

January 14, 2019– Joint Work Session

The Swain County Board of Commissioners held a joint work session with the Town of Bryson City Board of Aldermen on January 14, 2019. Present were Chairman Bushyhead, Vice-Chair Burns, Commissioner Parton, Commissioner Parsons, Commissioner Seagle and County Manager Kevin King. From The Town: Jim Gribble, Heidi Woodard, Janine Crisp, Ben King, Mayor Tom Sutton and Town Manager Regina Mathis.

Chairman Bushyhead led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Items of Discussion:

- Water & Sewer: sewer expansion, updates on issues with items being flushed into the sewer system from the Swain County Jail requiring a grinder/filters, storm water runoff impact, SC Recycling Center improvements to prevent water runoff into the sewer system
- Fire Department Contract: Both Boards agreed to renew the Fire Protection Service contract for three years. Jarrett Shuler was hired on the Bryson City Fire Department part time with the possibility of a full time position. The Town relayed their consideration of hiring their own fire marshal. They need a couple fire trucks to be updated. The backup engine is 33 years old and the other one is 26 years old, but the equipment has been updated. The other two in place are between 14-16 years old.
- Animal Control: The Town’s Animal Control Ordinance is currently awaiting updates from the attorney, but their ability to enforce animal control is limited. Both Boards agreed there was a need for animal control and will work together to attempt a feasible ordinance in the future.
- Department of Transportation Plans: For 2020 new traffic flow is proposed for Slope Street and Bryson Walk, a new light system at Bryson Walk and Everett Street, and at the old church near The Warehouse will be removed and the road made straighter and the stop sign moved on the Ramseur Street side. Other areas for needed improvements include sidewalks toward Ingles, Deep Gap Road shoulders, Jess Nations Road and Unahala Road.
- Police Department Improvements: The current boiler has been converted to natural gas and the chiller needs to be soon at an estimated cost of \$80,000.
- Strategic Planning: The Town relayed their focus for the past couple years has been infrastructure but are working on a 2-5 year plan based on the needs of each department.
- Solid Waste Ordinance: Both Boards agreed the business waste fees need to be addressed due to some producing more waste than other such as restaurants vs. small offices.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss at this time, Jim Gribble made a motion to adjourn. Vice-Roger Parsons seconded the motion. A vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindi C. Woodard,
Clerk to the Board
Swain County Commissioners

Ben Bushyhead,
Chairman
Swain County Commissioners