



**Town of Indian Trail**  
**Minutes of Town Council**  
**May 12, 2015**  
**Civic Building**  
**6:30 P.M.**

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The following members of the governing body were present:

Mayor: Michael L. Alvarez

Council Members: David Cohn, Gordon B. Daniels, David W. Drehs, and Gary Savoie

Absent: Christopher King

Staff Members: Town Manager Joe Fivas, Town Attorney Keith Merritt, Planning Director Rox Burhans, Director of Community & Economic Development Kelly Barnhardt, and Communications Coordinator Lindsey Edmonds

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

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

**ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS**

*None*

**MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA**

Gary Savoie made a motion to approve the agenda.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

**PRESENTATIONS**

- a. Police Week Proclamation

Mayor Alvarez read the Police Week Proclamation. He asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence in honor of all law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

- b. Donate Life Proclamation

Mayor Alvarez read the Donate Life Proclamation.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Shirley Howe, 6205 Clearwater Drive, Indian Trail, NC, asked the Council to allow citizens to vote on the question of building a new Town Hall. She added that she is glad to see the Town Manager and Finance Director have signed each of the budget amendment requests. She also added that she is glad to see Peggy Piontek present and noted that the Town of Weddington is fortunate to have her.

Gary Woolnough, 1002 Horton Ridge Court, Indian Trail, NC, expressed support for building a new Town Hall.

Gail Furr, 1002 Horton Ridge Court, Indian Trail, NC, expressed support for building a new Town Hall.

Angela Adams, 7533 Sparkleberry Drive, Indian Trail, NC, thanked the Town Manager for allowing her to decorate the downtown area for National Police Week. She noted that her father-in-law was killed in the line of duty. She expressed her appreciation for the Police Week Proclamation and said she hopes it will become a permanent recognition each year.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

Lieutenant Coble thanked Mrs. Adams for her support of Police Week. He informed the Council that Sergeant Jeff Green's name will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. He presented the department's statistics for the month of April. He also reported that Deputies participated in an exercise for the Strategic National Stockpile plan and hope to establish a distribution site in western Union County. The department will add a second part-time staff member to its front office. Deputy Jim Knox retired on April 30. Lieutenant Coble recounted a motor vehicle chase that occurred on Monday morning, beginning in Indian Trail, ending in Charlotte, and resulting in two arrests. He added that for budget purposes, the department needs to provide Union County with a letter from the Council expressing its intent to expand the department.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of April 14, 2015 draft minutes
- b. Approval of Month End Tax Report April 2015

- c. Approval of Budget Amendments
- d. Approval of Amendment to the Crooked Creek Park Capital Project Ordinance
- e. Approval of Alley, Williams, Carmen & King Agreement and the related Capital Project Ordinance
- f. Approval of Department of Public Works purchase of Mini Asphalt Paver
- g. Approval of Auditors based on RFP process

Gary M. Savoie made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

#### a. Budget Presentation and Public Hearing for Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget

Mr. Fivas provided an overview of the budget process. He explained that Union County's tax revaluation increased and decreased property values in Indian Trail, but he is not recommending a tax increase. He outlined infrastructure improvement projects. He noted that a new Town Hall and municipal complex can be funded without a projected tax increase.

Mr. Savoie suggested looking at the number communities that raised their tax rates after property values decreased through revaluation. He commended Mr. Fivas and staff on the interest that the town brings in increasing residential and commercial growth.

Mr. Drehs inquired if staff will look at older communities without homeowners associations and determine what is needed to keep those areas livable.

Mr. Fivas stated that the nuisance ordinance is outdated and needs to be fixed.

Mr. Daniels inquired why the municipal complex was included in the budget even though the Council has not voted on the matter yet.

Mr. Fivas noted that in order to receive a loan from the Local Government Commission to fund the complex, the Town must show that it has the capacity to repay the loan.

Mr. Cohn asked if the Town has started using the capital reserve fund for other projects besides the parks. He also asked if it is possible to complete the parks for \$2.5 million. He expressed concern about beginning construction on the new Town Hall project before completing the new parks and acquiring too much debt as a result.

Mr. Fivas explained that the Council adopted the Capital Reserve/Debt Reduction ordinance approving the use of the capital reserve fund for anything considered a capital project. He added that the Town will leverage funds from partnerships and grants to build the parks. Development will occur in multiple phases.

Mr. Daniels noted that it would be prudent to rent the parks out to generate revenue if the parks are functional.

Mr. Drehs stated that it is possible to work on Chestnut Parkway, the parks, the new municipal complex and still have enough revenue to handle the \$10 million bond to widen the Monroe Bypass.

Mr. Savoie inquired if the two deputies included in the budget will be in place in 2016.

M. Fivas responded that the deputies will begin in January 2016.

Mr. Drehs inquired if it would be possible to have the two new deputies onboard by October.

Mayor Alvarez opened the Public Hearing.

Roger Fish, 11001 Magna Lane, read his comments from the Fiscal Year 2009-2010 budget public hearing. He noted that all of the suggestions he made at that meeting have been incorporated into the budget process, including making a budget summary available on the web and in local libraries.

Mayor Alvarez closed the Public Hearing.

#### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

*None*

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*None*

#### **MANAGERS REPORT**

Mr. Fivas reported that the Town will hold its next movie night on May 29. He congratulated the Council for winning the Region of Excellence Award from Centralina Council of Governments for the Carolina Courts project. He thanked Lindsey Edmonds and Kelly Barnhardt for preparing the award application. He also thanked Rox Burhans for his work on the budget.

Gordon Daniels inquired if there are agenda items for the Council's May 26 meeting.

Mr. Fivas stated that he is not aware of any items at this time.

#### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. Cohn had no comments.

Mr. Savoie thanked staff for their work on preparing the budget. He also thanked Kelly Weston for her assistance with Town Clerk duties.

Mr. Drehs thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He added that he is looking forward to the new park opening.

Mayor Alvarez noted that he received an email from Mr. Stanley who commended Town staff for the stormwater work completed on his property.

Mr. Daniels thanked everyone for attending the meeting. He stated that he is excited about this year's budget and thanked Mr. Fivas and staff for good management and use of tax dollars.

**CLOSED SESSION**

*None*

**ADJOURN**

Gary M. Savoie made a motion to adjourn.

Council voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

APPROVED:

  
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Michael L. Alvarez, Mayor

Attest:  \_\_\_\_\_