count reveals 480 trips per day. The proposed development will have minimal to no impact of traffic.

UTILITIES:

Town of Valdese will provide water services. Septic services will be provided by the homeowners.

LAND USE PLAN:

The Valdese Land Use Plan identifies the future land use as natural.

CONDITIONAL USE REQUEST HISTORY:

There is no special use history on this property.

APPLICABLE CODE SECTIONS

Sec. 9-3047 Provisions for Ten-Acre Exempt Developments

- (1) The use will not materially endanger the public health, safety, and general welfare.
- (2) The use will not substantially injure the value of adjoining or abutting property.
- (3) The use is consistent with any adopted area plans that encompass the property subject to the application.
- (4) The development access road—also known as the common drive—shall remain private.
- (5) The development access road—also known as the common drive—shall be constructed in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code standards.
- (6) An easement shall be granted to the Town of Valdese to guarantee access for Public Safety, Public Works, and Planning Department.
- (7) An entity other than the Town of Valdese, such as property owners, homeowners association, community group, property management company, or similar type of organizations, shall be responsible for upkeep and maintenance.
- (8) The development shall not exceed 5 (five) building tracts.
- (9) Public Works shall not be responsible for any garbage pick-up, rough trash services, white goods or yard waste, except at a designated area located nearest the entrance to the property, as approved by the Town of Valdese.
- (10) The development shall comply with the requirements outlined in Code of Ordinances, Part 5, Municipal Utilities, Chapter 1, Water Supply and Distribution and Chapter 2, Sewer Collection and Disposal.

Sec. 9-3053 Residential District (R-12)

- (c) Uses permitted with a conditional use permit:
Ten-Acre Exempt Developments

Sec. 9-3147 Conditional Uses.

The Valdese Town Council shall grant in particular cases and subject to appropriate conditions and safeguards, permits for conditional uses as authorized by this Valdese Zoning Ordinance and set forth as Conditional Uses under the various use districts.

POSSIBLE FINDINGS AS RELATED TO THE GENERAL STANDARDS FOUND IN SEC. 9-3147.

- (a) The following general standards shall be met by all applicant for approval of conditional uses pursuant to this chapter:
- (1) The use will not adversely affect the health, or safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed use.
Applicant Complies (9-3147.4)
 - (2) The use will not be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property or public improvements in the neighborhood.
Applicant Complies (9-3147.4)
 - (3) The use, which is listed as a conditional use in the district in which it is proposed to be located, complies with all required zoning standards.
Applicant Complies (9-3147.4)
- (b) The following specific conditions shall be met by the applicant for approval of the conditional use:
- (1) The development access road (the common drive) shall remain private.
Applicant will comply. See Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for McGalliard Pointe Planned Community.
 - (2) The development access road (the common drive) shall be constructed in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code standards.
Applicant will comply. See Gravel Access Road Specification.
 - (3) An easement shall be granted to the Town of Valdese to guarantee access for Public Safety, Public Works, and Planning Department.
Applicant will comply.
 - (4) An entity other than the Town of Valdese, such as property owners, homeowners association, community group, property management company, or similar type of organizations, shall be responsible for upkeep and maintenance.
Applicant will comply. See Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions for McGalliard Pointe Planned Community.
 - (5) The development shall not exceed 5 (five) building tracts.
Applicant complies.
 - (6) Public Works shall not be responsible for any garbage pick-up, rough trash services, white goods or yard waste, except at a designated area located nearest the entrance to the property, as approved by the Town of Valdese.
Applicant shall comply.
 - (7) The development shall comply with the requirements outlined in Code of Ordinances, Part 5, Municipal Utilities, Chapter 1, Water Supply and Distribution and Chapter 2, Sewer Collection and Disposal.
Applicant will comply.
- (c) The Valdese Town Council shall make these general and specific findings based upon substantial evidence contained in its proceedings. The council may refer to staff's report to aid in its deliberations. It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to present evidence in the form of testimony, exhibits, documents, models, plans, and the like to support the application for approval of a Conditional Use.

REVIEW/DISCUSSION:

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Caldwell Timber Partners, LLC, is requesting approval of a ten-acre exempt development. The development will consist of five 10+ acre waterfront parcels with open space. The development is exempt from subdivision regulations; however, it is not exempt from the regulations of the Valdese Zoning Ordinance.

Proposed Findings of Fact

1. That on September 13, 2017, the applicant (Caldwell Timber Partners, LLC) applied for a Conditional Use Permit to allow a ten-acre exempt development. The proposed development is located at the end of Lakeview Acres Road NE.
2. The parcel on which the 10-acre development is proposed is a 99.58 acre tract of land zoned R-12 Residential and which can be further identified as Burke County Record Number 17374.
3. The Valdese Town Council has heard sworn testimony by the applicant and staff.
4. The Valdese Planning Board reviewed the application on September 18, 2017, and recommends approval by Valdese Town Council.
5. The R-12 Residential district allows Ten-Acre Exempt Developments as a conditional use.
6. The proposed use shall meet all requirements imposed Town of Valdese, Burke County, and the State of North Carolina.
7. The use will not adversely affect the health, or safety of person residing or working in the neighborhood of the proposed use.
8. The use will not be detrimental to the public welfare or injurious to property or public improvements in the neighborhood.
9. The development access road (the common drive) shall remain private.
10. The development access road (the common drive) shall be constructed in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code standards.
11. An easement will be granted to the Town of Valdese to guarantee access for Public Safety, Public Works, and Planning Department.
12. An entity other than the Town of Valdese, such as property owners, homeowners association, community group, property management company, or similar type of organizations, shall be responsible for upkeep and maintenance of the development road.
13. The development shall not exceed 5 (five) building tracts.
14. Public Works shall not be responsible for any garbage pick-up, rough trash services, white goods or yard waste, except at a designated area located nearest the entrance to the property, as approved by the Town of Valdese.
15. The development shall comply with the requirements outlined in Code of Ordinances, Part 5, Municipal Utilities, Chapter 1, Water Supply and Distribution and Chapter 2, Sewer Collection and Disposal.
16. Any gate shall be constructed in accordance with the North Carolina Fire Prevention Code Standards. The gate will be subject to approval by the Valdese Fire Department.

Mayor Black asked if there were additional comments or if anyone wished to speak either for or against the conditional use hearing. There being no one wishing to speak, Mayor Black closed the public hearing.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit, including the General Standards and the Findings of Fact in this case, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

**Valdese Town Council Meeting
Budget Amendment No. 04**

Monday, October 2, 2017

Subject: Town Paving Project

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

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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>
10.5600.151	Paving	283,380	
		-----	-----
Total		\$283,380	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$283,380 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.			
10.3995.560	Loan Proceeds		283,380
		-----	-----
Total		\$	\$283,380
		=====	=====

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, October 2, 2017
Budget Amendment No. 05

Subject:

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>
10.6200.710	Purchase of Property	30,000	
10.6200.150	M&R of Bldgs	5,000	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 35,000	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$35,000 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.

No.		
10.3350.000 Donations		35,000
	-----	-----
Total		\$35,000
	=====	=====

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.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilman Ogle shared his concerns regarding the speed limit on Carolina Street SE. Mr. Ogle referenced a recent tractor trailer accident, questioning if the speed limit could be reduced. Staff informed Council that the accident was not a result of speed, Carolina Street was constructed for a speed limit that is higher than currently posted, and the street is governed by North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). Staff will discuss the possibility of reducing the speed on Carolina Street SE, Valdese with the Department of Transportation.

Councilwoman Hildebran informed Council that she was approached by a citizen who shared their appreciation for all that Council is doing in the parks in town. Another citizen approached Ms. Hildebran to express their gratitude to the town for all the work that was done for the outdoor drama this year. Ms. Hildebran finished by thanking Town Manager Seth Eckard for his most recent update on the community.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

Fratelli Bocce of Valdese is the 2017 North Carolina 4-man Bocce Champions.

Bluegrass at the Rock begins on Saturday, October 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

"Treats in the Streets," will be held on Tuesday, October 31, 2017, 4:00-6:00 p.m. A costume contest will be held at Wells Fargo Parking Lot at 6:00 p.m.

Baptist Association "Love Loud" Lunch for Town Employees will be held at Valdese Family Splash Park Building on Wednesday, October 11, 2017, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The Thanksgiving/Employee Appreciation Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017, from 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Waldensian Room at Old Rock School.

The Annual Dinner Meeting with Valdese Merchants is scheduled for Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 6:30 p.m., in the Waldensian Room at Old Rock School.

Closing on the Ribet Property occurred on September 19, 2017.

Reminder of the Draughn High School Homecoming Parade on Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. Council will meet at Fire Department at 6:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:51 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk
ck

Mayor

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2017, 6:00 P.M.**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, October 30, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., to meet with representatives from the Western Piedmont Council of Governments to discuss the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. Members of Council met in the Waldensian Room at Old Rock School, 400 Main Street West, 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, Parks and Recreation Director Doug Knight, Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy, and Executive Director Anthony Starr.

Absent: None.

A quorum was present.

Mayor Black called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. He said this was a Special Called Council Meeting to meet with representatives from Western Piedmont Council of Governments to discuss the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

PRESENTATION OF COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY: Mayor Black stated that a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is created every five years. Mr. Black introduced Executive Director Anthony Starr of the Western Piedmont Council of Governments. Mr. Starr provided a presentation of the CEDS report which focuses on economic development, workforce, infrastructure, housing, marketing, and community life.

At 7:15 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, November 6, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

ck

Mayor

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 6, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, November 6, 2017, 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 in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

MYRA'S-TERESA CARSWELL, 1590 MOUNTAIN SHADOWS DRIVE, MORGANTON Ms. Carswell informed Council that she is speaking on behalf of Myra's. Myra's would like to hold four cruise-ins next year, on the following Saturdays; April 21, May 19, September 15, and October 27, 2018 and would like to close streets in the town to provide enough space for individuals, with and without cars, to attend. Ms. Carswell stated that she had discussed this with town staff previously and was given a cost estimate which included the cost of supplying safety personnel. Ms. Carswell wondered if they could provide their own safety professionals. Mayor Black thanked Ms. Carswell for her time and informed her that this matter will be discussed, evaluating all options. A decision will be provided in a timely manner.

FRATELLI BOCCE PROCLAMATION Mayor Black presented the following proclamation to the members of Fratelli Bocce:

PROCLAMATION HONORING TEAM FRATELLI BOCCE

WHEREAS, bocce has been a Valdese tradition ever since the earliest settlers arrived; and

WHEREAS, founded in 2016, the members of Fratelli Bocce are; Rob Martinat, Grayson Turner, Tim Pons, and Nelson Turner; and

WHEREAS, Le Phare des Alpes held the Western North Carolina State Tournament bocce game on Saturday, August 12, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the top three teams qualified to compete in the North Carolina State Championship bocce game; and

WHEREAS, the hard work, dedication, sportsmanship, talent, and exceptional team chemistry of the team qualified Fratelli Bocce to compete in the State Championship; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina State Championship bocce game was held on Saturday, September 16, 2017; and

WHEREAS, fourteen teams from four regions across North Carolina participated in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, Fratelli Bocce went through the double elimination tournament undefeated; and

WHEREAS, Fratelli Bocce made history by being the first team from Valdese to win a State Championship.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of Valdese, North Carolina, and on behalf of the entire Town Council recognizes Fratelli Bocce for their success.

November 6, 2017, MB#31

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Valdese to be affixed this 6th day of November, 2017.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED MINUTES – OCTOBER 2, 2017 AND OCTOBER 30, 2017

APPROVED APPOINTMENTS TO PLANNING BOARD Ms. Jean Dalmás, a planning board member for over 14 years, has resigned. Mr. Carlton "Carley" Caruso has been appointed to complete the unexpired term of Jean Dalmás. This term will end on December 31, 2018. Mr. Caruso is currently serving as an alternate planning board member; Ms. Libby Braswell has been appointed to complete the unexpired term of Carlton "Carley" Caruso. This term will end on December 31, 2017.

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth introduced Samuel "Adam" Bates, Utilities Field Technician. Police Chief Jack Moss introduced Tyler Angley, Reserve Officer.

APPROVAL OF CLEAN WATER MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND GRANT CONTRACT Mr. Tom Kenney of Foothills Conservancy informed Council that the town has been awarded \$673,247 for the purchase of 302-acres for the proposed Valdese Lakeside Park. Mr. Kenney provided a brief presentation on the Clean Water Grant Agreement.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to approve the Clean Water Management Trust Fund Grant Contract, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

CENTURYLINK UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS SOLUTION CONTRACT This item will be discussed at a later date, as requested by staff.

RESOLUTION FOR OFFER TO PURCHASE TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY, CROWHILL PARK, LOCATED AT 605 PINEBURR AVENUE SW

RESOLUTION
(Sale of Property at 605 Pineburr Ave SW)

WHEREAS, Western NC Housing Partnership (Western) has offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$60,000 that parcel containing 5.62 acres more or less as described in that deed recorded in Book 479, page 483, Burke County Registry (REID 38598) and that adjoining parcel containing 0.38 acres more or less as described in that deed recorded in Book 499, page 19, Burke County Registry (REID 35899) (the property); and

WHEREAS, the town council proposes to accept Western's offer; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to G.S. 160A-269, Western is required to deposit with the town clerk an amount equal to 5% of its 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:

November 6, 2017, MB#31

1. The town council authorizes the sale of the property described above through the upset bid procedure of N.C. General Statute §160A-269.
2. The town clerk shall cause a notice of the proposed sale to be published as required by G.S. 160A-269.
3. Any person may submit an upset bid to the office of the town clerk within ten (10) days after the notice of sale is published. Once a qualifying high bid has been received, that bid will become the new offer.
4. If a qualifying higher bid is received, the town clerk shall cause a new notice of upset bid to be published, and shall continue to do so until a ten (10) day period has passed without any qualifying upset bid having been received. At that time, the amount of the final high bid shall be reported to the town council.
5. A qualifying higher bid is one that raises the existing offer by not less than ten percent (10%) of the first \$1,000 of that offer and 5% of the remainder of that offer.
6. A qualifying higher bid must be accompanied by a deposit in the amount of five percent (5%) of the bid; the deposit may be made by cashier's check or certified check. The town will return any deposit on any bid not accepted, and will return the deposit on an offer subject to upset if a qualifying higher bid is received. The town will return the deposit of the final high bidder at closing.
7. The terms of the final sale are that: (a) the town council must approve the final high offer before the sale is closed, (b) title will be conveyed by special warranty deed subject to all existing easements, if any, and (c) the buyer must pay the entire purchase price at the time of closing.
8. The town reserves the right to withdraw the property from sale at any time before the final high bid is accepted and the town reserves the right to reject all bids at any time.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to adopt the aforementioned ordinance, seconded by Councilman Delp. The motion did not pass, with voting as follows: Ayes- Councilman Sweezy and Councilman Delp. Nays: Councilman Ogle, Councilwoman Hildebran, and Councilwoman Stevenson.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR SALE OF PROPERTY, 1588 DREXEL ROAD

**RESOLUTION APPROVING SALE OF PROPERTY
(1588 Drexel Road)**

WHEREAS, G.W. Stamey, Trustee of the Stamey Revocable Trust u/a 10-16-2012, (Stamey) offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$10,000 that parcel located at 1588 Drexel Road in Valdese, North Carolina (REID 38527, PIN 2723648051), said parcel being Tract 2 as described in that deed recorded in Book 271, page 620, Burke County Registry (hereafter "the Property"); and

WHEREAS, one or more Town of Valdese water lines run under the Property; and

WHEREAS, at its October 2, 2017, regular meeting, the town council adopted a resolution proposing to accept Stamey's offer; and

WHEREAS, the town council directed town representatives to publish notice of the town's intent to accept the offer and notice that any person could raise the bid as required by G.S. 160A-269, and that notice was published; and

WHEREAS, more than ten (10) days expired without there being an upset bid and Stamey's bid is the last and high bid for the Property; and

WHEREAS, the town does not need the Property, and the town therefore desires to accept the offer made by Stamey and sell the Property upon the terms hereafter set forth:

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED pursuant to G.S. 160A-269 that the sale of the Property to Stamey for the purchase price of \$10,000 is approved. The Property shall be sold subject to any and all existing easements, and the town shall retain an easement twenty-five (25) feet in width, 12½ feet on either side of the centerline, of each water line located on or under the Property to allow the town to inspect, maintain, repair, and, if necessary, replace those water lines. The proper officers of the town are authorized and directed to deliver to Stamey a deed for the Property upon receipt of the \$10,000 purchase price.

This resolution was adopted this 6th day of November, 2017.

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

/s/ Town Clerk

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

APPROVAL OF BB&T RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SPENDING OF FUNDS

RESOLUTION
(Approving Use of Excess BB&T Loan Funds)

WHEREAS, the Town of Valdese (the Town) financed a paving project (the Project) through BB&T as evidenced by a financing agreement (the Financing agreement) and other related documents dated September 2, 2016 (together, the Project agreements); and

WHEREAS, the Project agreements provided that the Town could borrow up to \$473,273.75 (the BB&T loan funds) to finance the Project; and

WHEREAS, under the Project agreements, the Town was allowed to use the BB&T loan funds for those purposes described in Exhibit A to the Financing agreement; and

WHEREAS, approximately \$60,394.40 in BB&T loan funds (the excess BB&T loan funds) were not needed to complete the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to use the excess BB&T loan funds to make repairs and improvements to the McGalliard Falls parking lot, the Children's Park parking lot, and the Faet Street–Farmers Market parking lot; to make certain Ribet Avenue storm drain improvements and to patch and make certain street repairs to Cline Avenue, Magnolia Avenue and Faet Street; and

WHEREAS, BB&T has agreed that the excess BB&T loan funds may be used to for these additional repairs and improvements; and

WHEREAS, the town council is of the opinion that these additional repairs and improvements are needed and that it would be in the best interest of the Town if the excess BB&T loan funds were used to pay for these additional repairs and improvements;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Town is authorized to use the excess BB&T loan funds to pay for some or all of the following repairs and improvements:
 - a. Repairs to the McGalliard Falls parking lot;
 - b. Repairs to the Children's Park parking lot;
 - c. Repairs to the Faet Street–Farmers Market parking lot;
 - d. Patching and street repairs along sections of Cline Avenue, Magnolia Avenue and Faet Street; and
 - e. Storm drain improvements to sections of Ribet Avenue.

2. The Town Manager is authorized to execute such documents, if any, that are required in order for the Town to use the excess BB&T loan funds to pay for these repairs and improvements.

ADOPTED THIS 6TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2017.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

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

APPROVAL OF REQUEST TO PURCHASE BACKHOE LOADER Funds were allocated in the current budget to replace a piece of excavating equipment; however, due to equipment failure, Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth requested allocation of additional funds to replace a 1996 JCB Backhoe instead.

Councilman Delp made a motion to approve the purchase of a backhoe loader, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENT

Budget Amendment No. 06

Subject: Purchase of Backhoe

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 Utility Fund, the expenditures are to be changed as follows:

Acct. <u>No.</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
30.8120.740 Purchase of Equipment	34,420	
	-----	-----
Total	\$ 34,420	\$ 0
	=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$34,420 in the expenditures of the Utility 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>	
30.3970.812 Loan Proceeds	8,439
30.3990.000 Fund Balance	25,981

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Total	\$	\$34,420
	=====	=====

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 Stevenson made a motion to approve the aforementioned budget amendment, seconded by Councilman Sweezy. The vote was unanimous.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilman Delp informed Council that he was approached by residents that are concerned about the speed limit on a portion of Laurel Street. The residents would like Council to consider increasing the speed limit to 25 mph, instead of the recently approved speed limit of 20 mph.

Councilwoman Hildebran informed Council that she received an update on the library project from Burke County Library Director Jim Wilson. An ad announcing Requests for Qualifications (RFQ) was placed in the Morganton News Herald on Thursday, November 2, 2017, for the expansion and renovation of the Valdese Public Library; with a deadline of Monday, November 20, 2017. Mr. Wilson informed Ms. Hildebran that when three quotes for the Cole House demolition are confirmed a requisition for the demolition will be submitted. Lastly, when the demolition is confirmed, Mr. Wilson will contact everyone that donated to the Expanding Possibilities Campaign to update them on the project.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

James Queen, Willard Church, Charlie Vinay, Benji Perrou, James Hamby, Richard Lutz, and Joe Mahafee have been invited to be the Grand Marshals for Valdese Christmas Parade being held on Saturday, December 2, 2017, at 10:00 a.m.

A list of upcoming events in November and December has been provided in Reading Material.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO NC GENERAL STATUTE 143-318.11 (A)(3) To consider and give instructions to the town attorney concerning a possible claim on behalf of the town.

At 7:10 p.m., Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to recess into Closed Session Pursuant to NC General Statute 143-318.11 (a)(3) to consult with the town attorney with regard to a potential claim. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

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

At 7:24 p.m., Councilman Ogle made a motion to return to Open Session, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:24 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, December 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk
ck

Mayor

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL/JOINT DINNER MEETING WITH VALDESE MERCHANTS
NOVEMBER 16, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met jointly with the Valdese Merchants for the Annual Dinner Meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2017, at 6:30 p.m., at the Old Rock School, Waldensian Room.

The following were present: Mayor John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., Councilman Keith Ogle, Councilwoman Frances Hildebran, Councilman Gary Delp, and Councilman Roy Sweezy. Also present were Town Manager Seth Eckard, Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy, and Community Affairs Director Morrissa Angi.

Absent: Councilwoman Susan Stevenson

A quorum was present and no action was taken.

At 6:30 p.m., Mayor Black welcomed everyone and thanked the business owners for investing their time and money into the Town of Valdese. He offered the invocation and invited everyone to enjoy dinner catered by Myra's Catering. There were approximately 50 downtown merchants and building owners in attendance.

After dinner, Mayor Black presented the following proclamation to Larry Earp:

PROCLAMATION HONORING LARRY EARP

WHEREAS, it is important to recognize and promote a sense of community through the support of friendship of neighbors working with one another to make our community welcoming and prosperous; and

WHEREAS, small businesses are the backbone of our economy, providing jobs, revenues, and investments; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp moved to Valdese, North Carolina in 1977 and continues to live here today; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp is a member of the First Baptist Church in Valdese; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp has been a member of the Valdese Rotary Club for thirty-five years; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp has been a business owner in Valdese for over forty years; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp has provided countless jobs to Valdese and Burke County residents over the years; and

WHEREAS, Larry Earp continuously coordinates and participates in town events to promote our community

WHEREAS, Larry Earp, in 2000, started Myra's Cruise-In which continues today and is a vital attraction in the town of Valdese.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., by the authority vested in me as mayor of Valdese, North Carolina, and on behalf of the entire Town Council and all of our citizens, recognize, by this proclamation, the outstanding contribution that Larry Earp has made to Valdese and the entire community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Valdese to be affixed this 16th day of November, 2017.

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

Town Manager Seth Eckard offered a brief overview of the following: Downtown Streetscape Improvements project, Public WiFi usage, Electric Vehicle Charging Station usage, Treats in the Streets, Fire Department's new ladder fire truck, Valdese Family Splash Park, Valdese Lakeside Park, upgrades at Children's Park and McGalliard Falls Park, and the upcoming 125th Anniversary.

At 7:56 p.m., the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled Council Meeting on Monday, December 4, 2017, 6:00 p.m.

Town Clerk

Mayor

ck

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 4, 2017**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, December 4, 2017, 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, and Councilman Gary L. Delp. Also present were Town Manager Seth Eckard, Town Attorney Marc Mitchell, Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy, and various department heads.

Absent: Councilman Roy F. Sweezy.

A quorum was present.

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

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT:

NANCY TUCKER PROCLAMATION Mayor Black presented the following proclamation to Ms. Nancy Tucker:

HONORING NANCY TUCKER

WHEREAS, North Carolina Senior Games is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing year-round health promotion and education in a quest to improve the health and overall well-being of over 300,000 senior adults fifty years of age and better; and

WHEREAS, Unifour Senior Games is sanctioned by North Carolina Senior Games and is part of a statewide network of fifty-three local games that are held annually to qualify participants for State Finals; and

WHEREAS, the Unifour Senior Games is an artistic and athletic event for seniors age 50 and better living in Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba Counties; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Tucker won a total of 11 gold medals and 3 silver medals in the Unifour Senior Games and North Carolina Senior Games in 2016 and 2017; and

WHEREAS, Nancy's success in the Unifour Senior Games and North Carolina Senior Games qualified her to compete in the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, Nancy competed in the 50 and 100 freestyle and backstroke swimming competitions; and

WHEREAS, Nancy has achieved extraordinary success in her swimming career; and

WHEREAS, the officials and citizens of the Town of Valdese, North Carolina, hereby extend congratulations and express their gratitude and appreciation to Nancy Tucker for her dedication, sportsmanship, and hard work that helped bring this recognition and honor to the Town of Valdese;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, John F. "Chip" Black, Jr., by the authority vested in me as Mayor of Valdese, North Carolina, and on behalf of the entire Town Council recognizes Nancy Tucker for her success.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Valdese to be affixed this 4th day of December, 2017.

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

LADDER TRUCK AND ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING – FIRE CHIEF CHARLIE WATTS Fire Chief Charlie Watts informed Council that training on the new ladder truck will be conducted in the upcoming week, once all of the equipment is installed. The ladder truck is expected to be in service by the end of the month. Chief Watts also discussed the necessity of holding an active shooter training program. Council will determine a date to schedule a mock meeting for the purpose of this training.

OATHS OF OFFICE Burke County Clerk of Superior Court Mabel H. Lowman administered Oaths of Office to Mayor John F. “Chip” Black, Jr., while his wife, Tammy, held the Bible; Councilman Gary Delp, Ward 1, and Councilwoman Susan Stevenson, Ward 2, while her sister, Nancy Tucker, held the Bible. Deputy Town Clerk Courtney Kennedy will administer the Oath of Office to Councilman Roy Sweezy, Ward 3, at a later date.

Mayor Black thanked Ms. Lowman for administering the oaths.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVAL OF REGULAR AND CLOSED SESSION MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 6, 2017

APPROVAL OF REGULAR MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 16, 2017

RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2018 TOWN COUNCIL MEETINGS CALENDAR

**TOWN OF VALDESE
RESOLUTION ADOPTING 2018 TOWN COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-1011 of the Town of Valdese Code of Ordinances, there shall be a regular meeting of the council at the town hall, on the first Monday in each month, at 6:00 p.m., unless another place, date or time shall be designated.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Valdese Town Council adopts the following Meeting Schedule for 2018:

January 2, 2018, Tuesday, due to New Year's Day Holiday
January 8, 2018, Strategic Planning for Council at WPCOG Offices
February 5, 2018
March 5, 2018
March 19, 2018, 1:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., Annual Budget Retreat, Waldensian Room
April 2, 2018
April 23, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Council Budget Workshop Dinner - Town Hall Community Room
May 7, 2018
June 4, 2018
June 25, 2018, Budget Public Hearing; also serves as the July Council Meeting
August 6, 2018
September 4, 2018, Tuesday, due to Labor Day Holiday
October 1, 2018
November 5, 2018
November 15, 2018, Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Annual Dinner Meeting with Valdese Merchants Association,
Waldensian Room
December 3, 2018

This 4th day of December, 2017.

/s/ John F. “Chip” Black, Jr., Mayor

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

2018 Board and Commission Appointments/Reappointments

Planning Board & Board of Adjustment (4-year terms)

Reappointment of Roy Sweezy, Chairman

Reappointment of Paul Mears

Appointment of Libby Braswell to replace Carlton "Carley" Caruso who is completing the unexpired term of Jean Dalmas

Parks and Recreation Commission (3-year terms)

Reappointment of Beth Heile

Reappointment of Grayson Turner

Reappointment of Gary Delp

Reappointment of Meghan Armour

Appointment of Nancy Tucker to complete the unexpired term of Linda Brinkley who resigned as she has moved away

Arbor-Beautification (3-year terms)

Reappointment of Keith Ogle

Reappointment of Ronnie Pruitt

Public Art Commission (3-year terms)

Reappointment of Linda Rostan

Reappointment of Elizabeth Furr

Reappointment of Gary Delp

Appointment of Gretchen Lane-Costner

Valdese Youth Council

Appointment of the following students: Hannah Johnson, Gillian Abee-Freeze, Trey Blackwood, Alex Hoover

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEM REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None.

COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Susan T. Stevenson as Mayor Pro Tem, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

Mayor John F. "Chip" Black, Jr.

Elected 11/04/97: Term 12/01/97 - 12/03/01

Reelected 11/06/01: Term 12/03/01 - 12/05/05

Reelected 11/08/05: Term 12/05/05 - 12/07/09

Reelected 11/03/09: Term 12/07/09 - 12/02/13

Reelected 11/05/13: Term 12/02/13*

**Appointed Mayor 2/2/15 and required to run for reelection in November 2015 for the Mayor's unexpired term which ended 12/4/17*

Elected Mayor 11/03/2015

Reelected 11/07/17: Term 12/04/17 - 12/06/21

Black & Associates Financial Mgmt.

BDI Board

WPCOG Policy Board Delegate

2010 Vice President

2011 President

2012 President

Community Foundation of Burke Co

2015 President

Rotary Club Burke Sunrise

Ward 1 Gary L. Delp

Appointed by Council 05/04/2009

Elected 11/03/09: Term 12/07/09 - 12/02/13

Reelected 11/05/13: Term 12/02/13 - 12/04/17

Reelected 11/07/17: Term 12/04/17 - 12/06/21

Retired School Teacher

Treasurer

Recreation Commission

Public Art Commission

Street Paving Committee

Former Planning Board Alternate

December 4, 2017, MB#31

Ward 2 Susan T. Stevenson	Retired Physical Therapist
Appointed by Council 01/10/2000	Mayor Pro Tem
Elected 11/06/01: Term 12/03/01 – 12/05/05	Assistant Treasurer
Reelected 11/08/05: Term 12/05/05 – 12/07/09	WPCOG Metropolitan Planning Organization
Reelected 11/03/09: Term 12/07/09 – 12/02/13	Railroad Committee
Reelected 11/05/13: Term 12/02/13 – 12/04/17	OCP Exploratory Committee
Reelected 11/07/17: Term 12/04/17 - 12/06/21	
Ward 3 Roy F. Sweezy	Retired School Teacher
Appointed by Council 03/02/2015	Planning Board Chairman
<i>* Required to run for reelection in November 2015 for the Ward 3 Councilman's unexpired term which ended 12/04/17</i>	WPCOG Policy Board Alternate
Elected 11/03/15	Agape Board of Directors, Vice Chairman
Reelected 11/07/17: Term 12/04/17 - 12/06/21	
Ward 4 Frances M. Hildebran	Blue Ridge HealthCare, Executive Assistant
Elected 11/08/11: Term 12/05/11 – 12/07/15	Town Clerk
Reelected 11/03/15: Term 12/07/15 – 12/02/19	Library Board
	Retired Local Government
	Citizens for Affordable Housing
	Street Paving Committee
Ward 5 B. Keith Ogle	A Caring Alternative, LLC, H.R. Director
Elected 11/04/03: Term 12/01/03 – 12/03/07	Retired Military
Reelected 11/06/07: Term 12/03/07 – 12/05/11	Arbor-Beautification Committee
Reelected 11/08/11: Term 12/05/11 – 12/07/15	Downtown Revitalization
Reelected 11/03/15: Term 12/07/15 – 12/02/19	Former WPCOG MPO and Policy Board Alt.
Town Manager Seth Eckard	Burke County Narcotics Task Force
Assistant Town Manager 06/18/15 – 06/30/15	Catawba-Wateree Water Management Group
Appointed Town Manager: 07/01/2015	WPCOG Water Resources Committee, Vice Chair
	VEDIC Member
	Valdese ABC Board – Chairman
	Valdese Tourism Commission
	BDI Board
	Valdese Rotary
	LPDA Member
Town Attorney Marcus W. H. Mitchell, Jr.	Marc Mitchell, P.A., Attorney at Law
	Public Art Commission

Councilwoman Stevenson made a motion to approve the aforementioned Valdese Town Council Organizational Plan, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

MCGALLIARD CREEK WATERSHED STUDY John Wear of Western Piedmont Council of Governments provided a presentation of the draft McGalliard Creek Watershed Plan. Mr. Wear informed Council that the process of creating a plan began in 2016; after identifying issues in McGalliard Creek, such as sediment runoff and erosion. The implementation of a watershed plan will qualify the town to apply for project funding through various sources, such as the EPA and other grant opportunities. Town Manager Seth Eckard informed Council that plan implementation and application for funding will likely occur in the next two to three years.

PUBLIC HEARING - INTENT TO CLOSE A SECTION OF WHISNANT STREET Mayor Black opened the Public Hearing and informed Council that the project is not complete at this time. A notice calling for the public hearing to be held at this Council meeting was published; however, staff has requested that the public hearing be continued at the next Council meeting.

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Councilman Ogle made a motion to continue the public hearing at the January 2, 2018 Council meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

REQUEST TO PURCHASE (2) 24" BUTTERFLY VALVES Water Resources Director Greg Padgett requested approval to purchase two 24" butterfly valves from Clearwater Inc., in the amount of \$30,400.00. Funds for this purchase were allocated in the budget through the Capital Improvement Plan as part of the Meridian Incentive Agreement.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the purchase of two 24" butterfly valves from Clearwater Inc., in the amount of \$30,400.00, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Budget Amendment No. 08

Subject: Whisnant Street Relocation

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.	Debit	Credit
10.4900.452 Whisnant St	61,490	
	-----	-----
Total	\$ 61,490	\$ 0
	=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$61,490 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.		
10.3820.000 Sale of Real Property		61,490
	-----	-----
Total	\$	\$61,490
	=====	=====

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.

Budget Amendment No. 09

Subject: Fire Truck Purchase

Memorandum:

December 4, 2017, MB#31

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	\$ 0
		=====	=====

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.			
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.

Budget Amendment No. 10

Subject: WiFi Project

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>
10.4900.721	WiFi	18,905	
		-----	-----
Total		\$ 18,905	\$ 0
		=====	=====

This will result in a net increase of \$18,905 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.		
10.3970.490 Grant Proceeds		18,905
	-----	-----
Total	\$	\$18,905
	=====	=====

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.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilman Ogle thanked Public Works and everyone who contributed, for the Christmas parade. Mr. Ogle stated that he wasn't sure if it was the best crowd but there were a lot of kids and that is what this parade is all about. Mr. Ogle expressed his appreciation to the businesses in Valdese for going above and beyond with Christmas decorations. Mr. Ogle finished by expressing his concerns about the street lights in town; how often they are not operational and our inability to hang anything on them. Town Manager Seth Eckard agreed with Councilman Ogle and explained that staff is keeping a weekly report that is filed with Duke. Duke indicates in their system that the issue has been resolved when it has not. Staff is exploring alternatives to find a resolution with this matter.

Councilman Delp shared with Council that he has received a lot of positive comments about the entrances into town. Mr. Delp stated the town is off to a good start for the future with regard to Christmas decorations.

Councilwoman Hildebran expressed her appreciation to the committee that was in charge of Christmas decorations this year; acknowledging their hard work, especially with a lack of financial resources. Ms. Hildebran provided an update on the library project, informing Council that the Cole House was demolished today.

Mayor Black informed Council that the Western Piedmont Council of Government Policy Board has voted in favor of an increase in the rate for annual dues for Fiscal Year 2018-2019, in the amount of 10 cents. The current rate of 50 cents has not increased in over 20 years. Mayor Black indicated that this will not be a significant increase for Valdese.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mr. Eckard made the following announcements:

Staff will surplus the old fire truck, seeking a starting bid of \$20,000.00.

Mr. Eckard recognized the downtown merchants and staff for their efforts with Christmas decorations this year, expressing his appreciation for them going above and beyond.

Christmas in Valdese with Christmas Tree Lighting is being held on Friday, December 8, 2017, from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m., at Old Rock School.

The Council and Department Head Christmas Gathering is scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2017 at Waldensian Heritage Winery, at 6:30 p.m.

Mingle with Kris Kringle is scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 2017, 8:30 a.m., at Old Rock School.

A Christmas Fellowship Lunch is being held on Wednesday, December 20, 2017, from 11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m., at the Fire Department Engine Bays.

Town Offices will be closed December 25-27, 2017 in observance of Christmas and January 1, 2018 for New Year's Day

The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 2018 due to New Year's Day.

December 4, 2017, MB#31

The Council Strategic Planning Workshop is scheduled for Monday, January 8, 2018, from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. at WPCOG Offices.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:58 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Ogle made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilman Delp. The vote was unanimous.

The next meeting is a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 2, 2018, 6:00 p.m., Valdese Town Hall.

Town Clerk

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Mayor