

**Town of Maggie Valley**  
**Emergency Called Aldermen Meeting**  
**March 18, 2010**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

Members Present: Mayor Roger McElroy, Aldermen: Saralyn Price, Scott Pauley, and Colin Edwards  
Staff Present: Manager Tim Barth, Planning Director Nathan Clark and Town Clerk Vickie Best  
Others Present: John Phillips with NCDOT, Beth Fleming with the Mountaineer, Bibeka Shrestha with Smoky Mountain News, Steve Shiver-CEO of Ghost Town, and Jim Blyth

The Emergency Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Boardroom.

Events have developed quickly since the slide on Rich Cove Road. The Town of Maggie Valley has applied for funding from the Emergency Watershed Protection Program. The approximate cost for the clean up and stabilization of the Rich Cove Slide is \$1,338,000.00.

The local share would be \$334,500.00. The Town contacted BB&T Bank, but was unsuccessful in obtaining funds. Local legislators are seeking funding in Raleigh to help off-set the cost of the clean up/stabilization. The Following resolution was presented to the Board.

**RESOLUTION 10-5**

A Resolution Requesting Financial Assistance from Any Contingency Funds Available Through the Offices of State Senator Joe Sam Queen and State Representative Phil Haire  
Whereas, a landslide of almost 11,000 cubic yards of debris occurred on the evening of February 5, 2010 in the Rich Cove Road area of Maggie Valley; and  
Whereas, the landslide began at the top of the mountain and left a 3,000 foot path of debris; and  
Whereas, the landslide blocked two sections of state maintained Rich Cove Road and destroyed two sections on separate private roads; and  
Whereas, a path has been cleared on the state maintained Rich Cove Road in order for small emergency vehicles to be able to get up Rich Cove Road; and  
Whereas, a state Geologist has examined the slide and estimates that there remains as much as 60,000 cubic yards of material at the top of the mountain that is not stable and under the right conditions could cause another landslide:  
Whereas, NCDOT cannot fully clear Rich Cove Road until the unstable material at the top of the mountain is stabilized; and  
Whereas, it is critical that Rich Cove Road be able to be cleared not just for the residents who live along or just off of Rich Cove Road, but also so all emergency vehicles can safely get to all areas served by Rich Cove Road; and

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Whereas, Ghost Town in the Sky amusement park sits at the top of Rich Cove Road and its ability to operate is compromised (including its 200 part time job and estimated \$10 million dollar impact on the Haywood County economy; and

Whereas, the Town of Maggie Valley has identified a grant through the United States Department of Agriculture called the Emergency Watershed Protection program; and

Whereas, the Town has received notification the Emergency watershed Protection Program estimates that the total project cost to stabilize the unstable material and to remove the debris brought down by the landslide is \$1,468,500.00; and

Whereas, the local match required for the project is \$334,500.00, a sum that Maggie Valley alone cannot afford; and

Whereas, the Town of Maggie Valley can put \$25,000.00 toward the needed match and Ghost Town can put \$25,000.00 toward the match.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF MAGGIE VALLEY THAT:**

It requests financial assistance from any contingency funds that may be known and available through the offices of State Senator Joe Sam Queen and State Representative Phil Haire, in the amount of \$284,500.00 to help meet the local match in order to be able to take advantage of the Emergency Watershed Protection Program funds. These funds are critical to the safety of the Rich Cove Road area and are vital to allow the Rich Cove Road to function as a safe roadway for residential, commercial and emergency traffic.

**ALDERMAN PRICE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 10-5  
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

There are no guarantees, but staff is hopeful. The Town of Maggie Valley's contribution will come from contingency.

If the contributions/funding come through, Council has authorized Manager Barth to sign the agreement. The project agreement will define the scope of services and set out guidelines for the state and local agencies.

Ghost Town CEO, Steve Shiver, questioned the storage of spoilage, if the road right-of-way is part of the clean up, will NCDOT's work be part of the match and will the town bid out the work?

The Geo-techs will look at the bids and then make their recommendations. The Request for Proposals may go out statewide.

Mr. Shiver added that most of the slide is on Ghost Town property and they and his engineer have done a lot already. Mr. Shiver asked if Ghost Town's match could be in-kind service.

The contract engineer would make those decisions.

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**FOR SAFETY PURPOSES ALONE, ALDERMAN PRICE MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION AND ALLOCATE \$25,000 FROM THE TOWN'S GENERAL FUND.**

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**ON MOTION OF ALDERMAN EDWARDS, WITH ALL IN FAVOR, THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 3:19 P.M.**

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Mayor Roger McElroy

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Vickie Best, Town Clerk, CMC