BLACK MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

October 30, 2024 | Special Called Town Council Meeting Minutes | Time: 2:00 P.M.

Black Mountain Presbyterian Church | 117 Montreat Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711

Special called meeting of the Town Council due to ongoing State of Emergency from Hurricane Helene.

The Black Mountain Town Council held a Special Called Meeting on Wednesday, October 30, 2024 at Black Mountain Presbyterian Church, 117 Montreat Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711. The purpose of this meeting was to provide updates from Town departments related to ongoing storm recovery efforts and to consider approval of a contract.

Mayor C. Michael Sobol called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. with the following members in attendance: Mayor C. Michael Sobol, Vice Mayor Archie Pertiller, Council Member Alice Berry, Council Member Doug Hay, Council Member Pam King, Council Member Ryan Stone.

Several staff members and members of the public were also in attendance.

Updates from the Town Manager- Town Manager Josh Harrold provided the Council with an update on storm debris collection that has begun with contracted company, AshBritt. Residents can begin putting storm debris at the right-of-way on their street for collection. Additional storm debris pickup work is working through the system and will be announced soon. Josh also mentioned loan programs that would be available to the Town until FEMA reimbursements are provided and that staff is working on these applications.

Disaster Management Services Contract Award- Project and Facilities Manager Angela Reece stated that in order to facilitate ongoing response and recovery, staff sought out professional services to assist with navigating this disaster in the most prudent, efficient, and holistic way. Disaster management firms have the necessary qualifications, education, experience, and expertise to deal with disasters of this magnitude and will assist the town to address funding gaps, budgeting and rebuilding a more resilient infrastructure and community.

Angela stated she has performed a qualifications-based selection and review process and has recommended IEM International Inc. as being the best qualified firm for the Council's consideration of a professional engineering services contract award for disaster services.

Due to the nature of the project, and federal regulations, the final scope of the work will need to be properly developed by the selected firm in accordance with grant funding guidelines. The initial resolution will approve selection of the firm and will authorize the Town Manager to negotiate an initial and final scope of work and fees. Any subsequent amendments that result in additional fees or services will come back to the Council for approval.

Council Member Doug Hay made a motion that Town Council approve the Resolution to Approve the Agreement with <u>IEM International, Inc.</u> (selected firm) to Provide Professional Services for Disaster Recovery, Financial and Grant Management Support and Disaster Cost Recovery Planning Services and authorize the Town Attorney and Town Manager to negotiate and execute a final contract and fee. A vote of 5-0 in favor.

RESOLUTION BY THE TOWN OF BLACK MOUNTAIN TOWN COUNCIL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR PROFESSIONAL DISASTER RECOVERY, FINANCIAL AND GRANT MANAGEMENT SUPPORT AND DISASTER COST RECOVERY PLANNING SERVICES FOR THE BLACK MOUNTAIN FEDERAL DISASTER 4827- TROPICAL STORM HELENE

Resolution #R-24-38

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2024, Governor Roy Cooper signed a State of Emergency declaration in anticipation of impacts from Tropical Storm Helene; and

WHEREAS, on September 25, 2024, the Buncombe County Commissioners signed a Local State of Emergency declaration by and with the consent of the mayors of the municipalities within Buncombe County; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2024, the Town Council signed Local State of Emergency declaration; and

WHEREAS, Town Staff have conducted a qualifications-based selection process and have determined **<u>IEM International, Inc.</u>** as most advantageous having received a proposal response and general fees for services from **<u>IEM International, Inc</u>** to provide professional disaster recovery, financial and grant management support and disaster cost recovery planning services for the Town of Black Mountain in response to Federal Disaster 4827- Tropical Storm Helene.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Black Mountain, North Carolina that:

1. **<u>IEM International, Inc.</u>** (selected firm) is most advantageous to provide professional disaster recovery, financial and grant management support and disaster cost recovery planning services for the Town of Black Mountain in response to Federal Disaster 4827- Tropical Storm Helene. as recommended by staff.

2. The Town Manager and Town Attorney are authorized to negotiate and execute a final contract and fee with **<u>IEM International, Inc</u>** (selected firm) consistent with the Town's purchasing terms and conditions, Uniform Guidance, and FEMA's rules and regulations and of this Resolution, as approved by the Town Attorney.

Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Black Mountain, North Carolina on the 30th day of October 2024.

Update from Emergency Operations Center- Elizabeth Schroeder, liaison with Black Mountain/Buncombe Co. Emergency Operations Center, and Chief Emergency Manager with Durham County, gave an update to Council on the next phase of the recovery efforts and collaboration with Buncombe County and volunteer groups. No action was taken.

Town Finance Update- Assistant Town Manager Jessica Trotman gave a finance update on storm expenses. A finance report can be found at the end of these minutes as ***Appendix A***.

Departmental Updates- Updates were provided by Town departments on storm recovery efforts and any upcoming events. Departments providing updates included Police, Fire, Public Works, Planning, Recreation and Parks, Project and Facilities, and Clerk/Public Information Officer. Noteworthy reports included updates on Town facilities and buildings which sustained damage from the storm. These buildings and facilities include Lakeview Center, Public Works/Recreation building and equipment, Public Safety building (Police/Fire), Veterans Park, Golf Course and other recreational trails and parks.

Communication from Mayor & Town Council- Discussion ensued among Council Members and Town staff about upcoming Halloween activities and trick-or-treating, specifically along Church St. It was announced the Town would be hosting a Halloween trick-or-treating event at Town Square on October 31 from 4-6 p.m. Council Members thanked the community for attending the Remembrance Program on October 29.

There being no further business, Mayor C. Michael Sobol adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

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C. Michael Sobol, Mayor

ATTEST:

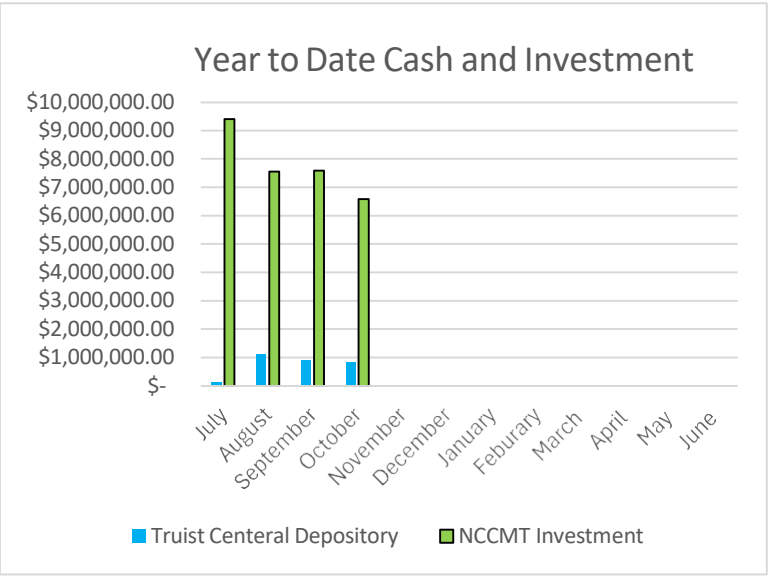
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Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk

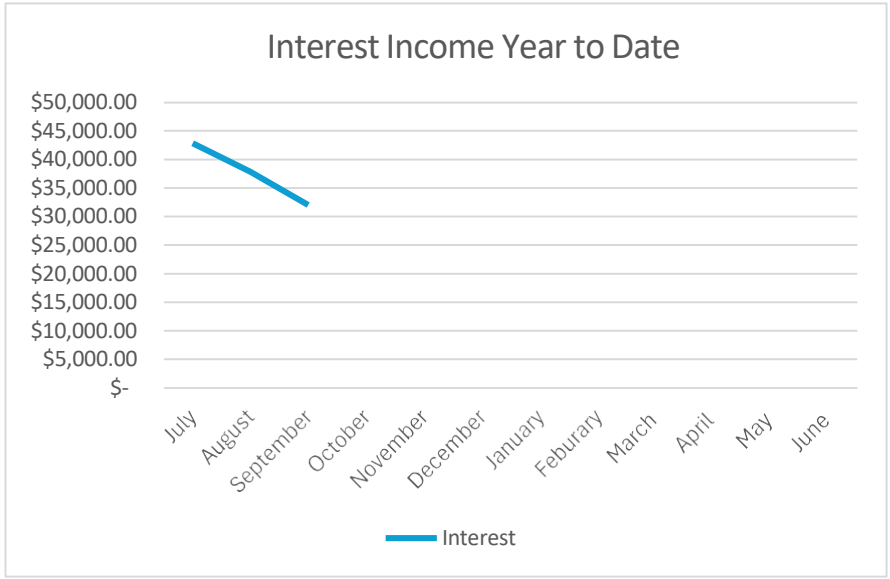
Attachments: Appendix A

Town of Black Mountain
Financial Report
October-24

Bank	April Balance
NCCMT Investment	$11,497,037.45
Truist Centeral Depositor	$940,463.46
Grand Total	**$12,437,500.91**

Unrestricted Fund Balance	**$4,172,966.82**
Total Available Fund Balance % of Actual Expenses	**10.43%**
Total Available Fund Balance % of Adopted Budget	**32.09%**





**Cash and Interest declining during first few months of Fiscal year due to timing of purchases of larger approved budget items and property tax collections (due by Sept 1 but majority are paid in December or first week of January prior to the January 7 penalty date)

General Fund Budget to Actual Revenue			
Revenue Type	**Total Amended Budget**	**YTD Activity**	**Budget Remaining**
Ad Valorem Taxes	$5,600,000	$341,878	94%
Intergovernmental - Unrestric	$3,560,500	$215,751	94%
Investment Income	$304,800	$68,251	78%
Miscellaneous Income	$50,848	$33,558	34%
Other Financing Sources	$4,613,996	$50,578	99%
Other Taxes and Licenses	$49,400	$4,329	91%
Permits and Fees	$14,600	$3,735	74%
Restricted	$57,500	$26,759	53%
Sales and Services	$1,534,160	$500,957	67%
Grand Total	**$15,785,804**	**$1,245,797**	**92%**

**** Ad Valorem Taxes are a month behind - Receive October's revenue within November*

****Sales and Use Tax Revenues are 3 months behind - Receive July's Revenues within October*

BUDGET TO ACTUAL EXPENSES BY FUND			
Fund	**2024 Budget**	**YTD Activity**	**Remaining Budget %**
General Fund	$15,764,456	$3,738,457	76.29%
Fire Special Revenue Fund	$3,629,260	$790,389	78.22%
Water Fund	$3,286,430	$790,244	75.95%
Planning And Development	$1,002,260	$193,742	80.67%
Golf Fund	$693,765	$553,483	20.22%
Stormwater Fund	$566,980	$66,274	88.31%
Powell Bill	$485,500	$162,289	66.57%
Technology Fund	$13,000	$0	100.00%
Grand Total	**$25,441,651**	**$6,294,879**	**75.26%**

BUDGET TO ACTUAL EXPENSES BY DEPARTMENT			
Department	**2024 Budget**	**YTD Activity**	**Remaining Budget %**
Administration	$754,400	$323,369	57.14%
Building And Grounds Maintena	$454,500	$107,799	76.28%
Finance	$415,860	$116,639	71.95%
Fire	$3,629,260	$790,389	78.22%
Golf Operations	$250,710	$171,001	31.79%
Golf Pro Shop	$443,055	$382,483	13.67%
Governing Body	$220,000	$77,164	64.93%
Human Resources	$467,210	$302,268	35.30%
Information Technology	$238,250	$109,394	54.08%
Lakeview Center	$214,920	$46,974	78.14%
Parks & Rec	$641,699	$167,043	73.97%
Planning And Developmental Se	$1,015,260	$193,742	80.92%
Police	$3,723,218	$1,276,997	65.70%
Pool	$217,529	$81,615	62.48%
Powell Bill	$485,500	$162,289	66.57%
Public Works Administration	$252,860	$62,673	75.21%
Sanitation	$1,135,140	$315,297	72.22%
Stormwater	$566,980	$66,274	88.31%
Streets And Highways	$1,458,110	$421,762	71.07%
Transfers	$4,570,220	$0	100.00%
Water Administration	$333,690	$114,738	65.62%
Water Operations	$2,942,740	$675,505	77.05%
Grand Total	**$24,431,111**	**$5,965,416**	**75.58%**

Town of Black Mountain
Helene Financial Report
October-24

Account Number	Account Name	Sum of YTD Fiscal Activity
425-8806-50100	Salaries - Regular	$50,245.83
425-8806-50101	Salaries - Part Time/Temp/Aux	$7,941.14
425-8806-50102	Salaries - Overtime	$167,754.13
425-8806-50210	Social Security (Fica Tax) Contributions	$17,031.73
425-8806-50220	Retirement Employer Contribution- State	$44,795.67
425-8806-50221	Retirement Employer Contribution- 401K	$10,713.43
425-8806-50230	Insurance Employer Contribution - Med & Life	$16,920.01
425-8806-52020	Contract Services	$8,040.00
425-8806-52316	R & M - Vehicle	$850.90
425-8806-52410	Office Supplies	$497.05
425-8806-55021	Emergency Disaster Preparedness Expense	$320.97
Grand Total		**$325,110.86**

Town of Black Mountain
Helene Financial Report
October-24

FUNDING AVAILABLE

	FEMA CDL Loan	DEQ Loan	NC Rebuild Loan	FEMA Expedited Funds
Amount	Up to $5 mil	No cap	Up to $2 mil	50% of Estimated cost of Emergency Work.
Terms	Up to 5 years. Will have an interest rate, actual rate is TBD	Loan repaid once FEMA funds are received. I do not think there is an interest but can find no details	Loan repaid once FEMA funds are received. 0% Interest	FEMA will true-up the remaining amount due for Emergency Work at the end of the Emergency Period. Willl provide the remaining amount of cost at the end of this period
Use	Essential Services	Water and Wastewater Systems- Temporary solution falling under the FEMA Emergency Expenses	Everyday Operating Expenses.	Immediate Needs of estimated Emergency Cost. Can not include Permanent Costs (Permanently fixing of Streets, Buildings, Vehicles, Utility System).
Qualifications	Greater than 5% loss of tax and other revenues	Utilities are non-operational or partially operational.	Designated Major Disaster by the President. The application has not opened up yet to apply.	Must be emergency expenses over the $1,037,000. Can combine expenses to reach large project threshold.
NCLM Approval	No	Yes	No	No
Applied For		Have submitted information to request funding for $3 mil to help pay for water system repairs	Application process not open yet	Have report of expenses known to date that would fall under this category to submit to FEMA. Funding should be quickly reimbursed upon approval.