

**Town of Montreat
Board of Commissioners
Public Forum
June 2, 2016
Walkup Building**

Board members present: Mayor Tim Helms
Mayor Pro Tem Kitty Fouche
Commissioner Bill Gilliland
Commissioner Kent Otto
Commissioner Mary Standaert

Board members absent: Commissioner Ann Vinson

Town staff present: Ron Nalley, Town Administrator
Jack Staggs, Chief of Police
Steve Freeman, Public Works Director
Barry Creasman, Senior Water Operator
Angie Murphy, Town Clerk

Call to Order

Approximately 19 people were in attendance. Mayor Helms called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and led the group in a moment of silence.

Agenda Approval

Commissioner Standaert moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Otto seconded and the agenda was approved 4/0.

Public Forum

Ted Carey of 116 John Knox Road, inquired about when the Montreat Bridge Committee's report would be available for review by the public. The Town Clerk advised Mr. Carey that the report was posted on the Town's website.

Joe Standaert of 118 Shenandoah Terrace, asked Mr. Nalley a series of questions about the proposed Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget. Mr. Nalley advised Mr. Standaert that the fund balance appropriation of \$122,800 in the General Fund is needed to balance the budget. Mr. Standaert inquired about a reimbursement from the Water Fund to the General Fund in the amount of \$86,800. Mr. Nalley explained that this portion of the budget will be used to reimburse the General Fund for Water Fund expenses. Mr. Standaert then inquired about which Fiscal Year the lawsuit settlement fees would be paid from and Mayor Helms advised that it would be the current Fiscal Year 2015-2016. Mr. Nalley also advised Mr. Standaert that planning money had been budgeted for the Town Hall and Texas Road Bridge Projects. Mr. Standaert also asked about

budgeting monies used to make a final payment to reimburse the architects in the Town Hall Project and Mayor Helms advised that this could not be considered until after the lawsuit is settled.

Don Reid of 127 Shenandoah Terrace, inquired about the muddy, rusty-looking water that he has had issues with for years and asked who would be responsible for resolving the problem. Public Works Director Steve Freeman advised that iron is a naturally occurring mineral in water and that iron pockets can set up in the system and cause mild discoloration if the water lines are not flushed regularly. Mr. Freeman recommended all summer residents to allow their water to run for a few minutes from an outside spigot, and before washing clothes especially if the home has been closed up and vacant all winter. There are also iron filters that can be purchased and installed by homeowners to eliminate the iron. Mr. Freeman also explained that polyphosphate is added to the wells in efforts to diffuse the iron. Mr. Nalley advised that Public Works crews flush 60,000-80,000 gallons a week in areas where the Town receives complaints. Mayor Helms requested that Mr. Freeman set up a time to visit Mr. Reid to check on his water and to discuss the matter further.

Zaida Gilmour of 127 Assembly Drive, mentioned that last summer she had similar issues with her water, but Mr. Freeman helped her work through flushing her lines and this summer her water was perfect.

Wade Burns of 232 North Carolina Terrace, thanked the Board for the Public Forum and the one-on-one communication that can take place.

Adjournment

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Standaert moved to adjourn the Public Forum Meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Fouche seconded and the motion carried 4/0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Tim Helms, Mayor

Angie Murphy, Town Clerk