Board members present: Mayor Tim Helms

Mayor Pro Tem Kent Otto

Commissioner Tom Widmer

Commissioner Alice Lentz

Board members absent: Commissioner Bill Gilliland

Commissioner Kitty Fouche

Town staff present: Alex Carmichael, Town Administrator

Tee Anderson

Approximately 15 members of the public were present. The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Helms followed by a moment of silence.

**Public Comment**

A resident of Montreat posed a question about the worst expectations from Hurricane Florence and how the town should prepare? Mr. Carmichael answered with updates from various weather sources and a timeline for tracking the storm. In addition, the Public Works department has started to prepare for flooding by clearing the culverts and removing/trimming at-risk trees. Mayor Pro Tem Otto commented with information from federal offices in Raleigh regarding amounts of rain to be accrued; and Mr. Carmichael also noted that State of Emergency updates will be posted on the Town’s website.

Mayor Helms posed a question to Joe Kirkland, a representative from Montreat College about the school schedule and cancelling of classes. As it stands, no classes have been cancelled due to the hurricane.

Mayor Helms reminded residents about the trash pick-up schedule that changed in September from twice a week to once a week on Mondays.

Mayor Pro Tem Otto mentioned the concept of “Even-year Voting” and explained the new process that Montreat should explore regarding the cost of election polls and voting. Mayor Helms has been in contact with the mayor of Black Mountain to adopt a local resolution through the General Assembly.

Joe Kirkland provided a brief overview on the status of Montreat College and the increase in students enrolled over the last four years. As a result of the growth, both office space and parking has become an issue. Mr. Kirkland pointed out that students have to pay for parking that is included in their overall fee, so they have designated spaces. As far as guests are concerned, the MRA has been generous in providing parking for visitors.

At approximately 6:55 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Otto motioned to adjourn and reconvene in five minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Widmer and the motion was carried 3/0.

**Adjournment**

 Commissioner Lentz motioned to adjourn, the motion was seconded by Commissioner Widmer and carried 3/0.

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Tim Helms, Mayor Alex Carmichael, Deputy Town Clerk