

**THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
OF THE TOWN OF ERWIN WILL MEET IN SPECIAL CALLED MEETING ON
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2009 @ 4:00 P.M.
IN THE ERWIN MUNICIPAL BUILDING BOARD ROOM**

AGENDA

1. **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**
 - A. INVOCATION
 - B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
3. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Drainage Study Grant Resolution
5. **ADJOURNMENT**

OLD BUSINESS



Town of Erwin

REQUEST FOR TOWN BOARD CONSIDERATION

To: The Honorable Mayor and Board of Commissioners
From: Bryan T. Thompson, Town Manager
Subject: Drainage Study Grant Resolution

The following are a number of questions asked at the December Board Meeting with respect to the drainage study grant.

When is the deadline for submittal of the grant?

- The deadline for submitting this grant is January 1, 2009. Hunter Freedman with Withers and Ravenel is making contact with NCDENR Division of Water Resources (the grant source) to find out if this can be delivered by hand on this date.

When will the next grant cycle and deadline be?

- The grant cycle is roughly six months. There are two deadlines throughout the year. These deadlines are January 1 and July 1 of each year. According to Mr. Freedman, unlike some grant sources, the turnaround for contract execution and grant funds being released after the awarding of a grant is much quicker than other State funding sources. According to Freedman, with the quick turnaround (if the Town receives the grant award), the Town may be able to make application for construction dollars come July (assuming that we run into few snags along the way).
- Further, in speaking with Freedman, it is possible to apply for construction dollars now; however, without plans and construction drawings, it is nearly impossible to know how much grant dollars to ask for. The project can be estimated to \$150,000 (this is just an example), but if the project ends up costing \$200,000 the Town would be obligated to make one of two choices. One, fund the remainder of the project without matching grant funds; or two, cut the project short and not fully address the issues that would otherwise correct the problems in this area. The planning grant will assist us in making a firm determination of the cost associated with the project. This will better enable the town to know how to budget for the project if the town decides to move forward with the project.

What are the priorities among the recommendations of the previous study and how were such priorities developed / how did this section of the overall drainage issues get selected above other areas along the problem areas of the larger system?

- From what can be gathered, the initial study did not prioritize areas as much as it intended to identify problem areas in the study area. In speaking with Freedman, the

setting of priorities fell to practical and logistical concerns and considerations. It would be possible to address a number of issues up stream in the drainage system. However, to do so would have no immediate positive impact to the overall system. If an issue farther up stream were corrected, it would help carry water more freely along the upstream area that is corrected, but only to the point that the water reaches the next problem downstream. At this point when the water reaches the next problem downstream, the downstream problem may be worse due to the larger amounts of water reaching this area due to the fixing of the problem upstream. Therefore, it is more practical and desirable to start downstream and work upwards of the stream as apposed to taking the opposite approach.

- Another consideration is grant funding. In order to allow the town's dollars to have the most impact, it is prudent to leverage town funds against grant sources that can assist with the correction of these issues. It may come to pass where an area identified to be corrected does not have a grant source that can be received by the town to help cover the cost of that particular project. At such point the town will need to weigh the overall benefit of the project against the cost associated with completing the project.

What is the immediate impact if this project moves forward?

- The more direct impact to the drainage system is the effect on the drainage of stormwater in the immediate area. Such water will move more freely to the tributary that feeds into the Black River. This will lower the likelihood of flood occurrences to properties in the more immediate area.

What is the impact to the overall drainage system if this project moves forward?

- The impact to the overall drainage system is less significant than to the immediate area of this portion of the drainage system. However, it is expected that the correction of this issue will remove one hindrance to the free passage of water downstream, which may translate into less strain and backup on the drainage system farther upstream. This is a system-wide problem. Consequently, not one project is going to alleviate the ills of the overall system. It will take a series of projects to correct the existing issues with the East Erwin drainage system. Furthermore, once all of the problems are corrected, the town should keep active in addressing future issues that may occur and take appropriate measures in applying resources devoted to preventative maintenance with respect to the town's drainage system.

Following is the Resolution for the Board's consideration. If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.