Written by Gary Childers/Steve Frank
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The Boone Town Council has an executive session at the end of their agenda this evening, the stated purpose; discussions on the acquisition of land for the raw water intake on the New River. The town is trying to gain access to the intake property that is totally inside Watauga County, with Ashe County moving to block the access road that is reported to have crossed a short distance into Ashe. That water matter was one that Watauga Commissioners did their legal duty in Tuesday night by holding a public hearing on the watershed of that area, and taking action forced by statute to adopt the plan or else face $10,000 monthly fines. The motion from Commissioner Perry Yates promised to revisit the issue at a time when they are not under such duress, as speaker after speaker at the public hearing slammed the town for much of the process taken to get to this point. That project is currently stalled by Federal action due to the Ashe objection to the road.

Speaking of Boone Town Council action, Tuesday night the council passed revisions to the towing ordinances in response to the way some towing companies are conducting business, citizens reporting them as being predatory and aggressive in their practices, with the town receiving multiple complaints over several months. The revisions also addressed complaints that signage governing restricted parking areas was often unclear as to where it was permissible to park and what consequences resulted from illegal parking. The proposed revisions were approved following a few minor changes which included; requiring parking lot checkers having clearly marked cars with clear windows, increasing the wait time for unbooting a car from 10 to 15 minutes, and not allowing double booting of a vehicle. The finalized revised towing guidelines will be available from the Town offices in a few days.