

**TOWN OF VALDESE
TOWN COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 5, 2023**

The Town of Valdese Town Council met on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 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 Charles Watts, Mayor Pro Tem Frances Hildebran, Councilman Tim Skidmore, Councilman Tim Barus, and Councilman Paul Mears. Also present were: Town Manager Seth Eckard, Assistant Town Manager/CFO Bo Weichel, Town Clerk Jessica Lail, and various Department Heads.

Absent: Councilwoman Rexanna Lowman, Town Attorney Tim Swanson

A quorum was present.

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

OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT: Mayor Pro Tem Frances Hildebran read the Rules & Procedures for Public Comment: Rule 5. Public Comment - Any individual or group who wishes to address the council shall inform the town clerk, Ms. Lail, any time prior to the start of the meeting, and provide their name, address and subject matter about which they wish to speak. Persons must be present if they wish to address the Council. Comments should be limited to five minutes per speaker. If the speaker's comments needs to be addressed, upon the direction of the Council, someone from the management team will be in touch with you later. Please silence your cell phones.

ELECTION RUMORS – RICK MCCLURD, 408 GARROU AVE SE, VALDESE: Mr. McClurd expressed his concern with the election and all the lying that is going on with the people he supports about how they will close the Fire/Police Department and Community Center. Mr. McClurd stated that a gentleman was degrading an 83-year-old man, saying he was from Pennsylvania and had no reason to run in Valdese. Mr. McClurd asked how long the Council have lived in Valdese. Mr. McClurd does not think it matters if someone is running from Pennsylvania and feels it is the dirtiest race he has ever seen in Valdese with all the rumors. Mr. McClurd does not understand why people are spreading rumors and feels it is not good for Valdese.

ROAD PAVING – CARLTON CARUSO, 805 MICOL AVE, VALDESE: Mr. Caruso shared that he has lived on Micol Ave. for almost 34 years and appreciates that his road is on the list to be paved. Mr. Caruso said that the neighbors he has spoken to appreciate it as well. Mr. Caruso believes his road does need paving.

OPERATIONS & PAVING – GLENN HARVEY, 801 MICOL AVE, VALDESE: Mr. Harvey asked how he and a couple of the citizens could visit some of the Town facilities, like the Water Plant and Wastewater Plant for a tour. Mayor Watts said to contact the Town Manager. Mr. Harvey noted that the minutes from the last meeting recorded his sentiments, except that the staff had found \$470,000 for future debt payments, which was not included in the minutes. Mr. Harvey thought it was interesting because if staff found \$470,000 for future debt payments but they had to raise taxes \$400,000 for paving. Mr. Harvey asked if the Council got a copy of the street evaluation report from J.M. Teague from the April 2022 Council meeting and requested a copy of the report and contract. Mayor Watts said yes they got a copy and that he would be in touch. Mr. Harvey asked at the July meeting when the Council approved a proposal from McGill Associates if it was a contract that was put up for competitive bidding or if McGill Associates was chosen without submitting bids. (No answer) Mr. Harvey referred to the August 2020 minutes where the Council approved a paving bid for almost \$432,000 that was completed without tax dollars or a tax increase. Mr. Harvey asked why the paving project did not have an engineering firm hired to supervise the project but was instead supervised by staff. Mr. Harvey asked if the \$45,000 we are paying this year for the supervision of paving was because we lost staff management capabilities.

ELECTION – VICTORIA CARTER, 404 LOUISE AVE NE, VALDESE: Ms. Carter is deeply concerned about what is being said about the people that she knows well during this election cycle. Ms. Carter knows Heather Ward, Glenn Harvey, and Gary Ogle, and they support the Police/Fire Department, Pool, and Library. Ms. Carter shared that Glenn Harvey has ideas for kids who cannot afford to go to the pool to get vouchers/stipends with transportation to and from. Ms. Carter supports the Pool, Library, Police, and Fire Department. Ms. Carter has been to the building, and to her untrained eye it looks bad, and has not heard

any open or fair communication from Council about the building. Ms. Carter does not want the employees to work in a dangerous environment but have a nice place to work and wants us to do that by being transparent to the voters. Ms. Carter is concerned that people's reputations are being devalued. Ms. Carter referred to a post and is concerned that some of her posts are being deleted and wants to know if they do not know the truth about the candidates and what they want for Valdese or if the truth is irrelevant.

HOMES AVAILABLE – JEAN-MARIE COLE, 705 BERTIS ST SW, VALDESE: Ms. Cole noticed there were applications/information for the new Pine Crossing Apartments, which looks to be very affordable. Ms. Cole knows we are building apartments, but she has found many people are looking for homes. Ms. Cole believes that we should look at more town/condominium housing.

CAMPAIGN – HEATHER WARD, 400 BASS ST NW, VALDESE: Ms. Ward said she does not want to defund the Police, Firefighters, Pool, Library, or anything in Valdese. Ms. Ward wants to see our Police and Fire Departments get a raise and is tired of this Town being a stepping-stone. Ms. Ward has had the Police respond three times in the past two weeks. Ms. Ward has three drug houses in her neighborhood and does not feel safe in her neighborhood anymore. Ms. Ward shared that this is why she ran because something needs to be done. Her children are afraid to go outside at night. Ms. Ward shared that she loves this Town and is thankful for Jack Moss and that he hires people who watch out for our Town and thankful for the Police Officers who work for him.

CONSENT AGENDA: (enacted by one motion)

APPROVED REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2023

APPROVED LEASE AGREEMENT AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH DAVID HARMON STUDIOS, LLC: Annual Lease Agreement at the Old Rock School with David Harmon Studios, LLC, in the amount of \$368 per month.

APPROVED LEASE AGREEMENT AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH TRANQUILITY DAY SPA: Annual Lease Agreement at the Old Rock School with David Harmon Studios, LLC, in the amount of \$368 per month.

APPROVED ORDINANCE DECLARING ROAD CLOSURE FOR TOWN OF VALDESE SPECIAL EVENT:

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 3, 2023; 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 3, 2023 Time: 5:30pm to 7:00pm
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 2023.

/s/ Charles Watts, Mayor

APPROVED ADOPTION OF UPDATED FY 23-24 WATER/SEWER UTILITY FUND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN:

**Town of Valdese Water and Sewer Utility Fund
10-YEAR Capital Improvements Plan
UPDATED FISCAL YEAR 2024**

Water Distribution / Wastewater Collection													
Project Number	Project Description	10-Yr CIP Cost	Year	FY 1	FY 2	FY 3	FY 4	FY 5	FY 6	FY 7	FY 8	FY 9	FY 10
			2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033
Vehicles and Equipment													
1	2022 Chevy 2500 Crew Cab	-											
2	2016 Cat 965 Tractor	90,000		90,000									
3	2000 Ford F150 Super Duty	48,000				48,000							
4	2019 Ford F150 Super Duty	40,000						40,000					
5	Truck	18,750					18,750						
6	2021 Chevy 4x4	40,000								40,000			
7	2011 Ford 4x4 F250	42,000			42,000								
8	2006 Chevy Silverado 1500	30,000			30,000								
9	2017 Ford F250 4x4	40,000						40,000					
10	2018 Ford F150 4x4	30,000				30,000							
Subtotal Vehicles and Equipment		460,250		212,000		78,000	71,000	40,000			40,000		76,100
Infrastructure Improvements													
11	Adams St. Tank and Storage Station	-											
12	State Water Tank	20,750		20,750									
13	Large Water Replacement	72,750					72,750						
14	Water Distribution Study	7,500			7,500								
15	Water Distribution Study	-											
16	Water Distribution Study	3,000,000			3,000,000								
17	Water Distribution Study	-											
18	Water Distribution Study	907,200			907,200								
19	Water Distribution Study	1,764,100						1,764,100					
20	Water Distribution Study	-											
21	Water Distribution Study	1,188,200				1,188,200							
22	Water Distribution Study	750,000								750,000			
23	Water Distribution Study	1,200,000							1,200,000				
Subtotal Infrastructure Improvements		10,827,000		20,750	3,007,500	2,095,200	72,750	1,764,100		1,750,000	750,000		14,151,420
10-Yr CIP: Water Distribution / Wastewater Collection FY 23-24		11,287,250		212,750	3,015,500	2,173,200	143,750	1,804,100		1,790,000	790,000		14,227,520

Capital Project funded or partially funded using federal monies: AFPA, FEMA, etc.
Capital Project funded or partially funded using state monies:

**Town of Valdese Water and Sewer Utility Fund
10-YEAR Capital Improvements Plan
UPDATED FISCAL YEAR 2024**

Water Treatment Division														
Project Number	Project Description	10-Yr CIP Cost	Test Year	FY 1	FY 2	FY 3	FY 4	FY 5	FY 6	FY 7	FY 8	FY 9	FY 10	Years 11+
Vehicles and Equipment														
1	2018 Explorer	40,000				40,000								
2	2017 Ford F-150	44,000					44,000							
3	2004 Ford F-150	40,000		40,000										
4	2004 Chevrolet Silverado	17,900				17,900								
Subtotal Vehicles and Equipment		141,900		40,000		57,900	44,000							
Plant Upgrades and Improvements														
5	Roof Replacement - Finned Water PS	21,000		21,000										
6	Chemical Feed Pump	17,900			5,000	5,000	5,000							
7	Power Treatment Plant Upgrade	4,760,000			4,760,000									
8	New Water Pump, piping and valve replacement	5,610,000												
9	New Raw Water PS Access Road	236,000												
10	Review Artificial Shrub	37,000			15,000									
11	SCADA Upgrades (add #2 and #3 PUMP)	28,000				12,000								
12	Misc #2 and #3 Pumps to meet standards	-							14,000					
13	Tree Maintenance	80,000			5,000	30,000								240,000
14	WWTTP Equipment Repair & Replacement	125,000												
15	WWTTP Security System	15,000		15,000										
Subtotal Plant Upgrades and Improvements		10,841,000		36,000	4,780,000	37,000	5,000							
10-Yr CIP: Water Treatment FY24-33		11,052,900		76,000	4,785,000	100,900	49,000			139,000	21,000	5,610,700	236,000	240,000
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> Capital Project funded or partially funded using external resources: ATPA, State Allocation, etc. Capital Project funded or partially funded using local sources </div>														

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**Town of Valdese Water and Sewer Utility Fund
10-YEAR Capital Improvements Plan
UPDATED FISCAL YEAR 2024**

Wastewater Treatment Division														
Project Number	Project Description	10-Yr CIP Cost	Test Year	FY 1	FY 2	FY 3	FY 4	FY 5	FY 6	FY 7	FY 8	FY 9	FY 10	Years 11+
Vehicles and Equipment														
1	1940 Elantra Truck	35,000		35,000										
2	2014 Elantra Truck	50,000		50,000										
3	2014 Elantra Truck	42,000				42,000								
4	2017 Elantra Truck	45,000						45,000						
5	2017 Elantra Truck	45,000							45,000					
6	2017 Elantra Truck	15,000							15,000					10,000
Subtotal Vehicles and Equipment		232,000		135,000		42,000		45,000	15,000	85,000				10,000
Plant Upgrades and Improvements														
7	Roof Replacement for Influent Pump 1&2	7,400						7,400						10,000
8	Roof Replacement for Influent Pump 3&4	35,000										10,000		5,000
9	Roof Replacement for Sludge Receiver Pumps	11,000			11,000	15,000								
10	Centrifuge #2 Overhaul	70,000								70,000				
11	Centrifuge #1 Overhaul	141,000		70,000							71,000			
12	Admin Building Roof	70,000				70,000								
13	Sanitary Building Roof	80,000												
14	Sanitary Building Roof	96,000						96,000	80,000					
15	Sludge Collector #1	15,000								15,000				
16	Sludge Collector #2	15,000									15,000			
17	Sanitary Basin	5,104,000					5,104,000							
18	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	5,000		5,000										
19	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	1,480,000			1,480,000									
20	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	7,000			7,000									
21	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	7,000			7,000									
22	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	7,000			7,000									
23	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	-												100,000
24	Sludge Pump Chlorine Dosing	42,000							42,000					
25	SCADA	31,100				14,000					17,100			
26	Review Artificial Shrub	32,100			14,100			18,000						
27	Artificial Shrub Plant Matter	-												40,000
28	Sludge Collector Equipment	-												10,000,000
29	Alternative Chlorination	100,000				100,000								
30	Concrete Work at Chlorine Feed	30,000				30,000								
31	WWTTP Equipment Repair & Replacement	225,000						225,000						
32	WWTTP Security System	15,000		15,000					20,000	22,000		133,000		
Subtotal Plant Upgrades and Improvements		8,271,300		90,000	2,209,100	199,000	5,104,000	131,400	142,000	107,000	134,100	152,000		
10-Yr CIP: Wastewater Treatment FY24-33		8,523,300		175,000	2,216,100	142,000	5,109,000	175,400	167,000	127,000	134,100	152,000		11,020,000
Total System Capital Improvements Plan														
10-Yr CIP: Total Water and Wastewater FY24-33		31,001,100		608,700	10,864,000	5,052,700	6,384,500	1,884,500	167,000	2,061,000	816,100	6,762,700	236,000	26,638,220

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RESOLUTION BY THE VALDESE TOWN COUNCIL

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese has committed to developing and maintaining an up-to-date 10-year Water and Sewer Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) and associated financial analysis of user rates and charges, and

WHEREAS, McGill Associates prepared the Town's regular annual update for the CIP and presented the updated CIP to the Town Council of the Town of Valdese on the 23rd day of March 2023 during the Town's annual budget retreat, and

WHEREAS, The Town has further amended the CIP projects list and priorities through the months of April-August 2023.

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

That Town of Valdese, does hereby adopt and enact the aforementioned updated CIP effective the 5th day of September, 2023.

Adopted this the 5th day of September, 2023, at The Town of Valdese, North Carolina.

Charles Watts

Mayor

CERTIFICATION BY RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of the Town of Valdese does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopting the updated 10-year Water and Sewer CIP, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Valdese Town Council duly held on the 5th day of September, 2023; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Jessica Lail

Town Clerk

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

End Consent Agenda

ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA: None

NEW EMPLOYEE INTRODUCTION: Fire Chief Truman Walton introduced new Fire Captain Steve McVay. Mr. McVay shared that many emergency services workers do not take the job for the money but because they want to. Mr. McVay encouraged people to check out the Town's benefits package. Mr. McVay shared that Sherrill's Ford paid well, but the benefits were not as good. Mr. McVay looks forward to retiring here.

APPROVED REQUEST FOR RECUSAL – COUNCILMAN SKIDMORE: Mayor Watts shared that Councilman Skidmore would need to be recused due to the upcoming action on Item C due to being the President of the Club.

Councilwoman Hildebran made a motion to recuse Councilman Skidmore from the action item, seconded by Councilman Barus. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Skidmore left the Council Chambers.

APPROVED LEASE AGREEMENT AT OLD ROCK SCHOOL WITH P&W RAILROAD CLUB: Community Affairs Director Morrissa Angi shared the Annual Lease Agreement at the Old Rock School with P & W Railroad Club in the amount of \$230 per month.

Councilman Mears asked why the lease agreement did not go up in cost like the other agreements. Ms. Angi explained that typically, with non-profits that pay lease rates, there is an adjustment/review every five to ten years, and for for-profit businesses that have a space at the Rock School reviews every three to five years. Councilwoman Hildebran shared that we have some non-profit organizations that are not charged a rate. Ms. Angi said that was correct; that is how it has been since it was made back in the 80s.

Councilman Mears made a motion to approve the Lease Agreement at the Old Rock School with P&W Railroad Club, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran. The vote was unanimous.

Councilman Skidmore returned to the dais.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR CDBG WATER PROJECT: The Town Council for the Town of Valdese held a public hearing, for providing explanation and description of the FY 2023 North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Community Development Block – Infrastructure Grant (CDBG-I).

Mayor Watts opened the Public Hearing at 6:26 p.m.

Sherry Long, Assistant Executive Director of Western Piedmont Council of Governments was present to discuss the purpose of the public hearing for the Town of Valdese's CDBG-I funding application. Ms. Long stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to obtain citizen's views and to respond to funding proposals and answer any questions posed by citizens. Ms. Long also stated that the public hearing must cover the Town's community development needs, development of the proposed activities, and a review of program compliance before the submission of the Town's CDBG-I funding application to the state of the North Carolina.

The Town proposes requesting funding from NCDEQ'S CDBG-I program for the Berrytown Waterline Project. The proposed project will meet the following community and housing needs of the Town by replacing aging and undersized water lines, replacing water service lines, and installing fire hydrants and other appurtenances along Berry School Avenue, Berrytown Avenue, Berrytown Street, Bost Johnson Avenue, Bost Johnson Avenue Extension, and CV Johnson Drive.

The purpose of the CDBG-I grant program is to improve the quality of life for low to moderate income people by providing a safe, clean environment and clean drinking water through water and sewer infrastructure improvements and extensions of service.

- To benefit a residential area where at least 51% of the beneficiaries are low to moderate income as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- To perform eligible activities.
- To minimize displacement, and
- Provide displacement assistance as necessary.

For the fiscal year of 2023 the CDBG-I funding available is expected to be \$18 Million, and each the maximum available grant \$3.0 million over a 3-year period. Applications for funding are received by October 2, 2023.

The CDBG program is able to fund a wide variety of community development activities. The State of North Carolina has chosen to fund several activities: water and sewer infrastructure, neighborhood revitalization, COVID-19 related projects, and economic development projects that lead to job creation or retention. The infrastructure program, or CDBG-I program can fund a range of water and sewer infrastructure and economic development activities, including, but not limited to the, following:

Water:

- Projects that resolve water loss in distribution systems.
- Projects that extend public water to areas with contaminated wells.
- Projects that extend water lines to areas with dry wells.
- Projects that assist with low water pressure in public water systems.
- Projects that regionalize two or more water systems.
- Project that rehabilitate or replace a water treatment plant.

Wastewater:

- Projects that resolve inflow and infiltration to collection systems and surcharges from pumps stations and manholes.
- Projects that extend public sewer to areas with failed septic tanks.
- Projects that rehabilitate a wastewater treatment plant to allow for greater efficiency/compliance with regulations.

The Town is seeking an amount in CDBG-I funds not to exceed \$3 Million for the Berrytown Waterline Project. The purpose of the Town's request is to replace approximately 8,215 LF of aging and undersized water lines, replace water service lines, and install fire hydrants and other appurtenances along Berry School Avenue, Berrytown Avenue, Berrytown Street, Bost Johnson Avenue, Bost Johnson Avenue Extension, and CV Johnson Drive. The project will assist with low water pressure in the service area.

The project proposed by the Town of Valdese was identified in the Town's 10-year Capital Improvement Plan, updated and adopted in September 2023. Informal community meetings were held in the project area to inform citizens of the potential project, and get feedback from the residents.

A total of 100% of the CDBG- I funding will be used to benefit Low to Moderate Income (LMI) people. The project area in the Town of Valdese has been determined to have an income survey area LMI rate of 70.262%. The project area includes all homes located along Berry School Avenue, Berrytown Avenue, Berrytown Street, Bost Johnson Avenue, Bost Johnson Avenue Extension, and CV Johnson Drive.

The range of activities covered by the CDBG-I funds for the Berrytown Waterline Project includes:

- Construction.
- Environmental Review
- Engineering Design

- Construction Administration and observation.
- Legal activities.
- Surveying.
- Grant Administration.

If Town of Valdese is awarded a CDBG-I grant, the town is required to adhere to federal procurement requirements and other federal regulations which include:

- American with Disabilities Act/Section 504 Survey
- Davis-Bacon & Related Labor Acts
- Adoption/Submittal of a Citizen's Participation Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of an Equal Opportunity Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Fair Housing Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Language Access Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Relocation Assistance Plan
- Adoption/Submittal of a Section 3 Plan
- Excess Force Provision

The State of North Carolina requires that if the Town of Valdese receives CDBG grant funding that the town will certify that they will comply with the requirements of the general displacement and relocation policy for CDBG grant funding. This policy assists low to moderate income people with costs associated with relocation or displacement, should such relocation become necessary due to the project activities. CDBG funds can be used for those costs, if necessary. If no displacement and relocation will occur as a result of the proposed CDBG grant activity, then the Town of Valdese confirms that during this public hearing.

In the past, the Town has applied for and received for the following completed CDBG project:

Meridian Yarns CDBG-ED Water Project – installed a generator, valve, and associated appurtenances at Valdese Water Treatment Plant

Valdese CDBG-NR Scattered Sites Housing Project – rehabilitated 12 homes for low-moderate-income residents

The Town will submit its CDBG-I application for the Berrytown Waterline Project on October 2, 2023. The CDBG-I application will be available for review during normal business hours in the Planning Department at Town Hall at 102 Massel Avenue SW in Valdese. Additional information is available from ljohnson@valdesenc.gov or 828-879-2124.

Should you have any complaints or grievances regarding the subject public hearing, they should be addressed to the addressee mentioned above within fifteen (15) business days or by September 26, 2023, and a written response to the written complaints and/or grievances will be sent by the Town within fifteen (15) business days, where practicable. We open the floor for comments about the CDBG proposed project.

Mayor Watts asked if Council had any questions.

Councilwoman Hildebran asked how we discovered the need for this project since it was outside of the Town's city limits. Ms. Long shared that Berrytown had been a paying water customer since the merger with Triple Community. Ms. Long shared that the 2-inch waterline results in low pressure, and the homes on the end of the line have very little pressure, and there is no fire protection. Ms. Long explained that they did a survey, knocked on every door, and got a 70.62% response rate. Councilman Mears asked how many households this would serve. Planning Director Larry Johnson said that it is around 70-72 homes. Ms. Long shared that this grant would also allow the replacement of the waterlines between the meter and the house. Councilwoman Hildebran asked if the Town would be obligated to assist with this program. Ms. Long said

the Town would require no match. Town Manager Seth Eckard shared that in the past, we have looked at different areas within the Town limits for CDBG projects, but after doing the surveys, the residents are usually over-income, so we do not score enough points to receive funding. Ms. Long stated that the Town has standard waterlines, not 2-inch.

Mayor Watts asked if anyone wished to speak. Hearing none, Mayor Watts closed the Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m.

Ms. Long said the Town should know by the first of the year if the grant will be received, and funding would be a year from now.

APPROVED AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION FOR CDBG FUNDING FOR BERRYTOWN WATER PROJECT: Sherry Long, Assistant Executive Director of Western Piedmont Council of Governments presented the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF APPLICANT

WHEREAS, Title I of the Federal Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, has established the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, and has authorized the making of grants to aid eligible units of government in funding the cost of construction, replacement, or rehabilitation of water and wastewater infrastructure, and that the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ) Division of Water Infrastructure (DWI) was delegated the authority by the state legislature to administer the water and wastewater infrastructure portion of the state grant monies received from the U.S. HUD Small Cities (States) CDBG program by Session Law 2013-360, Section 15.15(a) as amended by Section 5.3 of Session Law 2013-363, and

WHEREAS, The Town of Valdese has need for and intends to implement a construction project described as the replacement of aging and undersized water lines, replacement of water service lines, and installation of fire hydrants and other appurtenances along Berry School Avenue, Berrytown Avenue, Berrytown Street, Bost Johnson Avenue, Bost Johnson Avenue Extension, and CV Johnson Drive; 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 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.

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

That Larry Johnson, Planning Director, and Allen Hudson, Public Works Director, the **Authorized Officials**, and successors so titled, are 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 construction of the project described above.

That the **Authorized Officials**, and successors so titled, are 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 5th of September, 2023, at Valdese Town Hall, North Carolina.

(Signature of Chief Executive Officer)

(Title)

CERTIFICATION BY RECORDING OFFICER

The undersigned duly qualified and acting Town Clerk of the Town of Valdese does hereby certify: That the above/attached resolution is a true and correct copy of the resolution authorizing the filing of an application with the State of North Carolina, as regularly adopted at a legally convened meeting of the Town Council duly held on the 5th day of September, 2023; and, further, that such resolution has been fully recorded in the journal of proceedings and records in my office. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 5th day of September 2023.

(Signature of Recording Officer)

(Title of Recording Officer)

Councilman Mears made a motion authorizing Resolution to submit an application for CDBG funding for Berrytown Water project, seconded by Councilman Barus. The vote was unanimous.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Town Manager Seth Eckard made the following announcements:

Mr. Eckard addressed Mr. Harvey and said that he and Bo would be in touch with him on the engineering services contract and explain why they are in compliance with the law. Mr. Eckard shared that West Consultants was the engineer who oversaw the project in the previous paving contract.

The Street Resurfacing Project will begin on September 18, 2023, and should be done by the beginning of October. We have a new Street Paving section on the Town's website with various information, including Powell Bill funding.

Mr. Eckard announced that if the State budget passes as presented in the next week or two, we would have funding for the new Valdese/Lenoir Waterline Interconnections Project. We will have a presentation on this at the October meeting. Mr. Eckard shared that this will increase the sales of our daily water and build resiliency to the system.

Old Colony Players Presents: Psych, September 7 - 9, 2023, 6:30 p.m. dinner theatre and September 10, 2023, 2:30 p.m. no dinner, at the Old Rock School.

NC State Bocce Tournament, Saturday, September 9, 2023, 8:00 a.m. at the LPDA

Valdese Plein Air Fest will run from September 9-16, 2023, with different events throughout the week. The Reception will be held on Saturday, September 16, 2023, 4:00–6:00 p.m. at the Old Rock School. For more information, visit rockschoolartgalleries.com/plein-air-fest.

Kayak Launch & Fishing Pier Ribbon Cutting, Thursday, September 28, 2023, 1:00 p.m. at Valdese Lakeside Park

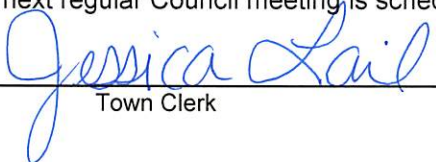
The Town Council will hold a Special Council meeting to approve the September minutes for the CDBG on Monday, September 18, 2023, at noon in the Town Council Chambers.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS: Councilwoman Hildebran shared that she was reading about the Plein Air Fest and all the activities included and thinks it is so exciting. The Community Affairs Director Morrissa Angi shared that it is a partnership with Friends of the Valdese Rec, Valdese Arts Foundation, herself, and Parks & Rec Director David Andersen. Ms. Angi shared that it has expanded to a weeklong festival with around 30 artists participating this year.

Mayor Watts thanked the Town departments for their hard work on the Waldensian Festival. Mayor Watts appreciates the partnership formed by the Town Council and their willingness to dedicate their time and effort to special projects. Mayor Watts is honored to serve with individuals who value integrity and hard work with their only agenda to do what is best for the citizens and the Town of Valdese.

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:47 p.m., there being no further business to come before Council, Councilman Barus made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilwoman Hildebran.

The next regular Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.



Town Clerk

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Mayor