

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 4, 2021**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Monday, October 4, 2021, 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 J. Andrew Thompson, and Councilman Roy F. Sweezy. Also present were: Town Attorney Marc Mitchell, Town Clerk Jessica Lail, and various department heads.

Absent: Town Manager Seth Eckard

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:

RECOGNIZING POLICE & FIRE DEPARTMENT, CINDY STEVENS – 505 PINEBURR AVE., VALDESE:

Ms. Stevens shared a story about a car accident she was involved in. She said the Valdese Police Department was very professional and responded quickly. Ms. Stevens also shared her appreciation to the Fire Department, especially Keshia, who kept her calm. Ms. Stevens thanked both the Fire and Police Department.

PROCLAMATION FOR BURKE COUNTY, NC NONPROFIT DAY (AKA 1BURKEGIVES): Jean VanNoppen, VP of Marketing and Communications with Burke County United Way and Mayor Black presented the following Proclamation:

**Proclamation
Burke County, NC Nonprofit Day
(aka 1BurkeGives)**

Whereas, charitable nonprofit organizations throughout Burke County save taxpayers thousands of dollars through their services and contribute significantly to the high quality of life for all citizens; and

Whereas, these organizations are committed to serving the educational, cultural, civic, health, religious, human and animal services, recreational, philanthropic, environmental, and other diverse needs of Burke County; and

Whereas, the staff and volunteers of all Burke County nonprofit organizations are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of community service, donating their time and effort to making a difference in the lives of others; and

Whereas, Tuesday, November 30, 2021 observance of "Burke County, NC Nonprofit Day" (aka 1BurkeGives) provides a unique opportunity for the citizens of Burke County to join together in appreciation and support of the many contributions made by nonprofit organizations to our continued wellbeing while boosting awareness for continued growth.

Now, therefore, I, Mayor Black, Mayor, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, November 30, 2021 as Burke County, NC Nonprofit Day (aka 1BurkeGives) and encourage all citizens to recognize the positive impact nonprofit organizations have on the quality of life of the citizens of Burke County.

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

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2021

APPROVED ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURE FOR THE TOWN OF VALDESE ANNUAL EVENT:

October 4, 2021, MB#31
AN ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURE
FOR TOWN OF VALDESE SPECIAL EVENTS

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 12, 2021; 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 HOMECOMING PARADE

Date: October 12, 2021

Time: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

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 4th day of October, 2021.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

APPROVED REQUEST FROM OLD COLONY PLAYERS TO SELL ALCOHOL AT ANNUAL EVENT:

Request from Old Colony Players to sell alcohol at the *The Rocky Horror Show* on the nights of October 15th, 16th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 28th, 29th, and 30th at the Fred B. Cranford Amphitheatre.

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

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

Mayor Black asked the Town Attorney to speak to a few items under New Business. Town Attorney Marc Mitchell stated that items B (Discontinued Benefits for Council) and C (Stipend Adjustments for Council) could not be voted on tonight. Mr. Mitchell referenced G.S. 160A-64, which states, *the council may fix its own compensation and the compensation of the mayor and any other elected officers of the city by adoption of the annual budget ordinance.....* Therefore, whatever the compensation is now will have to remain the same until the next adoption of the annual budget year.

Councilman Sweezy made a motion to remove items B and C from the agenda, Councilwoman Hildebran seconded. The vote was unanimous.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES: Parks & Recreation Director Doug Knight introduced new Athletic Supervisor Connor Taylor. Police Chief Jack Moss introduced Administrative Assistant to the Police Department Harley Cheseck-Brown.

REMOVED - DISCONTINUED BENEFITS FOR COUNCIL

REMOVED - STIPEND ADJUSTMENTS FOR COUNCIL

APPROVED RESOLUTION FOR SALE OF PROPERTY, 4250 RALPH PATTON RD.: Finance Director
Bo Weichel presented the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION
(Sale of 4250 Ralph Patton Road Property)

WHEREAS, Nathaniel Saunders (Saunders) offered to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$7,500 that parcel located at 4250 Ralph Patton Road in Morganton, North Carolina, which has been assigned REID No. 38216 and PIN 2711174572 by the Burke County Tax Office, said property being Parcel 2, Book 1735, page 641, Burke County Registry (the Property); and

WHEREAS, at its September 7, 2021, regular meeting, the town council adopted a resolution proposing to accept this offer; and

WHEREAS, as required by G.S. 160A-269, the town council directed town representatives to publish notice of the town's intent to accept the offer and notice that persons could raise the bid, and that notice was published; and

WHEREAS, more than ten (10) days expired without there being an upset bid, and the \$7,500 offer made by Saunders is the last and highest bid for the Property; and

WHEREAS, the town does not need the Property, and the town therefore desires to accept the offer made by Saunders and sell the Property to him upon the terms hereafter set forth;

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED pursuant to G.S. 160A-269 that the sale of the Property to Saunders for the purchase price of \$7,500 is approved; that the Property shall be sold "as is" and subject to all existing easements; and that the town shall reserve easements for all town utility lines located on or under the property, if any. The town manager is authorized and directed to deliver to Saunders a special warranty deed for the Property upon receipt of the purchase price.

THIS, THE 4TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2021.

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

ATTEST: /s/ Town Clerk

Morganton News Herald
Advertising Affidavit

PO Box 968
Hickory, NC 28603

Account Number
3464176

Date
September 19, 2021

TOWN OF VALDESE
ATTN: CHERYL DAVE
PO BOX 339
VALDESE, NC 28680

| Date | Category | Description | Ad Number | Ad Size |
|------------|---------------|---|-----------|---------|
| 09/19/2021 | Legal Notices | TOWN OF VALDESE PUBLIC NOTICE: The public will take no: 000741511 | 2 x 27 L | |

**Publisher of
Morganton News Herald
Burke County**

Before the undersigned, a Notary Public duly commissioned, qualified, and authorized by law to administer oaths, personally appeared the Publisher's Representative who by being duly sworn deposes and says: that he/she is authorized to make this affidavit and sworn statement; that the notice or other legal advertisement, a copy of which is attached hereto, was published in the News Herald on the following date:

09/19/2021

and that the said newspaper in which such notice, paper document, or legal advertisement was published, was at the time of each and every such publication, a newspaper meeting all the requirements and qualifications of Section 1-597 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.

[Signature]
Billing Representative

Newspaper reference: 000741511
Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 19th day of September, 2021.

[Signature]
Notary Public
State of Virginia
County of Hanover
My commission expires: _____
Commission Expires: 09/31/2025

THIS IS NOT A BILL. PLEASE PAY FROM INVOICE. THANK YOU

| TOWN OF VALDESE PUBLIC NOTICE | |
|--|--|
| The public will take notice that the town council of the Town of Valdese has received and proposes to accept an offer to purchase from the Town of Valdese for the sum of \$7,500 that parcel of land located at 4250 Ralph Patton Road, Morganton (REID No. 38216 and PIN 2711174572), which contains approximately 0.18 acres. | |
| Any person may, within ten (10) days from the publication of this notice, increase this bid by submitting in writing to the Town Clerk at 102 Masse! Avenue SW, Valdese, North Carolina 28690, an offer increasing the amount of the bid being considered by at least 10% of the first \$1,000 and 5% of the remainder, accompanied by a bid deposit in the amount of 5% of the increased bid. | |
| Upon receiving a timely increased bid accompanied by the required deposit, the clerk will readvertise that offer for raised bids as required by G.S. 160A-269. | |
| Jessica Lail, Clerk | |
| PUBLISH: September 19, 2021 | |

Mr. Weichel explained that this was published for an upset bid process, and no other bids came in.

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

APPROVED NEW LEASE AGREEMENT AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH TRANQUILITY DAY SPA:

Community Affairs Director Morrissa Angi presented Council with a new lease agreement for Tranquility Day Spa. Ms. Angi shared that a long-term tenant passed away, and now there is an opening for the space. Ms. Angi shared the information on the proposed new tenant, Tammy Benfield, a medical esthetician who offers a variety of facials and services. The Lease is in the amount of \$350.00.

Councilman Ogle made a motion to approve the lease agreement for Tranquility Day Spa as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson. The vote was unanimous.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Mayor Black made the following announcements:

Bluegrass at the Rock: *Lonesome River Band* is October 9th, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.townofvaldese.com for ticket information.

Treats in the Streets is scheduled for Friday, October 29th, 2021, from 4:00-6:00 p.m.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Hildebran asked if we are taking the proper protocol for social distancing at the Old Rock School during concerts. Ms. Angi explained that we are not limiting the number of tickets because we are not under a mandate at this time. The Old Rock School is encouraging attendees to wear face masks.

Councilman Ogle shared that in talking to citizens they want to see the new public safety building drawings. Councilman Ogle stated that we were not building anything or have not approved anything yet. Councilman Ogle wants to stop those rumors. Councilman Ogle would like to see the posters of the layout in the Town Hall. Councilwoman Hildebran also stated that the Council is not hiding anything and are being as transparent as we can be. Councilwoman Hildebran said we are holding off on the plans because we are waiting for it to be designed. Ms. Hildebran feels that this Town is in a good place and does not appreciate all the false things being said. Councilwoman Stevenson agrees that we are transparent. Councilman Thompson thinks that if it would make the citizens feel better to see the plans, we should provide them. Councilman Sweezy expressed his concerns with all that is being said with the new public safety building and feels citizens should get the facts before sharing.

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:25 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 regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2021.

Town Clerk
jl

Mayor