



**TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN**  
**AGENDA WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**  
**June 7, 2018**

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**THE BLACK MOUNTAIN BOARD OF ALDERMEN** held an agenda workshop on Thursday, June 7, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. in the board room of Town Hall, 160 Midland Avenue, Black Mountain, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to review the agenda for the regular monthly meeting scheduled for Monday, June 11, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Don Collins called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following members present:*

Mayor Don Collins  
Vice Mayor Maggie Tuttle  
Alderman Larry B. Harris  
Alderman Jeremie Konegni  
Alderman Carlos Showers  
Alderman Ryan Stone

The following staff members were present:

Justin Hembree, Interim Town Manager  
Angela L. Reece, Town Clerk  
Ron Sneed, Town Attorney  
Shawn Freeman, Police Chief  
Steve Jones, Fire Chief  
Jamey Matthews, Public Services Director  
Jessica Trotman, Planning Director

**The Board reviewed the items that were proposed for the June 11, 2018 regular session meeting and ADDED New Item 8D, Authorization for Town Attorney to Open Investigation regarding Censure Proceedings to their agenda.**

Interim Town Justin Hembree presented the proposed agenda to the Board of Aldermen. Pastor Jack Taylor of Mountain View Church in Black Mountain will give the invocation. Manager Hembree advised another set of minutes from the May 21, 2018 Budget Workshop will be added to the minutes in consent for approval.

Attorney Ron Sneed discussed **Item 8A**, Consideration of Request for Grant of Easement in portion of Carver Avenue lying on Town Property. Attorney Sneed referred to the Carver Center property on the Powell Bill map and stated there is no recorded right-of-way to the adjoining properties for Carver Street. Attorney Sneed stated the portion of Carver Street running from north to south is not a town maintained street but said the portion that runs east to west is town maintained. Attorney Sneed stated adjacent property owners brought this to his attention and said there are no written easements for it. Attorney Sneed stated the roadway is in use now by the

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property owners and said if the town denies the easement the property owners can sue for a prescriptive easement.

Planning Director Jessica Trotman discussed **Item 8C**, Recommendation for ONE Way Travel on Sixth Street stating the street is 12 feet wide and does not meet town standards for a two way street and said there is not enough space for a fire truck to turn around as it is now. Director Trotman recommended One-Way travel on this street to bring it into compliance with fire code.

Manager Hembree discussed **Item 8C**, FY18-19 Budget Public Hearing. Manager Hembree discussed the budget message stating funds have been set aside to allow up to a 3% COLA allowance and gives the Board the ability to award this as they see fit. Alderman Larry B. Harris discussed SECTION FOUR of the budget ordinance stating he would like the addition of language to limit the authority of the Budget Officer (Town Manager) and Finance Officer to reallocate salaries and wages. Alderman Harris stated he is seeking transparency from the Budget Officer (Town Manager) and Finance Officer if he or she is increasing salaries and wages and feels allocating salary and wages should be approved by the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Harris stated having transparency salaries and wages promotes a positive culture among the employees in the town. In addition, Alderman Harris stated the Budget Officer (Town Manager) and Finance Officer do have authority to move money around within a departmental budget for all other expenditures but stated if it goes over 5% then it must be reported to the Board of Aldermen. Manager Hembree stated the addition of the salary and wage language into the ordinance will protect the organization and make sure everything is being done in a transparent manner. He stated it also protects the manager and finance officer from liability.

Alderman Ryan Stone asked the board to consider looking at Resolution #R-10-17, Board of Aldermen Code of Ethics, which lays out the procedure for censuring a member of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Stone requested to add an item to the agenda to request the Town Attorney to conduct an investigation into the allegations of assault against Alderman Jeremie Konegni. Alderman Stone stated this is not an attack on Alderman Konegni's personal life but it is something that must be addressed given the concern in the community and involvement of the Board of Aldermen in the ENOUGH Domestic Violence Campaign. Alderman Larry B. Harris stated he feels this is appropriate to follow the Code of Ethics and Resolution of the Board of Aldermen. Alderman Carlos Showers stated there is a law enforcement investigation ongoing and stated he is not hesitant to support a censure but prefers to wait to see what transpires with the judicial system. Alderman Showers stated in the past when a board member was censured the member had acted against the advice of the Board which did not involve a criminal charge. Alderman Stone stated he would recommend setting the hearing past any pending court dates Mr. Konegni has and referred to section C2 of the resolution stating Alderman Konegni has a right to respond and have counsel present during his hearing. Resolution #R-10-17 and code of ethics are made part of and included in these minutes.

***Vice Mayor Maggie Tuttle moved to add Item 8D, Authorization for Town Attorney to Open Investigation Regarding Censure Proceedings to the agenda.***

***The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.***

***Alderman Ryan Stone moved to accept all amendments to the agenda as presented.***

***The motion was unanimously approved by a vote of 5-0.***

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There was no further discussion by the Board.

***There being no further discussion, on a motion by Alderman Larry B, Harris with a vote of 5-0 Mayor Don Collins adjourned the meeting at 5:27 p.m.***

ATTEST:

  
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Angela L. Reece, Town Clerk

  
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Don Collins, Mayor