

**MINUTES**  
**Town of Blowing Rock**  
**Town Council**  
**Budget Work Session**  
**May 24, 2016**

The Town of Blowing Rock Town Council began their annual budget work session on Tuesday, May 24, 2016. The work session was held at Town Hall located at 1036 Main Street, Blowing Rock. Present were Mayor J.B. Lawrence, Mayor Pro-tem Albert Yount, Council Members Jim Steele, Sue Sweeting, Doug Matheson, and Ray Pickett. Others in attendance were Town Manager Scott Fogleman, Finance Director Nicole Norman, Town Clerk Sharon Greene and Interim Town Clerk Hilari Hubner.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**DISCUSSION**

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

For informational purposes, Town Manager Fogleman distributed to Council a letter received from Marty Randall with the NC Department of Public safety along with a series of questions issued regarding a VIPER Tower for a site on Green Hill. When the letter from Mr. Marty Randall was distributed, Mayor Pro-tem Yount objected to the presentation based on the fact that the meeting had been announced to the public for the purpose of a budget work session. Council Member Steele and Council Member Sweeting supported the objection. It was the consensus of Council to receive the information and discuss it when more information becomes available. **VIPER Tower Letter - Attachment A**

Town Manager Fogleman discussed a possible mid-year budget item for the median NCDOT improvement project near the Parkway on Highway 321 for \$6,900 for topsoil. Town Manager Fogleman explained a few options. Council member Sweeting asked if BRAAC could help with any of the funding and also asked if topsoil was necessary. Town Manager Fogleman advised he would discuss this issue with Landscape Specialist Chris Pate and obtain his recommendation.

Town Manager Fogleman reviewed several highlights in the FY 2017 proposed budget. **Work Session Materials For The FY 2017 Budget - Attachment B**

Town Manager Fogleman reviewed General Fund revenue and compared the FY 2016 adopted budget to the FY 2017 recommended budget. Town Manager Fogleman also reviewed with Council the proposed tax rate increase of 1.0 cent, resulting in a proposed tax rate of 34.0 cents per \$100 of assessed value.

