

**Town of Montreat
Board of Commissioners
Town Council Meeting
June 22, 2010 – 5:00 p.m.
Town Services Office**

The Montreat Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting on June 22, 2010 at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Services Office.

Commissioners present: Mayor Letta Jean Taylor
Mayor Pro Tem Eric Nichols
Commissioner Jack McCaskill
Commissioner Mary Standaert
Commissioner O'Neil Tate

Commissioners absent: Commissioner Ruth D. Currie

Town staff present: Ron Nalley, Town Administrator
Misty R. Gedlinske, Town Clerk
Stefan Stackhouse, Finance Officer

No members of the public were present. Mayor Taylor called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and held a moment of silence.

Agenda Approval

Mayor Pro Tem Nichols moved to approve the meeting agenda as presented. Commissioner McCaskill seconded and the motion carried 4/0.

Old Business

Proposed 2010-2011 Fiscal Year Budget Discussion: After a review of both current and estimated year-end expenditure amounts for phone system, copier lease and sanitation tipping fees, staff recommended that these line item amounts remain as currently proposed for the upcoming fiscal year.

Mr. Nalley also said that Mountain Retreat Association President Pete Peery had issued a prepared written statement that the MRA Board of Directors had authorized him to impose and collect community service fees from conferees at his discretion. No guarantee would be made concerning the amount of any fees that may be paid to the Town during the upcoming fiscal year, or expected date of those payments. The Town Attorney has advised that, in the absence of special legislation passed by the General Assembly, there is no legal recourse for the Town to compel the MRA to remit these fees. Mayor Taylor noted that according to her research, not all conferences were being charged community service fees, and that those that were being charged were not assessed the same fee. Commissioner Standaert said that the registration forms she had seen were worded so that the community service fee appeared to be assessed by the Town. Mayor Pro Tem Nichols felt that there was a clear expectation that any community service fees advertised to be collected on the Town's behalf should then be paid to the Town.

After discussion, the Board agreed by consensus for staff to prepare a letter of appreciation to the MRA Board of Directors and President's Committee, thanking them for authorizing Mr. Peery to impose and collect these fees. After review by the Town Attorney, this letter will be signed by the Mayor and each Commissioner. Staff will invite Mr. Peery to speak at both the Agenda and Town Council Meetings, at which time the Board will take the opportunity to publicly thank the MRA for their decision to impose and collect community service fees. Mayor Taylor will include this item in her presentation at the upcoming Montreat Cottagers Association meeting. The Board further agreed to increase the budgeted community service fee revenues in the Water Fund from \$35,000 to \$50,000, and make a corresponding \$15,000 reduction in the amount transferred from Retained Earnings. A revised 2010-2011 Budget Ordinance reflecting these changes will be presented for adoption at the June 24 Special Meeting, along with any necessary amendments to the 2009-2010 Fiscal Year Budget.

Public Comment

There were no comments from the public at this time.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Tate moved to adjourn the Special Meeting. Commissioner McCaskill seconded. The motion carried 4/0 and the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Letta Jean Taylor, Mayor

Misty R. Gedlinske, Town Clerk