

**TOWN OF SOUTH BETHANY
TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 24, 2016**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Mayor Voveris called the March 24, 2016, Town Council Budget Workshop Meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT: Council Members Sue Callaway, George Junkin, Tim Saxton, Wayne Schrader, Carol Stevenson, Frank Weisgerber, and Mayor Pat Voveris; Chief Troy Crowson; Finance Director Renee McDorman; Code Enforcement Constable Joseph Hinks; and Administrative Assistant Pam Smith

ADOPTION OF MINUTES – MARCH 11, 2016, PUBLIC MEETING ON FY2017 DRAFT BUDGET

A motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilman Weisgerber, to accept the March 11, 2016, Public Meeting on FY2017 Draft Budget Minutes as amended by Councilman Saxton as follows:

Page 5, Last Paragraph: Change "\$800,000" to "\$900,000".

The motion was unanimously carried.

FY 2017 DRAFT BUDGET REVIEW

Council had copies of the FY 2017 Draft Budget and it was posted on the Town's website.

Councilman Saxton reviewed the following:

- Council agreed not to contribute to the South Bethany Historical Society this year and \$500 would go straight into the CEC budget making the CEC - South Bethany Historical Photo Display line item \$1,000 and the other \$500 will be left in unassigned contributions for now.
- Health insurance is going to be lower than anticipated - it looks like it will be a reduction across all the departments of around \$8100. The Town projected a 9% increase and the increase came in at about 7.5%. Council agreed to leave the health insurance line item alone and after Open Enrollment, when the Town will know the true costs, Council can look at it again and move monies around if needed.
- A straw vote is needed on whether or not the 2.5% payout to employees at the top of the pay scale should be converted straight to their base salary. This is needed in order to direct the Finance Director to recalculate pension contributions, FICA contributions, etc., if the 2.5% goes to base salary and will change the budget a little. Mayor Voveris added that the idea is that the Town review the whole compensation schedule in the coming year. In addition to a straw vote at this meeting, Councilman Saxton said Council should approve this item as part of approving the FY 2017 Budget because it is outside the current policy in place. Mayor Voveris said it can be a separate line item in the FY 2017 Budget. Councilman Saxton agreed.

Straw vote: By a show of hands, all of the members of Council agreed that the 2.5% payout for employees at the top of the pay scale be converted straight to the employees base salary.

Councilwoman Callaway commented that the CEC met yesterday and made a decision to postpone the art show idea. After discussion, Council agreed to leave the proposed funds for the art show in the CEC budget.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE TO ADOPT POLICY FOR SOUTH BETHANY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

Mayor Voveris stated that Council Members Callaway, Saxton and Schrader have worked on the draft policy which Council had in their meeting packet.

Motion and Vote: After discussion, a motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to accept the South Bethany Committee Guidelines as prepared by Councilwoman Callaway for the meeting packet with the following change to Item E under Membership: There shall be at least three (3) voting members but not more than nine (9) members on the Ad Hoc and Standing Committees unless requested, in writing, by a Committee Chairperson and approved by the Town Council. The motion was unanimously carried. Mayor Voveris said the policy is passed and the committee did an excellent job.

Council discussed the Committee Participation Request form. Councilwoman Callaway stated that if someone was interested in serving on a committee they would complete the form and submit it to the Chair of the committee.

Motion: A motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilman Saxton, that Council accept the Committee Participation Request form.

During discussion Council agreed the form would be filled out and submitted every year even by current committee members that want to continue on the committee.

In response to public input by Jack Whitney (105 Boone Rd) stating that the Planning Commission is a two year appointment, Council noted that the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment are not included in the South Bethany Committee Guidelines. Council agreed that the Planning Commission and the Board of Adjustment be deleted from the form.

Motion and Vote: A motion was made by Councilman Saxton, seconded by Councilman Junkin, to amend the form taking off Board of Adjustment and Planning Commission and approve the form as amended. The motion was unanimously carried.

DISCUSSION ON THE SCHEDULE OF FEES

Councilman Saxton said one of the assigned tasks that the Council gave the Budget and Finance Committee was to review Schedule of Fees this year. The committee spent about three months working on the review and worked closely with the Finance Director and the Code Enforcement Constable. As part of the review the committee did comparisons of other nearby towns.

Councilman Saxton cautioned everyone that there are some unintended consequences that happened with the passing of the ordinance last year that requires (per FEMA) a permit on almost everything in town. Councilman Saxton said this requirement takes a lot more of the Code Enforcement Constable's time and the Town has to make sure the expense of his time is covered.

Councilman Saxton gave the floor to Budget and Finance Committee Member Chris Keefe saying that he asked Ms. Keefe to give today's presentation because she did most of the work for the committee.

Ms. Keefe reviewed the following Fee Schedule Change Recommendations. It was noted that the current Mercantile License Fee of \$150 covers May 1 - April 30 not May - October.

Town of South Bethany Committee

Fee Schedule Change Recommendations 2016

	Current Fee	Recommended New Fee	Details and Considerations	Notes:
Mercantile License	\$150 May - Oct \$80 Nov - April \$30 30-Day Temporary	\$150 Jan - December Eliminate \$80 Nov-April \$30 30-Day Temporary	Simplifies the process for all involved. All other coastal towns use one schedule and calendar 2016 will be a phase-in year	Ordinance change required. Insignificant increase of 6% or approx. \$2,100. Eliminates complaints from business community.
Board of Adjustment	\$750	Remains at \$750 If Town Solicitor is required, fee is \$1200. If Appeal is made to Commission, fee is \$100	There was no need to involve the Town Solicitor in either FY 2015 or so far in FY 2016 appeal, 4 BOA appeals. In FY16 to date, 2 PC appeals, 1 BOA appeal.	Will require a resolution No additional income anticipated for Town Solicitor involvement. Given the low number of appeals, additional income would be negligible.
Building Permit Fees				Will require a Resolution Based on past 3 year history of new construction, approximately \$50,000.increase to income.
New Construction	ICC Index x 2.15% per sq ft	ICC Index x 3.15% per sq ft	Increase the multiplier by 1% SB still the least expensive of coastal towns by far	
Renovations -Inside House	No change to current configuration-\$50 flat fee Change configuration- ICC Index x 2.15% per sq ft	No change to current configuration-\$50 flat fee Change configuration -.5% (1/2 of 1%) of contract	FY2015, 49 permits at \$50. Of those 49 permits, 24 required configuration changes. More practical method of assessment for renovations and negligible increase of 1/2 of 1%.	Using the new schedule, income from renovation permits would increase by approx.30% but less than \$5,000 annually. Will require a Resolution
Renovations -Outside House	\$50	Minimum of \$50 or .5% (1/2 of 1%) of contract fee, whichever higher	assesment for decks and outside renovations. Negligible increase of 1/2 of 1%.	Will require a Resolution Increase negligible--approx.\$1,000 annually based on average deck replacement costs.
House Demolition	\$100	\$750	SB had 7 demolitions FY15. Brings SB closer to fees charged by other coastal towns	Based on FY15, fees would have increased 750%, or \$4,550. Will require a Resolution
FOIA	New verbiage needed to be in conformity with State of Delaware. Current fees are			Will require a Resolution. Negligible financial impact but must be done for compliance.
Credit Card Processing Fees	Fees are in place but need to be added to Fee Schedule.	3% Processing Fee		Will require a Resolution Currently charge these fees when credit cards are used. Little financial impact expected.

Regarding Mercantile Licenses Councilwoman Stevenson asked if all subcontractors had to have a Town Mercantile License. The Code Enforcement Constable said yes and noted that the Town Code reads every contractor/subcontractor. The Code Enforcement Constable clarified that an employee of a contractor would not need a separate Mercantile License.

Regarding changing the Mercantile License time period from May - April to January - December, the Finance Director said that after reconsidering she would prefer to keep it the way it currently is. Councilman Saxton said he believes the revenue will be basically the same if the time period runs on the fiscal year or the calendar year.

Regarding a trend in the decrease of Mercantile Licenses in the Town, the Code Enforcement Constable stated that currently there is a contractor in town that has seven new homes under construction in various stages of completion and the contractor is using the same subcontractors. The license fee for the year is only collected one time. The Code Enforcement Constable said in the past it was unusual that one contractor would sweep seven homes.

Regarding the recommended new fee of \$1,200 if the Town Solicitor is required for a Board of Adjustment (BOA) Hearing, it was suggested the fee for a BOA Hearing be \$750 plus the Town's attorney fee and not set a dollar amount for the Town's attorney fee. Councilman Schrader stated that the attorney fee should only be added if the Town prevails. He added that if the property owners succeed in their appeal there is a reason not to then impose on them the attorney fee of the losing side (the Town). During discussion Councilman Schrader said the legal system does not award attorney fees - the normal rule in America is both sides pay their lawyer fees. After more discussion Mayor Voveris said this is something to think about and there might be a caveat to consider.

Regarding the recommended new fee of \$100 if an appeal is made to the Town Council, Mayor Voveris said \$100 is light because the past appeals have required input from the Town Solicitor. With the attorney fee being \$200 an hour, Mayor Voveris thinks the fee should be at least \$250. Mayor Voveris added that the Town does not want a frivolous inquiry.

Regarding building permit fees for new construction, Ms. Keefe said the committee did a study of the nearby towns fees on new construction. Compared to the other towns, South Bethany is far behind on the fee it charges for new construction. Ms. Keefe stated that most towns charge a 3% flat fee of contract cost. South Bethany currently charges ICC Index x 2.15% per sq. ft. Ms. Keefe reviewed the following fee comparison chart.

Fee Comparison

House	BP Fee @ 2.15 %	BP Fee @ 3.15%	3% of Contract
1	\$10,002.74	\$14,586.46	\$12,000.00
2	\$11,722.54	\$17,044.14	\$21,000.00
3	\$10,792.09	\$15,717.03	\$15,000.00
4	\$9,700.01	\$14,211.64	\$23,100.00
5	\$9,207.44	\$13,434.08	\$8,496.00
Totals	\$51,424.82	\$74,993.35	\$79,596.00

Regarding the committee's recommendation to increase ICC Index x 2.15% per sq ft to ICC Index x 3.15% per sq ft, Councilman Saxton stated that the committee wanted to be somewhere in the middle of the Town's current fee on new construction and the fee other towns are charging. Councilman Saxton said the committee agreed with the Code Enforcement Constable to stay with the ICC Index times a percentage per square foot. The Code Enforcement Constable stated that using 3% of contract allows the contractor to falsify information regarding time and material. If the fee is driven by square foot and by the ICC multiplier, square footage is an easy verification.

Regarding renovation fees, Ms. Keefe said the committee is proposing that the Council might want to change to .5% (1/2 of 1%) of contract cost because it is a better method of assessment

and it would not result in a big change as shown on the following chart prepared by the Code Enforcement Constable.

Permit Fee		Contract Price	0.50%	1%
\$50.00	Pervious Pavers	\$14,000.00	\$70.00	\$140.00
\$50.00	Siding	\$17,000.00	\$85.00	\$ 170.00
\$50.00	Siding,railings	\$28,895.00	\$144.47	\$ 288.94
\$50.00	Reroof House	\$4,881.00	\$24.40	\$ 48.80
\$50.00	Eco Pavers and Walkway Pervious Pavers	\$8,500.00	\$42.50	\$ 85.00
\$273.70	528' of deck boards replacement	\$4,100.00	\$21.00	\$ 42.00
\$261.26	Replace 504' of decking surface and railing	\$7,000.00	\$35.00	\$ 70.00
\$50.00	19 windows replaced, 2 patio doors	\$18,000.00	\$90.00	\$ 180.00
\$50.00	Siding,fascia,gutters,windows,outside shower	\$19,063.00	\$95.32	\$ 190.64
\$900.07	New deck boards	\$18,000.00	\$90.00	\$ 180.00
\$386.50	Replace deck boards and ground level walkway	\$8,000.00	\$40.00	\$ 80.00
\$571.81	Replace deck boards with New composite boards	\$8,500.00	\$42.50	\$ 85.00
\$118.60	Replace deck board and railing	\$18,500.00	\$92.50	\$ 185.00
\$50.00	Pervious Pavers	\$15,000.00	\$75.00	\$ 150.00
\$50.00	Solar Panels	\$20,000.00	\$100.00	\$ 200.00
\$365.32	690' Ground Level deck 190' vinyl fence	\$8,800.00	\$44.00	\$ 88.00
\$50.00	Eco Pavers and Walkway Pervious Pavers	\$25,000.00	\$125.00	\$ 250.00
\$50.00	Replace windows	\$11,825.00	\$59.12	\$ 118.24
\$50.00	Remove siding, replace tyvek and flashing	\$20,000.00	\$100.00	\$ 200.00
\$56.90	Update kitchen and bathroom vanity and floors	\$49,000.00	\$245.00	\$ 490.00
\$50.00	Remodel 2 Bathrooms Countertops tile	\$68,000.00	\$340.00	\$ 680.00
\$50.00	Drywall,paint,insulation,cabinets, damage repair	\$50,000.00	\$250.00	\$ 500.00
\$50.00	Water Damage repairs	\$67,427.00	\$331.13	\$ 674.27
\$50.00	HVAC Replacement	\$10,000.00	\$50.00	\$ 100.00
Total				
\$3,734.16		\$519,491.00	\$2,591.95	\$ 5,183.90

Mayor Voveris said the chart is a synopsis - it is not a year or even a month. Mayor Voveris said the Council just did a budget projection for the FY 2017 Budget increasing revenue and the above chart shows at 0.50% the total revenue using the examples in the chart would decrease from \$3,734.16 to \$2,591.95. Mayor Voveris believes the Council needs to look at what the combination is and how to apply things for all of the renovation fees. The Code Enforcement Constable said the loss of revenue using 0.50% of contract is due to the permit fee regarding decks which currently is calculated using square footage. Mayor Voveris noted that she had the Code Enforcement Constable add the 1% of contract column (the blue column) which results in a modest increase in revenue from \$3,734.16 to \$5,183.90. Mayor Voveris pointed out that in the fourth item from the bottom of the chart, Remodel 2 Bathrooms Countertops tile, the current permit fee (the left column) is \$50 and the recommended permit fee of 0.50% of contract (the orange column) would be \$340.00. Mayor Voveris said these are things that have to be looked at because it does impact the cost. Mayor Voveris thinks Council could look at more samples than what is in the chart.

Councilwoman Callaway believes Council needs to look at what the purpose of the permits is - is the purpose to raise revenue or is it to make sure things are done right. Councilwoman Callaway said the Town wants to encourage people to fix up their places.

Referring to the FEMA requirement for a permit on all renovations, the Code Enforcement Constable said the question is what is the Town going to charge not whether or not a permit is required.

Councilman Junkin said he thinks Council agrees that on renovations inside and outside the house the fee should not be based on square foot - the fee should be based on \$50 and some percent of the contract cost.

Regarding house demolitions, Councilman Saxton said South Bethany's fee of \$100 is low compared to the other nearby towns. Councilman Saxton said the Code Enforcement Constable does have to spend time making sure the demolition is done properly. Councilman Junkin asked how much a demolition costs. The Code Enforcement Constable said depending on the size of the building it can cost anywhere from under \$5,000 to over \$8,000. The Code Enforcement Constable said the cost is driven by time, the amount of the material, and tipping fees. Councilman Junkin thinks the Town should charge a percent of the demolition cost and noted that if the cost of the demolition is \$5,000, a \$750 permit fee is a high percent. Mayor Voveris agreed and added that the property owner will be rebuilding a new house and the Town will collect a permit fee for that. Councilman Junkin stated that if the Town charged a 1% fee, the permit cost for a \$7,000 demolition would be \$70. Ms. Keefe stated that Rehoboth Beach and Lewes require secured bonds of 20% of the demo costs and they have a minimum fee of \$2,000 for anything over 750 square foot. Ms. Keefe stated that there are things that happen when there is a demolition - giant heavy machines come in and can rip up the road, there is a vibration, there is dust, there is noise, there is pneumatic tools, there is hazardous materials, there are things that could go wrong with nearby trees and overhead lines. Ms. Keefe said the contractor should be paying for any damages, but there can be damage that nobody sees.

DISCUSSION REGARDING PERMIT PARKING WEST OF ROUTE 1

Councilman Saxton said when the Budget and Finance Committee was working on the FY 2017 draft budget and looking at the Town's income from parking permits, and after listening to the concerns from Cat Hill property owners regarding 5,000 units being built west of South Bethany, the committee thought it would be a good idea to bring to the Council for discussion to require parking permits (the same parking permits already used on the east side of Route 1) on the streets west of Route 1 for the first 150 or 250 feet. Mayor Voveris questioned if Council should take a summer to study activity on parking knowing that parking has been a very sensitive thing for many years.

Public Comment: Jack Whitney (105 Boone Rd.) - Stated that at his end of town it is a rare problem that anybody parks on York Rd. and goes to the beach. Mr. Whitney thinks that if a parking permit requirement is put in place on the west side of Route 1 it should only be on certain streets. Mr. Whitney suggested that the Town look at where the problems are this year and then come up with a policy for next year.

After more public comment, Mayor Voveris said she thinks parking needs a lot of consideration and maybe a parking committee could be formed. Councilwoman Callaway noted that parking is an item on the 2015 Community Survey. Mayor Voveris said it is a survey assignment.

CAT HILL TRAFFIC ISSUES

- **Discussion and Possible Vote to Add Data Recorders to Each of the Recently Ordered Radar Signs at a Total Cost of \$1200 to be Drawn from MSA Funds.**

Motion and Vote: A motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilman Schrader, to add data recorders (3) to each of the recently ordered radar signs at a total cost of \$1,200 to be drawn from MSA Funds. During discussion Jay Headman said the community does support this. The motion was unanimously carried.

- **Discussion and Possible Vote to Augment/Replace the Speed Bumps in Cat Hill if the April DeIDOT Review Illustrates Height can be Increased per Their Standards. Funding Would be Drawn from MSA Funds.**

Motion and Vote: A motion was made by Councilman Schrader, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to augment or replace the speed bumps in Cat Hill if the April DeIDOT review illustrates height can be increased per their standards – funding would be drawn from MSA funds. After public comments, the motion was unanimously carried.

- **Discussion and Possible Vote to Send a Survey to all Black Gum Drive Owners to Seek Majority Support to Add a Speed Bump in the Vicinity of 420/421 Black Gum Drive.**

Mayor Voveris stated that Chief Crowson went out yesterday and did other measurements and the survey letter will read in the vicinity of 420/418 or 421/419 Black Gum Dr. Mayor Voveris stated that after sending the draft survey letter out in a News Update, one owner replied that the letter should indicate when to send the survey letter back. Mayor Voveris said the letter will be revised to add at the bottom in bold "Please return this survey in the enclosed postage paid envelope by _____ "(date to be determined).

The group of Cat Hill property owners objected to the requirement of 2/3 of the votes in support of the speed hump needed of all Black Gum Drive property owners. After discussion, Mayor Voveris said she would follow up with DeIDOT on the 2/3 requirement.

In the end, this item was tabled.

- **Discussion & Possible Vote for Consideration of Street Line Painting Proposed by Cat Hill Owners and the Timeline for Such. This Would Include White Edge Painting on Black Gum, Tamarack, Cattail and both White Edge Painting and Center Yellow Line Painting on Canal and Russell. Approximate Cost from MSA Funds of \$5200 in Total.**

Motion: A motion was made by Councilman Schrader, seconded by Councilman Saxton, to approve street line painting proposed by Cat Hill owners which would include white edge painting on Black Gum, Tamarack, and Cattail and both white edge painting and center yellow line painting on Canal and Russell.

Motion: After Council discussion and public comment, a motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilwoman Callaway, to table Councilman Schrader's motion until Council has more information. During discussion Mayor Voveris said it was her thought that the Town would get a recommendation from DeIDOT and act on that because it is more than white lines it is now center yellow line painting on Canal and Russell. Mayor Voveris said it is important to have proper documentation and reason to move forward - Council cannot arbitrarily do this.

Vote: Mayor Voveris called for a vote on Councilman Junkin's motion to table this. The motion was adopted with a 5-0 vote. Councilmen Saxton and Schrader abstained.

Councilman Schrader requested that somebody, if it is possible, talk to Sea Colony regarding their cut through road that has white lines and a speed limit of 15 MPH and see if they went through DeIDOT.

- **Discussion and Possible Vote on Whether or Not to Leave the Barricade in Place During the July DeIDOT Study.**

A motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilman Weisgerber, to leave the barricade in place during the July DeIDOT Study.

Discussion: Mayor Voveris said that with leaving the barricade in place during the July DeIDOT study, the traffic count will come in at zero during that time. Then the traffic count and the information Council uses to determine when a barricade should be up would exclude 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. because there was no traffic due to the barricade being in place. Councilman Saxton said it will only give a zero reading for traffic coming into town from Kent Ave. - it will not give a zero reading on traffic going out of town coming from Route 1. Councilman Saxton said that data will be accurate. Councilman Saxton said he does not believe taking the barricade down for the DeIDOT study is going to give the Town any additional data that will help.

Vote: The voting was as follows:

FOR THE MOTION: Councilpersons Weisgerber, Saxton, Schrader, and Junkin

AGAINST THE MOTION: Mayor Voveris and Councilpersons Stevenson and Callaway

The motion carried with a 4-3 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Sandi Roberts (107 Canal Dr.) - Mayor Voveris read the following letter from Sandi Roberts which Ms. Roberts asked be read into the minutes: Council spends considerable time and energy ensuring that ordinances are in place to maintain the value of properties in South Bethany and improving the appearance of the town, making it an attractive place to live and visit. Surely the safety of residents and visitors is just as worthy of Council's attention.

We have lifeguards to keep our beaches safer. We have a police department to keep our homes, businesses, and streets safer. Why wouldn't the Mayor and Town Council do everything in its power to make the streets in South Bethany as safe as possible? Even one pedestrian, bike rider, jogger, child or pet injured - or God forbid killed - is one too many.

I urge the Council to do everything possible to reduce the volume and speed of the traffic that uses the streets in Cat Hill as a cut through to Rt. 1 and Kent Avenue. The recommendations made by Jay Headman and his committee won't solve the problem completely, but they are a good starting point while Council continues to explore long range solutions.

Gary Bergman (117 Canal Rd) - Made the following comments: My wife and I own the home at 117 Canal Road, which is at the intersection with Tamarack. I have previously emailed you comments, which I will not rehash but will just add a few more observations for you to consider.

First, the town has been aware of and acknowledged the problem of cars and trucks speeding around the right turn from Canal to Tamarack and going off the road onto the graveled right-of-way where families walk with their children and pets. In fact last year, the town did paint a white road edge line, repaired the ruts with new gravel and installed 2 reflectors in an attempt to remedy this problem. Unfortunately, this has not worked. Vehicles still cut the corner and go off the road. Ruts are re-appearing with gravel being scattered into the middle of the roadway; another hazard. And as you have

been previously informed, there have been several near misses in just this past year, including two involving children. As previously requested, the white road edge line at the intersection should be extended along the entire length of the right-of-way and several more reflectors added, in addition to the 3 way stop, to help remedy this problem.

I believe it is important for you to know that there has been a misconception that South Bethany must follow the state's regulations. This is not true. In a communication last year from DELDOT, they stated that because the roads in question are not state maintained, DELDOT "does not have jurisdiction or maintenance responsibilities of signage or pavement markings. Therefore, we will defer to the Town for any decisions related to signage installation at this intersection." However, even though the Town doesn't need to follow DELDOT regulations, the Canal/Tamarack intersection still does fulfill many of the state's criteria. The amount of cut-through traffic, pedestrian and bicyclist crowding, restricted views, speeding, vehicles going off the road and near-miss accidents - all fulfill many of the criteria in the "Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control for Streets and Highways". The Town of South Bethany does have the authority to decide whatever measures it deems necessary to ensure the safety of its roads.

As a pediatrician and former Chief of Pediatrics, I have been a long and vocal community advocate for safety issues, especially those that involve children. In this case, I cannot understand why anyone would be opposed to such simple and inexpensive measures as a 3-way stop, extending the road edge line and adding a few more reflectors that would make the Canal/Tamarack intersection safer for its residents and especially for our children.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of these concerns.

Jack Whitney (105 Boone Rd.) - Asked if the committee guidelines have been posted anywhere. Mayor Voveris said it was a working document until finalizing it today. Council discussed where to post the approved document on the Town's website. It was suggested to add a new tab under Committee/Boards and post the guidelines and the form there. Councilman Saxton stated that the committee mission statements on the committee web pages should be updated with the mission statements approved in the guidelines. Council agreed.

Mr. Whitney asked if the draft proposed Schedule of Fees was posted where people could review it and will it be posted anywhere. Mayor Voveris said it is still a draft document and Council still has a lot of discussion on the topic. Mayor Voveris noted that the Council did not vote on the Schedule of Fees today and Council just started discussion. Mayor Voveris said Council will probably have another discussion at the April Town Council Workshop Meeting. Mr. Whitney asked if the document would be posted for comments from property owners prior to taking a final vote. Mayor Voveris said normally a working document would not be posted. Councilman Saxton said he would not want to post something after all of the discussion at today's meeting. Councilman Saxton said maybe something could be posted after the next meeting when Council has something a little more definitive. Mr. Whitney said he thinks that at some point before it is passed there should be an opportunity for property owners to see the document and make their comments. Mayor Voveris said what Mr. Whitney is asking for is a new idea for Council to consider. Mayor Voveris said she will put that on as an agenda item.

George Rosenberg (409 Black Gum Dr.) - Stated that it is his feeling that the Mayor and a large part of the Council doesn't really get that public safety for the people in Cat Hill is a priority to the point where Council become their advocates to the State and say the Town is looking to do things to improve these things. There always seems to be backing up and saying we will see what they say and then we will come to a decision and we will look at our liability. Mr. Rosenberg said we never feel that you are advocating for us and our children and our dogs. My wife and I walk four or five miles everyday in this town and I can tell you that it is a problem, and we all say we need data. Mr. Rosenberg said yes we do need data, but we also need public safety and we need people on the Council and the police to really be out there advocating for this safety. Mr. Rosenberg said we are not asking you to pay for our insurance filings with FEMA, we are asking

for public safety - simple. It is so easy - if you walk anywhere in Cat Hill you will see what the problem is. Mr. Rosenberg asked why won't you advocate for us - why are you backing up all of the time and relying on other people and other people's decisions.

Mayor Voveris responded that if you feel like we don't do enough, there is an election coming up and you are welcome to step up and sit in one of these chairs. Mayor Voveris said she personally puts about 40 hours a week into this job advocating and looking at ways to make our town better and to be responsive to government. There is not one person up here who takes this job lightly, and if we need data to make informed decisions it is because we want to make the best decision and we also want to make a decision that 1400 property owners can support. Mayor Voveris said it isn't a decision because you come to the meeting and pick on us or you come to the meeting and say you have a problem. Mayor Voveris said she is very aware of the problem and she studied this barricade issue for three months when she got on Council five years ago. Mayor Voveris said we all travel the road so we are all very aware and we are working very hard. Mayor Voveris said you come to the meeting and we are very responsive - you are on an agenda the very next meeting. Mayor Voveris said she is going to talk to Mike Somers this afternoon about this issue. Mayor Voveris said we are trying to get things done but we are getting resistance about how we want to do it, and we have to follow a process and we are doing our best to do that.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilman Junkin, seconded by Councilwoman Stevenson, to adjourn the March 24, 2016, Town Council Budget Workshop Meeting at 1 p.m. The motion was unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Administrative Assistant

Council Secretary

Date of Approval