

**TOWN OF VALDESE  
QUORUM PRESENT – Citizens Input Meeting Regarding Possible 6 cents Tax Increase  
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016**

On Tuesday, April 19, 2016, 6:00 p.m., the second session of the Citizens Input Meeting Regarding Possible 6 cents Tax Increase was held at Valdese Town Hall Community Room, 102 Massel Avenue, SW, Valdese, North Carolina.

Present: Mayor John F. “Chip” Black, Jr., Councilwoman Frances Hildebran, Councilwoman Susan Stevenson, Councilman Roy F. Sweezy, and Councilman Gary L. Delp. Also present were Town Manager Seth Eckard, Deputy Town Clerk Thelda B. Rhoney, Finance Director Jerry LaMaster, Fire Chief Charlie Watts, and Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth.

Absent: Councilman Ogle

A quorum of the Valdese Town Council was present and no action was taken.

At 6:00 p.m., Town Manager Seth Eckard welcomed everyone and asked each person to introduce themselves. In addition to the aforementioned the following were present: “Morganton News Herald” Reporter Jonelle Bobak and Jason Smith.

Public Works Director Bryan Duckworth and Fire Chief Charlie Watts offered PowerPoint presentations regarding their departmental budget requests.

Town Manager Seth Eckard offered an overview of the FY 2016-2017 budget requests and why he was recommending a 6 cents tax increase which would be included in the budget.

Mr. Jason Smith spoke about the Valdese ABC Store. He said he was opposed to the store when it opened and was still opposed to the store being in Valdese. He said nothing good ever came from alcohol, and he had lost family and friends due to alcohol. He reviewed Town of Valdese minutes regarding the ABC Store since 2010.

At 7:00 p.m., there were no additional comments or questions.

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Town Clerk

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Mayor

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