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

Barry Creasman, Public Works Director

David Arrant, Chief of Police

Eleven members of the public were present. Mayor Helms called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., and led the group in the pledge of allegiance and a moment of silence.

**Agenda Approval**

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

**Mayor’s Communications**

Mayor Helms commented that it has been a difficult and emotional weekafter the El Paso and Dayton shootings and asked forprayers for all those involved as they deal with their grief.

**Meeting Minutes Adoption**

* July 11, 2019, Public Forum Minutes
* July 11, 2019, Town Council Minutes

**Town Administrator’s Communications**

Mr. Carmichael noted that in the packet was a written report from Mattern and Craig for a conversion from a vehicular bridge to a pedestrian bridge on Texas Road. Mattern and Craig outlined the same problems as KCI previously indicated. Mattern and Craig has completed the first step of phase one and they are currently working on step two which is conducting a no rise study. The construction of the Town Hall is still on schedule. The Public Works Building is in the construction drawings stage.

**Administrative Reports**

* Administration – This report was given in written format.
* Planning & Zoning – This report was given in written format.
* Police – This report was given in written format.
* Public Works and Water – This report was given in written format.
* Mayor Pro Tem Otto mentioned the recent collapse of “upper Texas” and asked Mr. Creasman if he had been by there recently. Mr. Creasman advised that he would drive by the site upon leaving the meeting.
* Sanitation – This report was given in written format.
* Streets – This report was given in written format.

**Public Comment**

There was no public comment at this time.

**Old Business**

There was no old business to discuss.

**New Business**

1. Amendment to Montreat Police Department Firearms Policy: Chief Arrant stated that the policy is relatively unchanged with the most significant change being increasing the minimum acceptable score to 80% for handguns and 90% for rifles. Mayor Pro Tem Otto moved to approve amendment of the Montreat Police Department Firearms Policy as presented. Commissioner Kitty Fouche seconded and the motion carried 5/0.
2. Police Vehicle Radios: Chief Arrant stated that this is the 3rd phase of updating police communication efforts by installing the remainder of the police vehicles with radios. Chief Arrant stated that the quote came in under budget. Commissioner Widmer moved to approve Contract #19-08-001 with Motorola Solutions in the amount of $7,077.00 for two Remote Mount Mobile with required software and accessories as presented. Commissioner Fouche seconded and the motion carried 5/0.
3. Resolution #19-08-001 To Close Portion of Unopened Right-of-Way on Virginia Road: Mrs. Isenhower stated that the resolution in question was to formalize actions taken at the June Town Council Meeting. The Buncombe County Register of Deeds requested the resolution in order to properly record the closure of the unopened right-of-way. Commissioner Gilliland moved to adopt Resolution#19-08-001 to close remaining unopened, platted unnamed right-of-way adjoining western margin of Virginia Road, Plat Book 16, Page 92. Commissioner Lentz seconded and the motion carried 5/0.
4. Resolution #19-08-002 To Close Portion of Unopened Right-of-Way on Texas Road Ext: Mrs. Isenhower stated that the resolution in question was to formalize actions taken at the June Town Council Meeting. The Buncombe County Register of Deeds requested the resolution in order to properly record the closure of the unopened right-of-way. Commissioner Gilliland moved to adopt Resolution #19-08-002 to close remaining unopened, platted portion of Texas Road (Extended), Plat Book 29, Page 116. Commissioner Lentz seconded and the motion carried 5/0.

**Public Comment**

There was no Public Comment at this time.

**Commissioner Communications**

Commissioner Gilliland read a letter he had sent to Mayor Helms indicating that he and his wife, Lynn, would be moving into the dorm at Asheville School as part of Lynn’s responsibilities at the school. As a result, Commissioner Gilliland tendered his resignation from the Town Council effective at the conclusion of tonight’s meeting. Commissioner Gilliland received a standing ovation from all present.

Commissioner Lentz expressed her gratitude to Commissioner Gilliland and also reported that Montreat Landcare Committee will be offering a “Bear Wise” session later in the fall.

Commissioner Widmer commented that Town Hall construction is proceeding on schedule. Commissioner Widmer also reminded everyone that the walking path in front of the construction has been re-opened to provide greater safety for foot traffic. He reminded everyone to be careful of uneven footing and to pay attention when crossing the construction driveway. Commissioner Widmer also mentioned that soon samples of the stonework, paint samples and river rock would be put up on a presentation board for everyone to view as they drive/walk by.

Mayor Pro Tem Otto thanked the Staff for all their hard work this summer. Mayor Pro Tem Otto expressed his thanks to Commissioner Gilliland as well.

Mayor Helms outlined the process that will take place during the September meeting. The Town Council will offer nominations to fulfill Commissioner Gilliland’s unexpired term then have a secret ballot to vote for the person to replace him.

**Meeting Dates**

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| Planning & Zoning Commission: | Thursday, August 15, 2019  Walkup Building  5:00 p.m. |
| Montreat Tree Board: | Tuesday, August 27, 2019  Town Services Building  9:30 a.m. |
| Board of Adjustment: | Thursday, August 29, 2019  Walkup Building  1:00 p.m. |
| Montreat Landcare: | Wednesday, September 4, 2019  Allen Building  Swannanoa Room  9:00 a.m. |
| September Town Council Meeting: | Thursday, September 12, 2019  Walkup Building  7:00 p.m.  Public Forum begins at 6:30 p.m. |

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Gilliland moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fouche seconded and the motion carried 5/0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Kent Otto, Mayor Pro Tem Angie Murphy, Town Clerk