

**The Boone Town Council unanimously agreed to join the Watauga County commissioners and Board of Education in a joint public hearing on issues concerning the new Watauga High School.**

**At the council's regular meeting Thursday night, the county petitioned the town to bring several issues to public hearing – one, concerning the intent to close a portion of the Daniel Boone Drive Extension; two, concerning the intent to close a portion of Hill Top Drive; and three, concerning a conditional zoning request on behalf of the county. The public hearing will be held Thursday, May 31st, at 7 p.m. in the Watauga High School Auditorium. According to Commission Chair Jim Deal, the county will also seek to gather input from residents of the neighborhoods surrounding the new high school property in the Perkinsville area. He said final designs for the project are expected by May 2nd and that the county seeks a meeting with concerned residents. A more comprehensive meeting involving residents from throughout the entire county is to be scheduled after the neighborhood meeting.**