



Town of Mars Hill

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

John L. Chandler
Mayor
Nicholas A. Honeycutt
Vice-Mayor
Robert W. Zink
Treasurer
Stuart L. Jolley
Clerk
Larry H. Davis
Secretary

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Mars Hill Town Hall – Conference Room March 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

The Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, March 13, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. in the Mars Hill Town Hall pursuant to action made at the February 6, 2023, regular meeting, and subsequent published notice given as required by NC Gen. Stat. 160A-71 and NC Gen. Stat. 143-318.12(b)(2). (Attachment A)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Chandler; Aldermen Larry Davis, Nicholas Honeycutt, and Robert W. (Bob) Zink. Alderman Stuart Jolley was absent.

STAFF PRESENT: Nathan R. Bennett, Town Manager; Jamie Stokes, Town Attorney; Police Cpt. Chad Wilson

OTHERS PRESENT: Johnny Casey, Madison News-Record & Sentinel; Ryan Bell, Sebastian Dunn, Brad Guth, James Heintl, and Miryam Rojas.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Chandler. Mayor Chandler welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Chandler asked the Board to review the proposed agenda for approval. Upon review of the agenda, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Bob Zink made a motion that the agenda be approved as presented.** Alderman Nicholas Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the agenda was approved unanimously. (Attachment B)

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Chandler then asked the Board to review the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 6, 2023, and the special meeting held on February 13, 2023. There being no modifications to the minutes, **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion that the minutes for February 6, 2023, and February 13, 2023, be approved as presented by management.** Alderman Larry Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the minutes were approved unanimously.

PRESENTATION – First Fridays 2023

Mayor Chandler then recognized and welcomed James Heintl, Miryam Rojas, Ryan Bell, and others representing the Mars Hill Downtown Merchants Association, organizers of the First Fridays events. Mr. Heintl updated the Board on the previous events and thanked the Town for providing the bounce house and other supports of the

events, particularly the assistance from police Cpt. Chad Wilson. Mr. Heint advised the Board that the events have grown each month and that this year there are four (4) new supporting merchant members, 10-12 vendors, a food truck area, and additional entertainment. Mr. Heint stated that the Madison County Tourism Development Agency has provided the First Fridays event funding that will allow them to hire administrative staff and seek greater communication with the town and social media platforms to continue growing the events. Miryam Rojas stated that improved sidewalks and lighting along Mountain View are needed as they are narrow and often people are spilling into the street. There was general discussion regarding the success of the events by Board members and consensus that these events are a great opportunity for the Town and all downtown businesses. Mayor Chandler stated that the only complaints that he had heard was that folks were disappointed the events had stopped for the winter months and that he believes everyone is looking forward to their return in April.

Mayor Chandler and Board members thanked the First Friday organizers for their presentation and expressed support for the upcoming season.

Old Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address old business. There was no old business.

New Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address new business.

RESOLUTION – Town Position on Proposed Legislation Forcing Partisan Municipal Elections

Mayor Chandler then opened discussion regarding the Town position on proposed legislative changes forcing partisan municipal elections in Mars Hill. Mayor Chandler described the proposed legislation, House Bill 264, filed in the N.C. General Assembly by N.C. House Representative Mark Pless. Rep. Pless represents Madison and Haywood counties in the legislature and the bill he has filed will force the municipalities in both counties he represents to convert from the current NONPARTISAN election method for all elected town-office holders to a PARTISAN method of election. The elected officials in Madison and Haywood were not consulted as to their position prior to Rep. Pless' action to force this change upon the towns. Mayor Chandler expressed that Mars Hill has been nonpartisan for over 70 years. He stated he believed that partisan politics had no place in town operations and that he and the other members of the Board of Aldermen made all decision on what was best for the Town and its' residents and politics never entered the discussion. If this bill passes a resident registered unaffiliated interested in holding an elected town office would have to go through a petition process in order to have their name placed on the ballot, a challenge to candidacy not placed upon political party candidates. Thus, in a Town like Mars Hill, our majority unaffiliated residents would be unfairly burdened by the petition process in order to have an opportunity to serve their community. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that as of this date, 46% of registered voters in the Town of Mars Hill are registered unaffiliated, 31% are registered Democratic, and 22% are registered Republican. In all of Madison County those statistics are similar as follows: 40% Unaffiliated, 30% Democratic, and 28% Republican. The growing trend is to register unaffiliated. All Board members agreed that the Town should provide a resolution to Rep. Pless, State Senator Ralph Hise, and the N.C. General Assembly expressing the Town's opposition to the proposed change to partisan elections and to express to them that, should the citizens desire to change their system of governance, there is already a method to place that question on the ballot for the people to decide for themselves. Mayor Chandler asked Town Manager Nathan Bennett to read the proposed resolution expressing the position against partisan elections into the record. Upon completing discussion of the proposed resolution by the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Zink made a motion to approve the "RESOLUTION – Position on Proposed Legislative Changes Forcing Partisan Municipal Elections," as presented.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously. (Attachment C)

RESOLUTION – Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Update Grant Application

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to present information to the Board concerning the Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Update Grant Application. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the NC Department of Transportation (NCDOT) has funding available through the Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) to prepare bicycle and pedestrian transportation facility plans for municipalities. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that these plans are required in order for municipalities to be eligible for NCDOT grant funding for related projects. He stated the Town's current plan was completed in 2007 and it was for pedestrian facilities only. Mr. Bennett stated that the Town has seen significant growth and that updated plans will assist the Town in connecting newly developed areas, as well as provide needed planning for greenway expansion and bicycle facilities. Mr. Bennett explained he is working with the French Broad River MPO and Land of Sky Council to submit the grant application to NCDOT, and the proposed resolution provides the Town's commitment to participate in the program and makes the necessary assurances and certifications to NCDOT and authorizes the necessary Town officials to take actions required to submit the application. Upon completing discussion of the matter by the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to approve "RESOLUTION – 2023-004 – Support for the Town of Mars Hill to Pursue Funding for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update Through the NCDOT IMD Multimodal Planning Grant Program," as presented.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously. (Attachment D)

RESOLUTION – Disposal of Surplus Property

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to present information to the Board concerning the proposed resolution to dispose of town-owned surplus property. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the town owns a 2005 Suzuki Eiger Quadrunner ATV that is currently inoperable and beyond its' useful life for town operations. He also advised that the town took possession of miscellaneous residential furnishings, appliances, stoves, tables, chairs, and related items included in the real property acquisition of the 9 & 15 South Main Street buildings, and those items are unnecessary and surplus to the town's needs. Mr. Bennett stated that the proposed resolution describes the items in full, declares them surplus property, and authorizes the Town Manager to dispose of those items by methods pursuant to authority granted by NC General Statutes 160A-266 and 160A-274 et al. Upon completion of discussion by the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Davis made a motion to approve "RESOLUTION – 2023-005 – Authorizing Sale of Personal Property Worth Less Than \$30,000 (NCGS 160A, Article 12)," as presented.** Alderman Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously. (Attachment E)

FY 2022-2023 Budget Amendments

Mayor Chandler then moved to consider proposed budget amendment to the current year budget. Mr. Bennett presented a summary of the proposed FY 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance Amendment – FY 2023-02 AND FY 2023-03. Mr. Bennett explained that this amendment is specific to unexpected necessary equipment and supply purchases in the general fund and the water and sewer fund and property acquisition. He advised that additional revenues had been received from state grants, including the \$560,000 NC Department of Commerce Rural Transformation Grant for the purchase of the 9 & 15 S. Main Street properties, and receipt of the second installment of American Rescue Plan Act funds of \$308,977. The general fund amendment (FY 2023-02) allocates funds for the purchase of real properties located at 9 & 15 S. Main Street, and 55 & 63 Mountain View Road, and other expenses for a replacement police vehicle, unexpected vehicle repairs, replenish trash cart stock, and tennis and pickleball court resurfacing and other purposes. The water & sewer fund amendment (FY 2023-03) allocated funds for additional water meters and necessary appurtenances, and maintenance of equipment and vehicles. Upon completion of discussion, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to approve "FY 2022-2023 Budget Ordinance Amendment – FY 2023-02" and "FY 2022-2023**

Budget Ordinance Amendment – FY 2023-03” as presented. Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously. (Attachment F)

Independence Day Fireworks Venue

Mayor Chandler then recognized Police Captain Chad Wilson and Mr. Bennett to present information concerning a proposal to change the venue for the Independence Day fireworks display. Cpt. Wilson presented a PowerPoint presentation describing a town-staff proposal to move the fireworks display from the Recreation Park on Park Drive, to a location off of Hickory Drive providing visibility of the display from the area of Mars Hill University tennis courts, football stadium, all the way to the upper quad and Main Street, and also from Forest Street and Bailey Street. Cpt. Wilson was able to obtain photographs and video utilizing a drone from the firework discharge height of 250 feet showing the entire viewshed for a display from this location and presented those for the Boards information. Cpt. Wilson and Mr. Bennett advised that this proposed location will provide ample parking, and will allow for more vendors, food trucks, entertainment, and a festival atmosphere, in and around Athletic Street. This area will also provide a site that is safer for the fire department staff to access to shoot the fireworks and for easier set-up and dismantle. Mr. Bennett advised that he has discussed this location with MHU President Tony Floyd as the shoot site is on MHU property and some of the safety zone is on MHU property. He advised that President Floyd indicated his approval and support for utilizing this area and additional cooperation from the university for festival and entertainment opportunities. All Board members expressed their approval for this location change and thanked Cpt. Wilson and Mr. Bennett for their work. Upon completion of discussion on the subject, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to approve the relocation of the Independence Day fireworks display to the Hickory Drive location as presented.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Police Vehicle Purchase

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to present information concerning a proposal to purchase a replacement vehicle for the police department. Mr. Bennett advised that staff has provided a proposal to purchase a 2023 Dodge Durango obtained from a vendor approved by the North Carolina Department of Administration Division of Purchase and State Contract for \$42,236, plus ancillary charges and necessary equipment. Mr. Bennett explained that this vehicle that was damaged in a weather-related collision in January and funds for the purchase was included in the previously approved budget amendment. Upon completion of discussion, the Mayor called for a motion to schedule the meeting date. **Alderman Zink made a motion to authorize the purchase of a 2023 Dodge Durango for the police department as presented.** Alderman Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Town Website Development Contract – Revize Government Websites

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to present information concerning a proposal to update the Town of Mars Hill website. Mr. Bennett advised that the current town website has not been revised in over 10 years. During that time, website safety, security, and accessibility standards have changed significantly. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that he has reviewed several website vendors and their related products. Mr. Bennett advised that Revize is a leader in the government website business and they have many websites currently in service around the state, including the Town of Woodfin. Mr. Bennett provided the Board a brief tour of the Woodfin website and existing Mars Hill, site to provide a comparison. In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Bennett advised that the website development is over 23 weeks, with payment milestones along the way. Mr. Bennett advised that the cost of website development is \$6,115.00, plus an annual maintenance and hosting fee of \$1,800.00 per year, over a five-year term. Upon completion of discussion on the proposal, the Mayor called for a motion to schedule the meeting date. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to authorize an agreement with Revize Government Websites for the development, maintenance, hosting, and related items of the official**

Town of Mars Hill website pursuant to the proposal as presented. Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Weaverville Water Plant Expansion – Proposed Letter of Support

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to present information concerning a proposed letter of support for the Town of Weaverville planned water treatment plant expansion from the Town of Mars Hill. Mr. Bennett advised that the Town has an emergency water system interconnection with Weaverville should Mars Hill or Weaverville ever need water on a temporary basis. At issue here is Weaverville is seeking partner support in their efforts to obtain state and federal grants to assist in the construction of expansion of their existing water plant. Mr. Bennett advised that the existing plant was designed to be expanded when needed and that Weaverville has provided documentation from NCDEQ and engineers that the Ivy River has ample capacity to support this expansion. Mr. Bennett stated that simply that water security is of vital importance to the Town of Mars Hill and recommended approval of the draft letter of support to be provided to North Carolina and US government legislative representatives and officials. Upon completion of discussion, the Mayor called for a motion to schedule the meeting date. **Mayor Chandler made a motion to authorize the letter of support for the Town of Weaverville water plant expansion project as presented.** Alderman Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously. (Attachment G)

Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide the Town Manager Report. Mr. Bennett advised the items covered in new business encompassed the majority of his report. Mr. Bennett further provided the Board with a general update of Town operations and other items of interest to the Board.

Public Comment

Mayor Chandler then moved to public comment. Mayor Chandler recognized Miryam Rojas who provided comments regarding a tree near the library that she says obscures the entrance to the library and her adjacent property, Mars Landing, limiting visibility to exit the property. She also requested attention to street lighting and sidewalk improvements along Mountain View Road from Main Street to the library area. She thanked the Board for the recent information provided regarding planned improvements in this area and the improved parking for the downtown area.

There being no additional public comments, Mayor Chandler moved to the next agenda item.

Closed Session (Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11)

Mr. Bennett advised the Board that there are personnel items to address in closed session. Mayor Chandler called for a motion to enter closed session to consider items relating to personnel. **Alderman Zink made a motion to enter into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss personnel.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion to enter closed session was unanimously approved.

CLOSED SESSION

Upon completion of discussion of the items subject to the closed session, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to end the closed session. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to end the closed session and return to open session.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion to return to open session was unanimously approved.

Open Session

Upon return to open session, Mayor Chandler stated that action is necessary regarding the discussion of personnel for the police and public works departments. Mayor Chandler stated that management and the police chief recommend the employment of Louis Roberts in the capacity of police patrol officer in a part-time capacity. Upon completion of discussion by the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to approve the employment of Louis Roberts as police patrol officer as discussed.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. Mayor Chandler then stated that management recommends a salary adjustment for public works employees Clint English and Craig Mace, in the amount of \$1,200 per annum, for completion of training and obtaining water system operator cross-connection control certification. Upon completion of discussion by the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to approve the salary increase of \$1,200 per annum to public works employees Clint English and Craig Mace for obtaining water system cross-connection control certifications as discussed.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved. The Mayor then stated that management recommends a salary adjustment for police captain Chad Wilson to reflect additional position responsibilities and to provide appropriate position classification adjustments. Upon completion of discussion by the Board, **Mayor Chandler made a motion to approve a salary increase of \$4.00 per hour to police captain Chad Wilson for additional position responsibilities and to provide appropriate position classification.** Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to adjourn. **Alderman Zink made a motion to adjourn.** Alderman Davis seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Approved and authenticated this the 3rd day of April, 2023.

ATTEST:

Nathan R. Bennett

Nathan R. Bennett,
Town Manager

John L. Chandler
John L. Chandler, (Mayor)



ATTACHMENT A



Notice of Special Meeting for Regular Meeting
of the
Town of Mars Hill
Mayor and Board of Aldermen
Scheduled for 13 March 2023

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen shall, pursuant to NC Gen. Stat. 160A-71 and NC Gen. Stat. 143-318.12(b)(2), hold a special meeting at the following designated place and time:

Date of Meeting: Monday, 13 March 2023

Time of Meeting: 6:00 p.m.

Place of Meeting: Mars Hill Town Hall
Large Conference Room
280 North Main Street
Mars Hill, North Carolina

Purpose of Meeting: Conduct the regular business meeting agenda for the month of March 2023 as directed by official order of Board taken at their meeting February 6, 2023.

This the 8th day of February 2023.

/s/
John L. Chandler, Mayor

Posted as required by NC Gen. Stat. 153A-40(b) and NC Gen. Stat. 143-318.12(b)(2) on this 8th day of February, 2023 at 12:00 o'clock p.m.



Nathan R. Bennett, Town Manager



ATTACHMENT B

Town of Mars Hill

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

John L. Chandler
Mayor
Nicholas A. Honeycutt
Vice-Mayor
Robert W. Zink
Treasurer
Stuart L. Jolley
Clerk
Larry H. Davis
Secretary

AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Mars Hill Town Hall Conference Room

March 13, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *Mayor John L. Chandler*
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: February 6, 2023 Regular Meeting and February 13, 2023 Special Meeting
4. **PRESENTATION - First Fridays 2023** – James Heintl, Mars Hill Downtown Merchants Association
5. Old Business
6. New Business
 - a. **RESOLUTION** – Town of Mars Hill Position on Proposed Legislation Forcing Partisan Municipal Elections
 - b. **RESOLUTION** – Bicycle & Pedestrian Plan Update Grant Application
 - c. **RESOLUTION** – Surplus Personal Property
 - d. FY 2022-2023 Budget Amendments
 - e. Independence Day Fireworks Venue – Cpt. Chad Wilson
 - f. Police Vehicle Purchase
 - g. Town Website Development Contract – Revize
 - h. Weaverville Water Plant Expansion – Proposed Letter of Support
7. Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager
 - a. General Update
8. Public Comment
[Policy: Each speaker shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The public comment period is not intended to require the Board of Aldermen or staff to answer any impromptu questions. The Board will not take action on an item presented during the public comment period. The Board may refer inquiries made during the public comment period to the Town Manager to address as appropriate. If necessary, the item may be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.]
9. Closed Session (*Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 – if needed*)
10. Adjourn

Mars Hill Town Hall

280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368

Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754

Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333



Town of Mars Hill

RESOLUTION #: 2023-003

RESOLUTION

POSITION ON PROPOSED LEGISLATIVE CHANGES FORCING PARTISAN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, municipalities in the State of North Carolina have a long history of being the most professionally run local governments in the country, as exhibited by the successful experience in the Town of Mars Hill; and

WHEREAS, since 1953, the Charter of the Town of Mars Hill provides that all elections shall be non-partisan; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Mars Hill purposely chose the non-partisan method of election to ensure that local issues are addressed locally and not influenced by national or statewide political folly; and

WHEREAS, local officials who live and work daily in the community they represent are uniquely qualified to determine the specific needs of the citizens and community; and

WHEREAS, 40% of Madison County voters and 46% of Mars Hill voters have chosen not to be identified with any political party, and have purposely registered unaffiliated for casting their vote to have an equal and unfettered voice in their government; and

WHEREAS, these unaffiliated voters would be unfairly discriminated against, having their voice silenced, should they seek to be a candidate for municipal office under the partisan election method; and

WHEREAS, should the citizens of Mars Hill desire to change the form of government of their municipality, there is by law a reasonable and appropriate process to bring that question to the voters of the municipality through a ballot referendum for the voters to decide the question for themselves, and not have the will of partisans forced upon them unilaterally; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Town of Mars Hill will strongly affirm that their non-partisan governing body is best situated to serve the citizenry and make decisions based on the best interest of the citizens, and the municipality, independent of partisan principles.

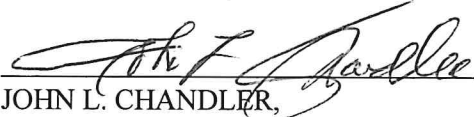
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF MARS HILL, that in order to protect the rights of the Citizens of the Town of Mars Hill to choose their own form of municipal government, hereby opposes North Carolina House Bill 264, and urge the Madison County Delegation to the N.C. General Assembly to oppose said bill and any subsequent similar legislation and instead, therefore, empower the Citizens of the Town of Mars Hill the ability to choose for themselves their preferred method of government.

ADOPTED this the 13th day of March 2023, by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen.

Attest:


STUART L. JOLLEY,
Town Clerk




JOHN L. CHANDLER,
Mayor

Mars Hill Town Hall

280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368

Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754

Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333

www.townofmarshill.org

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

H

1

HOUSE BILL 264

Short Title: Partisan Election/Muni./Haywood & Madison Cos. (Local)

Sponsors: Representatives Pless, Clampitt, and Kidwell (Primary Sponsors).

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 6, 2023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES IN HAYWOOD AND MADISON COUNTIES SHALL BE CONDUCTED ON A PARTISAN BASIS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. MUNICIPALITIES IN HAYWOOD COUNTY

SECTION 1.1. Section 5 of the Charter of the Town of Canton, being Chapter 90 of the Private Laws of 1907, as amended by Section 3 of Chapter 178 of the Private Laws of 1911, Section 5 of Chapter 78 of the Private Laws of 1920 [Extra Session], Section 2 of Chapter 204 of the Private Laws of 1923, and Section 2-2 of the Town Ordinance adopted on August 27, 2013, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 5. At the next regular election of officers of the Town of Canton, North Carolina, to be held in 2013 as determined by the Haywood County Board of Elections, the qualified voters of the Town of Canton shall elect four Aldermen and a ~~Mayor~~ Mayor, all of whom must be residents of any part of the Town of Canton. During this election the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to serve a ~~(4)~~ four year term and the next two Aldermen candidates receiving the next highest votes shall serve a ~~(2)~~ two year term. The Mayor shall be elected for a ~~(4)~~ four year term. Thereafter, the citizens of the Town of Canton shall biennially elect two Aldermen to serve ~~(4)~~ four year terms and a Mayor shall be elected at alternate biennial elections to serve ~~(4)~~ a four year term. Town officers shall be elected according to the partisan election method, as provided in G.S. 163-291."

SECTION 1.2. Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Clyde, being Chapter 189 of the Private Laws of 1889, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 240 of the Private Laws of 1891, Section 3 of Chapter 873 of the 1945 Session Laws, Chapter 807 of the 1949 Session Laws, and Section 2 of Chapter 26 of the 1953 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 4. All elections in the Town of Clyde shall be governed by the general laws of the State as to municipalities and as set forth in Chapter ~~160~~ 160A of the General Statutes, as amended. Town officers shall be elected according to the partisan election method, as provided in G.S. 163-291."

SECTION 1.3. Section 4-1 of the Charter of the Town of Maggie Valley, being Chapter 1337 of the 1973 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

"**Sec. 4 -1.** Conduct of town elections. Town officers shall be elected on a ~~non-partisan basis~~ and the results determined by plurality, partisan basis, as provided by ~~G.S. 163-292.~~ G.S. 163-291."



1 **SECTION 1.4.** Section 3.1 of the Charter of the Town of Waynesville, being S.L.
2 1995-126, reads as rewritten:

3 "Sec. 3.1. **Regular Municipal Elections; Conduct.** Regular municipal elections shall be
4 held in the Town every four years in odd-numbered years, and shall be conducted in accordance
5 with the uniform municipal election laws of North Carolina. The Mayor and members of the
6 Board shall be elected according to the ~~nonpartisan election method~~partisan election method, as
7 provided in G.S. 163-291."
8

9 **PART II. MUNICIPALITIES IN MADISON COUNTY**

10 **SECTION 2.1.** Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Hot Springs, being Chapter
11 210 of the Private Laws of 1929, reads as rewritten:

12 "Sec. 4. The corporate powers of the town of Hot Springs shall be exercised as ~~heretofore~~ by
13 a mayor and board of aldermen consisting of three members, to be elected in accordance with the
14 general laws regulating elections in cities and towns, and such other officers, agents and
15 employees as may be ~~hereinafter~~ provided for, or chosen by the board of aldermen. The mayor
16 and members of the board of aldermen shall be elected according to the partisan election method,
17 as provided in G.S. 163-291. The present mayor of the town of Hot Springs shall hold office until
18 the next general election and until his successor is elected and qualified, and the present members
19 of the board of aldermen shall constitute the ~~said~~ board until the expiration of their present term
20 of office and until their successors are elected and ~~qualified, and the said~~ qualified. The mayor
21 and board of ~~aldermen, as such,~~ aldermen shall have the same power and authority ~~heretofore~~
22 conferred upon them in the area within the present corporate limits of ~~said~~ the town and may
23 exercise all ~~such~~ authority within the area mentioned in section three ~~hereof,~~ of this Chapter,
24 together with all ~~such~~ additional powers and authority conferred by this act."

25 **SECTION 2.2.** Section 6 of the Charter of the Town of Mars Hill, being Chapter
26 890 of the 1953 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

27 "Sec. 6. That all elections held under the provisions of this Act shall be ~~nonpartisan, and no~~
28 ~~absentee ballots shall be counted or permitted to be cast~~conducted on a partisan basis, as
29 provided in G.S. 163-291."

30 **SECTION 2.3.** Section 3 of the Charter of the Town of Marshall, being Chapter 165
31 of the Private Laws of 1905, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 232 of the Private Laws of
32 1913, reads as rewritten:

33 "Sec. 3. That the administration and government of ~~said~~ the town shall be vested in ~~one~~
34 ~~principal officer styled~~ the mayor, and board of aldermen consisting of five members, which
35 mayor and board of aldermen, with all subordinate officers shall have all the powers, privileges
36 and emoluments, and shall be subjected to all the forfeitures, pains and penalties granted under
37 the general laws governing cities and towns of the State of North Carolina, and be subjected to
38 all the provisions ~~thereof~~ not in conflict with the provisions of this act. The mayor and members
39 of the board of aldermen shall be elected according to the partisan election method, as provided
40 in G.S. 163-291."
41

42 **PART III. EFFECT ON CERTAIN LOCAL ACTS**

43 **SECTION 3.1.** This act shall have the effect of repealing any conflicting provisions
44 of local or special acts or conflicting local ordinances relating to the nonpartisan municipal
45 election. This act shall not affect the filling of a vacancy in a municipal election that occurs for a
46 seat elected prior to the effective date of this act.

47 **SECTION 3.2.** Any local act requiring a municipal election to be conducted in an
48 odd-numbered year for any of the municipalities described in this act shall be held as a partisan
49 election beginning in 2023.
50

51 **PART IV. EFFECTIVE DATE**

1 **SECTION 4.1.** This act is effective with respect to primaries and elections held on
2 or after January 1, 2023.



Town of Mars Hill

RESOLUTION #: 2023-004

RESOLUTION

SUPPORT FOR THE TOWN OF MARS HILL TO PURSUE FUNDING FOR A BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN UPDATE THROUGH THE NCDOT IMD MULTIMODAL PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division (IMD) and the Transportation Planning Division created an annual matching grant program – the Multimodal Planning Grant Program (MMPG) – to encourage municipalities to develop comprehensive bicycle plans and pedestrian plans; and

WHEREAS, the Multimodal Planning Grant Program allows a municipality to set a vision for bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure in their community; and

WHEREAS, the IMD Feasibility Studies Grant requires the existing bicycle and pedestrian plan to be at least five years old; and

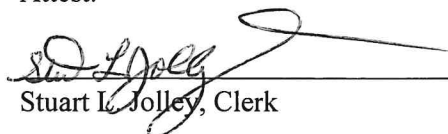
WHEREAS, NCDOT would help the town select a consultant to carry out the study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina:

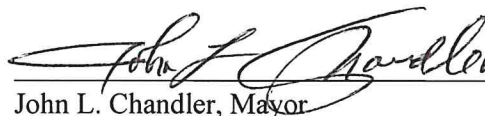
- Section 1. That the Town of Mars Hill shall submit a grant application for an IMD Multimodal Planning Grant through NCDOT for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan in response to NCDOT's call for projects, make the necessary assurances and certifications with the NCDOT, and to apply for a Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan.
- Section 2. That the Mayor, Clerk, and Town Manager, and other necessary officials be authorized to take all necessary actions required by Section 1.
- Section 3. This resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

ADOPTED and APPROVED this 13th day of March 2023, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill.

Attest:


Stuart L. Jolley, Clerk




John L. Chandler, Mayor

Mars Hill Town Hall
280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368
Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754
Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333
www.townofmarshill.org



Town of Mars Hill

RESOLUTION #: 2023-005

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZING SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY WORTH LESS THAN \$30,000 (N.C.G.S. 160A, ARTICLE 12)

WHEREAS, the Town of Mars Hill owns certain items of personal property that have become surplus for its current needs; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina General Statute § 160A-266 and 160A-274 permits the Town to dispose of such property by methods more fully set forth in said statutes upon authorization by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen at a regular meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Board of Aldermen is convened in a regular meeting.

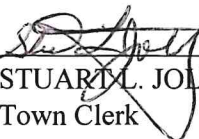
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF MARS HILL THE FOLLOWING:

1. The Town Manager is authorized to dispose of the item(s) of surplus personal property identified as follows:
 - a. *2005 Suzuki Eiger Quadrunner*
 - b. *Miscellaneous residential furnishings, appliances, stoves, tables, chairs, and related items included in the real property acquisition of 9 & 15 S. Main St.*
2. The Town Manager may dispose of such item(s) by any method deemed appropriate pursuant to the authority granted in North Carolina General Statute §160A-266 and 160A-274, and to include salvage disposal.

ADOPTED this the 13th day of March, 2023 by the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen.


 JOHN L. CHANDLER
 Mayor

Attest:


 STUART L. JOLLEY,
 Town Clerk



TOWN OF MARS HILL


2022 – 2023 Fiscal Year

BUDGET ORDINANCE AMENDMENT
FY 2023-02

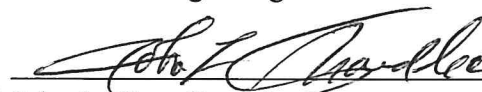
The purpose of this budget amendment is to update the FY 2022-23 **GENERAL FUND** budget as follows:

Budget Code	Description	Revenues	Expenditures
10-3490-0000	Federal Gov. Grants (ARPA/ARC-wifi)	\$ 321,977.00	
10-3491-0000	State Government Grants (<i>NC COMMERCE RTGP</i>)	\$ 560,000.00	
10-3994-0000	Appropriated Fund Balance	\$ 152,023.00	
10-4100-3540	Leadership/Downtown Renovation	\$	11,000.00
10-5000-7600	Public Bldg/Revitalization	\$	560,000.00
10-5100-1700	Maintenance Autos	\$	5,000.00
10-5100-7400	Capital Outlay – Equipment	\$	56,000.00
10-5100-7800	Non-Capital Outlay / Equipment	\$	2,000.00
10-5600-1600	Maintenance – Equipment	\$	25,000.00
10-5600-7100	Capital Outlay – Land	\$	270,000.00
10-5600-7400	Capital Outlay – Equipment	\$	50,000.00
10-5600-7700	Christmas Lights	\$	3,000.00
10-5600-7900	Contingency – Christmas Parade Expense	\$	9,000.00
10-5700-1600	Maintenance – Equipment (Powell)	\$	4,000.00
10-5800-7400	Capital Outlay – Equipment	\$	14,000.00
10-6200-7300	Capital Outlay Bldgs/Grnds/Land Purchase	\$	23,000.00
10-6300-1500	Maintenance – Bldgs & Grds	\$	2,000.00
	<i>ARPA-2nd install., ARC-Wi-Fi Grant, Rural Transformation Grant (9 & 15 S Main Bldg Purchase), Downtown WiFi, Police Dept. vehicle purchase and maintenance, Purchase of Mtn View Rd Property, Christmas Parade expenses, Bucket Truck repair, Trash carts, Pickleball/Tennis Court Resurf.</i>		
	TOTAL ADDITIONAL REVENUES ANTICIPATED	\$ 1,034,000.00	
	TOTAL ADDITIONAL EXPENSES AUTHORIZED		\$ 1,034,000.00

This budget amendment is hereby **ADOPTED** and incorporated into the FY 2022-23 Budget Ordinance by the Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen meeting in regular session on this the 13th day of March, 2023.

ATTEST:

Stuart L. Jolley, Clerk




John L. Chandler, Mayor



Town of Mars Hill

John L. Chandler
Mayor
Nicholas A. Honeycutt
Vice-Mayor
Robert W. Zink
Treasurer
Stuart L. Jolley
Clerk
Larry H. Davis
Secretary

March 13, 2023

Re: Regional and Collaborative Approach to Water
Weaverville Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project

Honorable North Carolina Senators and Representatives:

The Town of Mars Hill and the surrounding areas are experiencing high levels of growth. Understandably, Mars Hill and Madison County are wonderful places to live and our people are choosing to remain in their home community to work and raise their families. In addition, folks from outside the immediate area have discovered our community and like what they find in Mars Hill and are choosing to relocate here. The Town of Mars Hill is committed to supporting these actions by espousing sound public policy and providing reliable, top-quality public infrastructure and service delivery.

Chief among the issues Mars Hill is solidly committed to is providing water security for everyone in our jurisdiction and surrounding community that is above reproach. Toward that end the Mars Hill has partnered with our next door neighbors in the Towns of Weaverville and Marshall to solidify our common commitment to access public water supplies. As you may know, the Town of Weaverville owns and operates a Water Treatment Plant that provides access to public water to many citizens and businesses within the region. Weaverville would like to continue to be a regional water provider through its current interconnection with Mars Hill (and indirectly with Marshall), and a planned interconnection with Woodfin Water District.

Weaverville's current Water Treatment Plant was designed and constructed to be doubled for future growth and now needs to expand in order to be able to continue to respond to the growing needs for water in the region. The expansion of this plant will have a direct and positive benefit for the Town of Mars Hill and the greater Madison County community. On behalf of the Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen, I respectfully request your consideration and support of funding for the needed expansion of Weaverville's Water Treatment Plant.

Should you have any questions concerning the project, please reach out to Weaverville's Mayor, Patrick Fitzsimmons, at pfitzsimmons@weavervillenc.org or (828)777-2495 or to Weaverville's Town Manager, Selena Coffey, at scoffey@weavervillenc.org or (828)484-7001. You may also certainly contact me at (828) 689-2301 or Mars Hill Town Manager Nathan Bennett, at nbennett@townofmarshell.org. We appreciate your support of Mars Hill and Madison County and look forward to working with you on this important initiative for our citizens.

With kinds regards,

JOHN L. CHANDLER,
Mayor

Mars Hill Town Hall
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