

The Alleghany County Board of Commissioners and Sparta Town Council met in joint session on Monday, July 30, 2012, at 7:00pm in the Board Meeting Room of the County Administration Building, 348 South Main Street, Sparta, North Carolina.

Present: County: Chair Ken Richardson, Larry Cox, John Goudreau, Steve Roten, County Attorney Donna Shumate, County Manager Don Adams, Clerk to the Board Karen Evans, Town: Mayor John Miller, Mayor Pro Tem Agnes Joines, John Brady, Chris Jones, Ryan Lane, Mike Parlier and Town Manager Bryan Edwards.

Chair Richardson called the County meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Mayor Miller called the Town meeting to order at 7:01pm.

Commissioner Goudreau made a motion to approve the agenda for this July 30, 2012, meeting. Commissioner Cox seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Chris Jones made a motion to approve the agenda for this July 30, 2012, meeting. John Brady seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Joint County/Town Meeting  
July 30, 2012  
Agenda

- 7:00pm      Meeting Called to Order  
Motion on Agenda
  
- 7:05pm      Cynthia Grant  
RE: Farmers Market Update
  
- 7:20pm      Jim Connor  
RE: Tourism Development Authority Presentation
  
- 7:35pm      Bryan Edwards  
RE: Water Authority Update
  
- Other Business
  
- Town Adjourn/County Adjourn

Cynthia Grant provided a PowerPoint presentation about the Farmers Market, which included information about their activities/volume and their times/dates of the Market. She reviewed how they have worked with other groups holding events at Crouse Park.

John Brady talked about it was a pleasure working with Cynthia and everything went well this past weekend.

Agnes Joines talked about hearing from some of the people about parking problems. Cynthia Grant said she did not know there was a problem, and she was just following the directions she was given. Agnes Joines talked about they are very dissatisfied. They talked about musicians unloading their instruments. John Brady said he is sorry, and they tried to accommodate everyone even giving rides back and forth from the college. The Mayor said he thinks we all need to work together. Agnes Joines said that this is what it is all about. John Brady said we will work on it but they can't park there.

Jim Connor, Chair of the Tourism Development Authority (TDA), thanked everyone for this opportunity. He provided a timeline of their creation and activities since they began. He named the members of the TDA, and they meet the third Tuesday of each month at 9:30am in the conference room at Job Link. He explained that all of their minutes are public and on their website, [alleghanytda.com](http://alleghanytda.com). He further explained that people can see their minutes, agenda and apply for grants. He reviewed some of the activities that they have attended across the region, made presentations to the Chamber of Commerce, \$64,000 budget adopted, can spend 1/3 on administration costs and 2/3 on promoting the county. He explained that they have teamed up

with the Chamber on the 1/3 administrative money in the amount of \$1,450 per month in order for them to provide administrative service for the TDA. He further explained that they have approved a few grants and what the approved grants are for. He stated that they have approved some advertising and described the types. He said that there are a couple more grant proposals waiting for the Board's approval.

Mayor Miller provided history about the bridge on the highway. Jim Connor said that hopefully this will get more people coming through Alleghany County.

Mike Parlier and Jim Connor talked about the TDA provided some funding to the concept and the Miles' will be doing a brochure for the promotions.

Mayor Miller stated that the TDA is to be commended for its job.

Chair Richardson thanked Jim Connor.

Town Manager Bryan Edwards provided an update on the Water Authority. He explained that the Authority is not providing enough water for both towns. He provided a timeline of their events including they went online January 18. He explained the amounts they are certified for. He further explained at the end of August they had a significant decrease in the water level coming into the intake area. He said that the daily amount has increased some. He explained that the Authority has let contracts to expand the intake area, opening bids Thursday, hopefully have a successful contractor starting soon. He stated that they are very optimistic that this will resolve the problem, and they very pleased with the operation of the plant, if they can get the quantity of water that is needed. He further stated that they are operating the water plant and the well systems in both towns.

John Brady talked about the purity of the water and their meters won't register anything. Town Manager Bryan Edwards agreed and said that the raw water exceeds drinking water standards but they still have to chlorinate the water. The Town Manager talked about their goal is for 700,000 gallons a day to meet the needs and allow for expansion.

The Mayor explained that they still think the earthquake event caused the water decrease.

Commissioner Roten said it is good to see everyone.

Mike Parlier said everything is going good.

John Brady talked about town baseball teams that competed against each other, and the possibility of the Recreation Department look into having summer swimming teams which could bring people into the community. He further talked about anything that will help the community.

Chair Richardson and County Manager Don Adams talked about the Recreation Commission and their meeting schedule. John Brady said he will be glad to go do a presentation.

County Manager Don Adams explained that there has to be a facility.

John Brady talked about it would be nice for the kids to have something to do.

John Brady provided an update on the Wellness Center, and they think they have the money to do what they need to.

Chair Richardson talked about he thinks the Veterans Park goes right along with that. He explained that we are close to having the required money match but could still lose it. He talked about everyone needs to take the opportunity to promote it.

John Brady talked about the more that goes on here; the more people will come back.

The Mayor talked about there is going to be some changes in the Commissioners, and the Town would like to reiterate the importance of these meetings and would like for them to continue.

Chair Richardson said he sees no reason why both boards can't work together.

Commissioner Cox made a motion to adjourn the County meeting at 7:29pm.  
Commissioner Goudreau seconded the motion. Vote 4:0.

Ryan Lane made a motion to adjourn the Town meeting at 7:29pm. John Brady seconded  
the motion. Vote 5:0.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Evans  
Clerk to the Board

Attest:

Ken Richardson  
Chairman