



**Town of Indian Trail**  
**Minutes of Town Council Special Meeting**  
**December 20, 2012**  
**Civic Building**  
**6:30 P.M.**

The following members of the governing body were present:

Mayor: Michael L. Alvarez

Council Members: Robert Allen, David Cohn, Christopher King, Darlene Luther, and David Waddell.

Staff Members: Town Manger Joe Fivas, Town Clerk, Peggy Piontek, and Finance Director, Marsha Sutton.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Alvarez called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

Robert Allen made a motion to approve the Agenda.  
Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

a. Review of Animal Enforcement Ordinance

Mr. Fivas advised that staff is working through some of the issues Mr. Merritt discussed at the last meeting. The plan is for staff to continue to review it for the Public Hearing and your consideration at the January 8th meeting.

b. Discussion and review of current agreement with Union County Sherriff's Office for law enforcement.

Mr. Fivas advised we have had an Interlocal Agreement with Union County Sheriff's Office since 1995 and a 5 year agreement that expires June 30, 2013; the purpose is for Council to collaborate and go forward. Mr. Fivas provided the history of our Agreement, how to move forward and would like Council to provide concepts to take to the County and return with responses and counter offers.

Mr. Fivas explained that this meeting is simply a "kick off" with additional special meetings that will include requested information, initiate discussions with County in January and by the end of January another special meeting with the anticipation of concluding the matter by the beginning of February. Mr. Fivas reviewed the current agreement for Council and suggested that the process include a general point of contact to ensure that everyone gets the same information. Mr. Fivas and Ms. Sutton would be willing to provide that point of contact, by consensus Council agreed.

Mr. Allen stated that he likes the timeline, as you receive the information get it to them electronically and they can be productive. Mr. Allen requested to see a cost breakdown per Deputy.

Mr. Waddell requested a copy of the University of North Carolina Law Enforcement study that was done for town.

Ms. Luther suggested, in the interest of our tax payers, her thoughts for discussion: when we hire a new deputy the length of time we pay for that position while they are trying to fill the position, should be prorated; Deputies servicing non Indian Trail taxpaying areas should not be funded by us; if our deputies are leaving the town limits we should know how often that is and where they are serving, unless it's an emergency; are there any annual or contractual caps anywhere? Does the County determine what the cost to the Town should be? In any contract you are locked into a price. Paying for cars, equipment, etc, if we're paying for them we should be able to keep them. Enforcement of local Ordinances, it's her understanding that they cannot enforce our local ordinances unless it's part of the County Ordinances.

Mr. Fivas stated that this is exactly how we can get answers, by receiving inquiries from Council, sending them to the County and request a written response to staff so we can provide it to Council.

Mr. Waddell stated that he has had residents mention certain areas in particular - Meriwether would like some extra patrols, doesn't believe it's needed throughout the whole area but there are some areas that need more than others. Is that something we need to address? Mr. Fivas replied they can ask Union County Sheriff's Office whatever you would like to know.

Mr. Waddell inquired if animal control a total separate issue here or related to this contract. Mr. Fivas replied it depends on how Council wants to handle it, we need to get you the second draft and you can make that determination; from the ordinance it's a town issue but from a service issue, it involves the County.

Ms. Luther requested to receive the cost of the different positions. Mr. Fivas replied we'll get it out to you in the morning.

Mr. Fivas reviewed the next meeting approach, advising it will be a lengthy meeting, suggesting Council come in with the information you have received, have your questions ready to be discussed concluding with a consensus of Council of the direction they want us to go.

Mr. Allen inquired if contract negotiations be in opened or closed session, Mr. Fivas advised that's up to the Town Attorney, Ms. Luther would prefer it be in open session.

**ADJOURN**

David Cohn made a motion to adjourn  
Motion Passed 4 - 1 with David Waddell opposing.

**APPROVED:**

---

**Michael L. Alvarez, Mayor**

**Attest:**

---

**Peggy Piontek, Town Clerk**