Board members present: Mayor Tim Helms

Mayor Pro Tem Otto

Commissioner Kitty Fouche

Commissioner Bill Gilliland

Commissioner Alice Lentz

Commissioner Tom Widmer

Board members absent: None

Town staff present: Alex Carmichael, Town Administrator

Angie Murphy, Town Clerk

Adrienne Isenhower, Zoning Administrator

Ten members of the public were present. Mayor Helms called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., and led the group in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Agenda Approval**

Commissioner Widmer moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Commissioner Gilliland seconded and the motion carried 5/0.

**Public Forum**

Mr. Harriss Ricks of 165 Oak Lane shared his concerns with Duke Power’s use of chemical sprays to kill vegetation under power lines. Mr. Ricks has seen it in his own yard as well as other locations around Montreat. He had his own house put on a “no spray” list. Mr. Ricks expressed his concerns on not only the effects upon the beauty of Montreat, but also chemicals leaching into our clean streams and creeks.

Mrs. Mary Standaert of 118 Shenandoah Terraceasked follow-up questions regarding procedure on the election cycle. Her questions related to our local delegation of Senators’ and House Members’ actions during the process of the bill through the legislature.

Mr. Tom Frist of 98 Frist Road asked for an update on the Texas Road Bridge. Alex Carmichael shared that at tonight’s meeting, the Council will be considering an agreement with an engineering firm to study the viability of the bridge being transformed from a vehicular bridge to a walking bridge. The study will also provide recommendations on what needs to be done to minimally do the conversion. As a second phase, the firm may be retained to consider aesthetic enhancements to the bridge. But, we’re focusing on the first phase to determine what needs to be done to simply convert it to a walking bridge.

Mr. Brad Hestir of 192 Mississippi Road reiterated Harriss Rick’s concerns about **Duke Power’s spraying practices**. Montreat is receiving notoriety for having an environmentally clean stream, and Duke Power’s chemicals could easily affect Flat Creek’s cleanliness.

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Gilliland moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Widmer seconded and the motion carried 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

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Tim Helms, Mayor Angie Murphy, Town Clerk