

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
August 1, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

On August 1, 2017, the regular meeting of the Haysi Town Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Haysi Town Hall Municipal Building located at 322 Main Street, Haysi, Virginia.

The following members were present:

PRESENT: Mayor Larry D. Yates
Vice Mayor Rocky Wood

Council Members:
William "Billy" Counts
Susan Tiller
Michael Harris
Tim Wallace

ABSENT: None

ITEMS # I, II, & III

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry D. Yates at 7:00 p.m., and the Invocation was held by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked to table the Noise Ordinance under Old Business to next month's agenda. Mayor Yates explained that he needed to more time to work on it, since one of the sample ordinances he received was from 1968 and the other had a book sized definition of noise. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the agenda as amended. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM #V – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Prior to the meeting council had received for consideration of approval a copy of the following prepared minutes:

- July 11, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace to approve the minutes of the meeting on July 11, 2017 as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VII – FINANCIAL REPORT

At this time the council was presented for approval the following:

- July 1, 2017 through July 26, 2017 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- July 1, 2017 through July 26, 2017 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 13976-13996 & deposits
- June 1, 2017 through June 30, 2017 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the financial report. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

None.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Department Monthly Report-Assistant Chief Bobby Edwards (See Attachment)

Assistant Chief Bobby Edwards reported few notable calls for the month of July. Assistant Chief Edwards described a few of the calls on the report, which included a call on July 1, for breaking and entering. The owners were drunk and the ones that actually broke in at one o'clock in the morning. They were taken to jail. One July 10, for attempted robbery at the Dollar General. A gun was found in the man's vehicle and he remains in jail. On July 22, Fuzz Barton called about screaming that he believed to be on the ATV trail, but officers didn't find anything. Also on July 22, the police department assisted Austin Bradley in pursuit of a Wild Cat model ATV. The driver stopped at Mullins Taxidermy. Mayor Yates asked if the driver was arrested. Assistant Chief Edwards said there was no arrest because the driver claimed that he didn't hear Mr. Bradley. Assistant Chief Edwards read the hours worked for the officers on the report. He mentioned that the Ford Explorer got a new rear end installed last week, but the four wheel drive doesn't work and the shop can't determine why. Mayor Yates stated the vehicle will get fixed. Council Member Susan Tiller asked

for the year model of the Ford Explorer. Assistant Chief Edwards answered that it was 2010 model. Assistant Chief Edwards said Austin Bradley had the same issue and his vehicle required a new drive shaft to resolve the issue, which costed around three thousand dollars. Mayor Yates said a new drive shaft, even custom built shouldn't cost that much. Mayor Yates asked if the location on Fearl's Branch for one of the call was the usual place. Assistant Chief Edwards answered that it was. Mayor Yates asked about the seizure on July 3. Assistant Chief Edwards replied that it was a young girl with high blood sugar. Mayor Yates asked about the theft on July 5. Assistant Chief Edwards answered that it was more of a domestic dispute than theft. Mayor Yates asked about the location for a call out of jurisdiction on July 27. Assistant Chief Edwards answered that he wasn't sure. Mayor Yates asked to clarify the ATV pursuit wasn't in the town limits or inside the Breaks Interstate Park. Assistant Chief Edwards confirmed it was not, but Haysi Police Department was called to assist because the driver was headed toward Haysi. Mayor Yates explained that he met with Dwight Pierson from United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development today. The replacement vehicle has been approved and some of the paperwork was signed. Mayor Yates said the police department should have the new vehicle between sixty to ninety days from now. The new vehicle will be purchased with \$25,000.00 in grant funds and \$15,000.00 in loan funds, with a payment of \$272.00 for sixty months. Mayor Yates advised that a public hearing would need to be set and suggested fifteen minutes prior to the regular meeting next month. The public hearing is scheduled for September 5, 2017 at 6:45pm. Mayor Yates stated that Assistant Chief Edwards already has the vehicle "specked out."

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report-Chief Rocky Wood

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood reported the fire department to have fourteen calls in the month of July with a lot of hours worked. Vice Mayor Wood said the calls pertained to power line issues, house fires, and car wrecks, including two arson cases with one juvenile charged and one pending. Mayor Yates asked about a house fire over the weekend. Vice Mayor Wood confirmed there was a house fire this past weekend and no one was home. Volunteer Fire Fighter Chris Edwards said that the residents were on vacation in Gatlinburg at the time. Vice Mayor Wood requested help from the town to purchase a fire truck and stated that the department is receiving \$30,000.00 from Dickenson County to aid in the purchase. Vice Mayor Wood said one fire truck is tore up in Roanoke, having a bed put on it and the truck bought in January is broke down. Vice Mayor Wood added that their engine has a hole in the tank and won't pass an audit test by ISO, which would cause insurance rates for the town residents to "go through the roof." Vice Mayor Wood said the fire department had been looking for a truck and found a 2007 engine in Winchester, Virginia that was turned in on a ten year replacement plan. Vice Mayor Wood explained that he negotiated the hoses and nozzles into the asking price of \$70,000.00, of which Dickenson County is giving the fire department \$30,000.00. Vice Mayor Wood said he was not asking for a specific amount, but would take whatever the town could afford. Council Member Tim Wallace asked if the truck being repaired in Roanoke was coming back. Vice Mayor Wood replied that it was. Council Member Tim Wallace asked for clarification on the repair status on the truck purchased in January that is broke down. Vice Mayor Wood said the parts needed can't be found. Council Member Tim Wallace asked about selling it. Vice Mayor

Wood explained that the fire department was trying to sell it, but any money they receive for the truck goes to Dickenson County as part of the arrangement he has worked out with them. Vice Mayor Wood added that the rescue truck carries all of their equipment, so now they can't haul everything they need on calls. He said that last night the fire department was called out to an accident with a DOA and someone had to go back to the station to get the needed equipment. Council Member Wallace commented that the call was DOA, but the person could have died under the circumstances. Council Member Wallace asked if this would replace the main truck. Vice Mayor Wood said Engine 11 was a 1992 model, but they would replace two trucks with one and reclassify. The fire department must have two class A pumpers to be in compliance with ISO. Council member Wallace asked if the new truck would fit in the building. Vice Mayor Wood answered it would fit and it was the best deal found. Council Member Wallace asked about a warranty. Vice Mayor Wood explained that the guy he spoke with about the truck completed all the maintenance and service work. He added that the truck just passed the pump test, which is critical and all records are available with the truck. Council Member Wallace asked if the truck were to break down, could they locate parts. Vice Mayor Wood said that there shouldn't be any issues with that, most problems finding parts occur when the vehicle is older than 1990. The truck purchased in January is 31 years old. Mayor Yates asked how often pump tests are required. Vice Mayor Wood answered annually. Mayor Yates asked when the last audit was completed for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department. Vice Mayor Wood answered last year. The fire department submits a packet of paperwork, but ISO doesn't perform an audit in person every year. Vice Mayor Wood continued that the ISO performs audits in person at random and after finding false information on some paperwork it is done more frequently. Mayor Yates asked for clarification about the false information. Vice Mayor Wood stated that the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department did not give false information, suspension is the penalty for that, but he knew that it happened to Russell Prater twice. A general discussion was held about the existing vehicles used by the fire department and then about parts on the fire truck that is broke down. Mayor Yates asked about financing. Vice Mayor Wood stated that he spoke with a bank about it, but the town would have to approve a lien. Vice Mayor Wood advised that the fire department has to pay for an audit this year out of the increased amount from the county appropriation, in order to receive the increase. Dickenson County will not pay for the audit. Mayor Yates asked for a time frame. Vice Mayor Wood answered that the truck was already on hold, but the fire department couldn't wait because they already look unprofessional. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about the money for the audit. Vice Mayor Wood said the fire department would be allowed to borrow the money from the county as long as it was balanced within twelve months. Mayor Yates mentioned that he would check with the town's auditor. Vice Mayor Wood said he thought the fire department would have to get an audit every three years. Attorney Stephen Mullins stated that the county had not decided that yet. Mayor Yates advised that grantors require annual audits. Vice Mayor Wood said when he spoke with New Peoples Bank, he didn't discuss specific numbers. Mayor Yates also advised that a loan in the town's name might require a public hearing. Attorney Stephen Mullins said that a public hearing would probably be required. Vice Mayor Wood stated that he would prefer not to acquire debt and that monthly payments would be difficult because the county pays the fire department quarterly. Vice Mayor Wood explained that the fire department had experienced some funding problems with a delay in receiving Fire Programs' money. Mayor Yates and Vice Mayor

Wood agreed that the timing wasn't good. Vice Mayor Wood stated that after this purchase they "should be good for another five years." Mayor Yates explained that it would have been nice to have known earlier in the year for the budget process. Vice Mayor Wood answered that he couldn't foresee the problem, but the value of the fire truck the department is interested in purchasing is \$450,000.00, which he thinks is a good deal. Mayor Yates asked if the department had done any fundraising. Vice Mayor Wood replied that the fire department had not done fundraising. Council Member Wallace asked for the balance in the savings account. Mayor Yates replied the balance to be \$106,137.38. Council Member Wallace asked if the savings account was the rainy day fund. Mayor Yates replied yes, that the savings account is the town's rainy day fund. Council Member Wallace commented "it's raining." Council Member Tiller asked if the town co-signed on a loan would a public hearing be needed. Mayor Yates answered that it would if the department takes on debt. Council Member Tiller asked if the town could help with the cost of payments. Mayor Yates said that the town could next fiscal year. Mayor Yates explained that if an expense exceeds anticipated revenue that budget amendments would have to be made accounted for by some means. Council Member Billy Counts cited a raise in taxes for example. Mayor Yates also explained that the town is required to have money in reserve to cover twelve months' worth of payments. Vice Mayor Wood stated that the fire department could use \$13,000.00 from Fire Programs to pay on the fire truck. Mayor Yates calculated the amount already explained by Vice Mayor Wood toward the purchase of the fire truck to be \$43,000.00. Council Member Wallace asked for an average on the town's revenue. Mayor Yates replied that it varied. Council Member Wallace calculated the amount still needed to be \$27,000.00 and mentioned that the town could give that amount based on the total in the rainy day fund. Mayor Yates said that he would like for the town to "bring in" the fire department. Mayor Yates recommended giving the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department \$6,137.38 from the rainy day fund. Vice Mayor Wood stated that the fire department didn't have much time. Council Member Wallace commented that it was important to town citizens, specifically noting that people could die. Motion was made by Council Member Tim Wallace seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to donate \$27,000.00 to the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of a fire truck. Mayor Yates asked for a roll call vote. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood chose to abstain, Council Members Susan Tiller, Michael Harris, and Tim Wallace voted yes, and Council Member Billy Counts voted no. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed by verbal voting. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood thanked the Haysi Town Council and said that the fire department would help to give money back if possible.

ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates brought attention to the letter in the board packs from Barry Whitt and a letter passed out prior to the meeting from Attorney Stephen Mullins regarding Mr. Whitt's resignation. Mayor Yates explained that the Haysi Town Council has until September 7, 2017 to appoint a new member of council. Mayor Yates advised he had not talked to anyone and had no recommendations at this time. Mayor Yates requested the Haysi Town Council Members suggest names for

replacement of Mr. Whitt's appointment by August 15, 2017 by email to him, Clerk Amanda Perrigan, and Attorney Stephen Mullins or come by the Administrative Office at the Haysi Town Hall. Mayor Yates will then have two weeks to contact the names received and gauge their interest. Then, those interested will be brought before the Haysi Town Council for discussion at the September meeting. Council Member Susan Tiller asked if all that was needed was a name. Mayor Yates replied that it was. Mayor Yates stated that the town doesn't have to hold a special election. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if the replacement would serve until May. Mayor Yates said that was correct, until the next election. Council Members Tim Wallace and Billy Counts advised that they had names to submit. Mayor Yates requested they send the names to him as mentioned. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked how many night a week someone had to stay in town to qualify. Mayor Yates explained that the code doesn't specify that information, but states that the person must be a resident of the town. A general discussion was held about eligibility and town limits. Mayor Yates informed everyone that the qualifications could be found on the State Board of Elections website.

ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if the town's bucket truck was in operation. Mayor Yates answered that it was in operation and running better now than it had in the past. Vice Mayor Wood asked to borrow the bucket truck to pressure wash the church he attends. Mayor Yates said that it could be borrowed as long as an experienced driver operated it. Council Member Susan Tiller inquired about the town's insurance coverage in that type of situation. Mayor Yates answered that the town's insurance coverage was sufficient and the town had loaned the bucket truck to other churches in the past. Mayor Yates requested that the bucket truck not be returned empty of gas.

Vice Mayor Wood stated that the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department appreciates the money approved for donation tonight.

ITEM # XIII – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to adjourn the meeting. Let the record show the motion was passed unanimously by verbal voting and the meeting was adjourned.

Larry D. Yates, Mayor

Attest:

Clerk