

The regular meeting of the Village of Cedar Rock was held at Cedar Rock Country Club at 11:30 a.m. on August 15, 2023.

Call to Order: Mayor Bob Floyd called the meeting to order.

Attendance: Present were Mayor Bob Floyd, Ernie McAteer, Bill Griffin, Howard Edwards, Mike McClinton and Pamela Mayberry. Also attending Daniel Odom with WPCOG and Kim Case, Regional Impact Manager with My Future NC.

Call to Order: Mayor Bob Floyd called the meeting to order.

Adopt Agenda: Mike Shows made a motion to adopt the agenda; Ernie McAteer seconded; agenda approved.

Approval of Minutes: Mike Shows made a motion to adopt the July regular meeting minutes and the August special meeting minutes; Ernie McAteer seconded; minutes approved.

Council Member Appointment of Mike McClinton: Mayor Bob Floyd welcomed Mike McClinton to the meeting for the purpose of filling Howard Edwards seat on the Council. Mike Shows made a motion to appoint Mike McClinton to replace Howard Edwards on the Village Board; Bill Griffin seconded; motion approved. Mr. Floyd had Mike McClinton read the Oath of Office and Mr. McClinton signed the Oath of Office.

New Business: myFuture NC Presentation & Resolution: Bob Floyd introduced Kim Case to Council. Ms. Case gave a brief review of her background. Ms. Case is requesting that the Village become a member of the myFuture NC Advisory Board of Commissioners. myFuture NC was formed out of House Bill 664, with a goal to reach 2 million North Carolina's ages 25 – 44 to hold an industry-valued credential or postsecondary degree by 2030 (see attached information). Mayor Floyd thanked Ms. Case for her presentation, Bill Griffin made a motion that the Village adopt the myFuture Attainment Goal; Mike Shows seconded; motion approved. Mayor Bob Floyd signed the Resolution.

Conservation Property – Forest Management: Mayor Floyd introduced Greg Allen, Jeff Boothby and Preston Arbogast with Woodsmen Forestry, PLLC. Jeff Boothby presented a power point regarding Woodsmen Forestry. Woodsmen Forestry started offering full spectrum (TWM) Timber Wealth Management Services in 2010 in the Carolinas, east Tennessee and southern Virginia, serving mountain landowners for growing and cutting trees, to maximize profits, and to maintain a healthy, sustainable forestry. Mr. Boothby asked if the Village had a plan in place for the conservation easement property to which Mayor Floyd replied the Village did not. Woodsmen Forestry will be looking at the conservation easement property and make recommendations to Council. Bill Griffin asked about controlled burning and Mr. Boothby replied that there are other techniques that are safer than controlled burning, but controlled burning is an option. Mr. Boothby stated that they could create an area for wood debris disposal that the Village has a need for. Mr. Boothby stated the biggest issue with forest fires is having access to a fire by fire fighters. They will begin by doing a timber evaluation and from that information make a plan for the Village for the management of our forest land. After their assessment there will be a second meeting to discuss what they recommend to Council, and Council would have to approve their recommendations for them to move forward. Ernie McAteer asked if they harvest the wood and Mr. Boothby stated that they bid the work out, but they oversee their work from start to finish. The assessment for the Village will be \$4,500.00. Mr. Allen stated that the assessment field work is very labor intensive. Mr. McAteer asked if the assessment would show the estimated profit for the Village, to which Mr. Allen replied that it would. Mike Shows mentioned that aesthetics were important for the Village because our mountain is beautiful and we want to keep it beautiful. Bill Griffin mentioned the importance of maintaining a healthy forest. Mr. Shows asked how many fire lines are normal, to which Mr. Boothby replied that traditionally budgets dictate what they can do and that may be how they determine the

number of fire lines. Bob Floyd will email the Woodsmen Forestry presentation to Council members and copy the email addresses for the member of the Woodsmen Forestry.

Committee Reports: Administrative: Pam Mayberry began by saying she would need to resign as Clerk, due to work demands, Ms. Mayberry will continue as Clerk until the Village has a replacement. Ms. Mayberry reported that the Firewise Committee met on August 7th, and discussed adding the emergency notification system information to the directory, and reviewed the Firewise Action Plan. Ms. Mayberry mentioned that Kenneth Turner felt like a map of the roads of the Village would be nice to have in the directory and Ms. Mayberry asked if Council was agreeable to adding the Powell Bill Map to the directory and no one opposed. Ms. Mayberry informed Council that the Firewise Committee asked what if both entrances were blocked in the case of the emergency is there a third option to which Ms. Mayberry asked if Stoney Brook Road past the gate was an option. Mike McClinton said he checked the road and it would not be an option for the majority of vehicles, and the Village would need to know the ownership of the property at the end of the road. Bob Floyd stated it was intentional that the end of the road is not accessible and that the property was taken off the Powell Bill map for that reason. Bob Floyd informed Council that he attended Kings Creek Fire Department annual meeting recently and they are requesting a .0515 tax increase. Mayor Floyd said one of the reasons for the request is so that the fire department can be staffed 24/7, which they currently aren't. That tax increase will have to be approved by the County Commissioners. Mayor Floyd will ask the Fire Chief to attend a future Village meeting. **Finance:** Bill Griffin distributed financials to Council at the meeting. Mr. Griffin informed Council that the Village started a new fiscal year July 1st, with \$584,623.00 in the bank as of July 31, 2023, and all categories are in budget. **Transportation:** Ernie McAteer stated he received another bid from Max Presswood for replacement of the culvert on Mountain Circle Drive of \$144,500.00 which is considerably more than Mountain Crest's bid. Bob Floyd stated that he saw Mike Willis at the fire department meeting, and he mentioned that relocating the power line would increase his bid by approximately \$6,000.00. Mr. McAteer informed Council that the road has further eroded to which Ms. Mayberry asked if Council should consider closing the road. Mayor Bob Floyd suggested Ernie McAteer contact someone with DOT to look at the road and advise Council if the road should be closed. Mr. McAteer asked Pam Mayberry if she had received a bid from Marty Greene, to which Ms. Mayberry replied that she spoke with Mr. Greene today and he was working on the bid and would have to her this week. Ms. Mayberry mentioned that when she met with Mr. Greene she had him look at other projects that had not been completed for a bid as well. Mr. McAteer reminded Council that Council has a contract with Diversified Landscaping that we need to review prior to making some of these decisions for future projects. Mike Shows and Bill Griffin voiced their concerns that larger projects should be quoted by other contractors. Pam Mayberry asked Daniel Odom what the threshold was for the requirement for multiple bids to which Mr. Odom stated that it is set by statute based on the municipalities budget. Mr. Odom will report back to Council what that amount is based on the Village's budget and statute. Mr. Boothby mentioned that Woodsmen Forestry could evaluate Stoney Brook as an access during their assessment. Mr. McAteer stated that he received another bid for cutting the trees and canopies with a bid of \$15,000.00 from a subcontractor of Tyler Sime. Bob Floyd asked if the Woodsmen Forestry could review the Village right of ways during their assessment process and make suggestions. **Code Enforcement Report:** No report. **Planning Board:** Bob Floyd inquired as to Mike McClinton's replacement on the planning board to which Mike replied that Dianna McClinton agreed to take his seat on the Planning Board. **Staff Report – Daniel Odom:** Prior to the meeting Daniel Odom forwarded an email regarding his working with Vic Misenheimer with Caldwell County, who has been instrumental in providing expert insight and updates to our Regional Supervisor Russell Green, to determine if the Village qualifies for FEMA relief. Mr. Odom stated in the email that someone with NCEM will plan a trip to assess the damaged culvert. Mr. Odom will put together a best decisions practice for funds procurement for the Village for future decisions.

Old Business: Workers Compensation – NCLM Response: Bob Floyd mentioned to Council that he received an email from NCLM stating they were unable to offer a worker's compensation policy that covers independent contractors. Mayor Floyd asked Ms. Mayberry about the quote she had provided

previously, to which Ms. Mayberry stated that the quote was provided by NC Rate Bureau, and that the Rate Bureau would be the only insurance company that would quote a worker's compensation policy where in the insured employee's are 1099 only employees. Someone from Council asked Ms. Mayberry if the Rate Bureau was in the standard insurance market to which Ms. Mayberry relied yes. She stated that the NC Rate Bureau quotes the policy then assigns the quotes to someone like Travelers, Liberty Mutual or The Hartford for example to service the policy. Ms. Mayberry stated that she could not quote the policy since she is a member of Council but that Sterling Anders could possibly quote with the NC Rate Bureau. Mayor Bob Floyd will reach out to Mr. Anders for a quote.

Meeting adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Pamela Mayberry, Village Clerk

Village of Cedar Rock Council Meeting

AGENDA

Tuesday, August 15, 2023

11:30 AM

Order of Business

- Adopt Agenda
- Approval of the minutes
- Council Member Appointment of Mike McClinton
- New Business
 - myFutureNC Presentation & Resolution – Dr. Kim Case, Regional Impact Manager
 - Conservation property – forest mgmt – Greg Allen
 - Preston Arbogast
 - Woodsmen Forestry, PLLC
- Committee Reports
 - Administrative – Pam Mayberry
 - Finance – Bill Griffin
 - Transportation - Ernie McAteer
 - Code Enforcement Report – Mike Shows
 - Planning Board - Pam Mayberry
 - Staff Report – Daniel Odom
- Old Business
 - Workers Compensation – NCLM response
- Public Comment
- Adjourn