

Town of Haysi  
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting  
November 19, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.

On November 19, 2024, 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 Michael Harris

Council Members:  
Carter Branham  
William "Billy" Counts  
Debbie Wood

ABSENT: Susan Tiller  
Tim Wallace

**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 Attorney Josh Evans and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ITEM # IV – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

At this time Mayor Yates asked for any changes, additions, or corrections to the agenda. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Vice Mayor Michael Harris to approve the agenda as presented. 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:

- October 1, 2024                      Public Hearing
- October 1, 2024                      Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the minutes of the public hearing and the regular town council meeting on October 1, 2024 as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

COUNCIL MEMBER SUSAN TILLER ENTERED THE MEETING.

**ITEM # VII – FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

- October 1, 2024 through October 31, 2024 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- September 27, 2024 through October 31, 2024 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 17374-17449 & deposits
- September 27 2024 through October 31, 2024 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

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

**ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS**

Kids Central

Mayor Yates welcomed Mr. Harry Childress, a Kids Central Board Member for over fifteen years. Mr. Childress informed everyone that Kids Central had lost their renting option on the current building and had to move, but the organization is dedicated to relocating in the Haysi community. Mr. Childress was joined by Ms. Tammy Mullins, Kids Central Executive Director, who explained that the organization was federally funded and offered programs to the community such as early child daycare, children’s health, social service needs, and family advocate. Ms. Mullins stated that there were currently two-hundred-ninety-five children serviced in Wise and Dickenson County by Kids Central. She continued that the Haysi location services fifteen children and employs five staff. Ms. Mullins said that as of September 30, 2024, Kids Central was given ninety days to vacate and although they have been trying to find another building in Haysi, their only option is to move to Clintwood temporarily. Ms. Mullins said a new location would be required to have classroom space, a kitchen, and playground area. Council Member Carter Branham suggested the old Splashdam Freewill Baptist Church. Mr. Childress added that the Kids Central program in Haysi operates year round. Mayor Yates advised that many parents had contacted him for assistance in this matter. Council Member Debbie Wood asked about the former Centennial Heights location. Ms. Mullins answered that it was a modular unit that was moved to Clinchco, and then due to lack of attendance there, it was disposed. A general discussion was held about properties in town that may be of consideration. Mr. Childress emphasized that if Kids Central had to leave for a while; it was their intention to be in

Haysi. Children traveling to the Clintwood location everyday would be eligible for a twenty-five dollar gas card each week. Mayor Yates commented on the benefits Kids Central had on the town. Council Member Debbie Wood stated that child care was necessary to attract businesses. A general discussion was held about the minimum space needed and enrollment guidelines. Mayor Yates will follow up with Ms. Mullins and Mr. Childress on the contact information for the properties that were mentioned for consideration.

**ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Police Department Monthly Report-Assistant Chief James Stanley (See Attachment)

Assistant Chief James Stanley reported twenty-two calls for the month of October and advised hours worked. Assistant Chief Stanley advised that crime had gone down, but he expects it to rise due to the holidays. Assistant Chief Stanley informed everyone that he secured assistance with Haysi’s Annual Christmas Parade from Officer Jerry Fuller and the Dickenson County Sheriff’s Office.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report

Clerk Amanda Perrigan read the following calls for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department: four motor vehicle accidents, seven lift assist/assist rescue squad, one structure fire, two brush fires, and one tree down.

Mayor Yates moved Executive Session to Item XIII, so as not to detain the audience longer than needed.

**ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Yates brought up the Town Christmas Dinner for discussion. It will tentatively be held on December 19, 2024, at 7 o’clock in the evening at Main Street Country Kitchen.

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- The Pre-Construction meeting for the Haysi Municipal Building will be held on Thursday at the Breaks Interstate Park at ten o’clock in the morning.
- October 10, the Mayor met with Department of Environmental Quality about the Splashdam Project, which resulted in good news and the opportunity to move forward with plans.
- October 10, the Mayor attended the Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce Meeting.

- October 14, the Mayor attended the Stone Mountain Health Services Board Meeting.
- October 16, the Mayor picked up the signs for the Riverfront Project's kiosk.
- October 18, the Haysi's Riverfront Park Ribbon Cutting was held and well attended.
- October 22, the Mayor attended the Dickenson County Tourism Meeting.
- October 19, the Rocky S. Wood Bridge Naming was held and well attended.
- October 25, the town hosted Haysi Community Library for Trick or Treating.
- October 31, the tow held it's first Trunk or Treat, with a full parking lot and gave out around two-hundred treats.

## **ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Debbie Wood stated her appreciation for the response to the bridge naming event.

Council Member Susan Tiller commented that everyone enjoyed the parade at Haysi's Russell Fork Autumn Fest. Mayor Yates stated that the town had a good festival with good weather. Mayor Yates also mentioned the Haysi Christmas Parade coming up, which current has four floats registered.

Council Member Billy Counts said that he spoken with Haysi Rescue Squad Captain Terry Bartley, who wasn't able to attend the meeting, but advised that they needed Narcan nasal spray. Assistant Police Chief JR Stanley said that he had a resource that he could contact to get that resolved. Mayor Yates acknowledged the passing of former Haysi Rescue Squad employee Grace Stanley.

Clerk Amanda Perrigan advised that Dickenson County Clerk Josh Evans will be available prior to the December meeting to swear in the Council Members and the Mayor, who were re-elected to new terms. Clerk Perrigan requested that everyone wear their blue button up shirts with the town logo for updated website photos.

## **ITEM # XI – EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A1. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Upon motion made by Council Member Billy Counts and seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood the Council was now convened in Open Session. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by

which the closed meeting was convened were heard discussed or considered in the meeting by the public body.

Mayor Yates asked for a roll call vote to certify the statement:

Wm. "Billy" Brice	Counts	Yes	Michael Harris	Yes
Susan Tiller		Yes	Carter Branham	Yes
Debbie Wood		Yes		

Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to adjust salaries as discussed in closed session for Town Administration, Haysi Police Department, Town Maintenance, Haysi Mayor, and Haysi Town Council. Let the record show the motion was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

**ITEM # XIV – ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Larry D. Yates, Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk