

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
December 2, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

On December 2, 2014, 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:

Michael Harris

Barry Whitt

Tim Wallace

Susan Tiller

William "Billy" Counts

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 Police Chief George Wallace and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked the Council for any additional changes to the agenda. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood requested to add Donation Request from Haysi Volunteer Fire Department under New Business. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the agenda with the addition. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM #V - PUBLIC COMMENT

The first person signed up for Public Comment was Melissa Sykes of P.O. Box 697, Haysi, VA 24256.

Mrs. Sykes introduced herself as the Cheer Coach for Haysi High School. Mrs. Sykes stated that she came to request funding for Haysi's Varsity Football Team and Varsity Cheerleaders trip to King William for the Semi-Final State Championship Game against Essex High School. Mrs. Sykes said that the money donated would be used for lodging and

food. Mrs. Sykes stated that the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors had donated the funds needed for the charter bus. The group will consist of thirty-six football players, fourteen cheerleaders, thirteen coaches and staff. Council Member Tim Wallace asked if they did not receive the money would they refrain from going on the trip. Mrs. Sykes said they would keep trying to raise the money, but it wasn't something that they had planned.

Mayor Yates asked for the value of the Dickenson County Board of Supervisor's donation.

Mrs. Sykes said that she didn't know the value, but the cost that she was quoted for a charter bus ranged between \$2,900-\$3,300 for a round trip. She noted that it did not include lodging or a tip for the driver, but the gas was included. Mayor Yates asked if the Dickenson County School Board had donated any money. Mrs. Sykes said that they did not donate any money. Mayor Yates asked about the money collected as admission at the gate for the football games. Mrs. Sykes said that the money collected was a limited amount and again said that the trip expense was unexpected. Mrs. Sykes said that the previous playoff games at been at Sandlick Elementary School and the school hadn't needed a charter bus since the 1900's. Council Member Billy Counts said that 1999 was the last time Haysi High School had gotten a charter bus because the band had a state competition. Mrs. Sykes said that she had used all the money available to the cheerleaders toward the trip, but it was not enough. Mrs. Sykes stated that the school required them to provide meals, lodging, and transportation for the students involved. Mayor Yates confirmed with Mrs. Sykes that the total number traveling was sixty-three. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked about the money collected at the concession stand. Mrs. Sykes replied that the concession stand doesn't collect as much money as people think and the money is also split with the band boosters. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said he was told that the Bible Club was asked not to work any concessions. Mrs. Sykes said that in the beginning if a group would work the concession stand then the profit would be split, but over time there were problems with volunteers. Mrs. Sykes explained that there have been a lot of expenses as well such as, training camps, equipment expenses, equipment sanitation, and lots of traveling during the season. Mrs. Sykes noted that the cheerleaders do not generate money. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about the cost for referees. Mrs. Sykes replied that they had to pay for referees as well. The football team and cheerleaders normally don't ride together, but due to the expense of the trip they would be traveling together to save money. Mayor Yates explained that he had received an informal donation request that originated from Coach James Colley earlier and the amount did not match the donation request on the form. Mrs. Sykes stated that she had received the updated numbers from the football team before the Haysi Town Council Meeting, but not before she filled out the donation request form. Mayor Yates advised that \$4,400 remained in the donation line item for the current budget year out of the \$5,000 appropriated. Mayor Yates also noted that the Haysi High School Senior Class submitted a donation request for \$1,500 that was received earlier the same day. Council Member Billy Counts asked about the State Championship game. Mrs. Sykes said that they were trying to be frugal. Mayor Yates read the exception clause on the town's donation policy. Mayor Yates told Mrs. Sykes that the informal request he received asked for \$400. Mrs. Sykes said that Coach Colley had talked to her about it prior to the council meeting. She said that Coach Colley had arranged for lunch in Blacksburg, VA and order in pizza

at their destination for dinner. One meal would cost around \$600 and the current request would cover both of those meals. Mayor Yates stated that the town was excited about the game. Motion was made by Council Member Michael Harris and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the donation request for \$1,000. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood abstained, Council Member Wallace voted nay, and Council Members Susan Tiller, Barry Whitt, Michael Harris, and Billy Counts voted aye. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed by verbal voting.

Mayor Yates requested that Mrs. Sykes spread some goodwill toward the Christmas Parade on December 6, 2014 from Haysi High School. Mayor Yates briefly discussed the difficulty in changing the parade date due to VDOT permits, float entries, and police cooperation. He explained that the Haysi Kiwanis and Haysi Partners were in support of the scheduled date for the parade.

Mayor Yates opened the floor for any other person wishing to speak during the public comment period.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- November 4, 2014 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts and seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood to approve the minutes 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:

- October 29, 2014 through November 25, 2014 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- October 29, 2014 through November 25, 2014 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 12497-12535 & deposits
- October 29, 2014 through November 25, 2014 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review
- November Bank Statements

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

Donation Request from Haysi Volunteer Fire Department

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood stated that each year in January the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department has a Christmas Dinner. The volunteers usually receive a gift at the dinner as well such as a hat, shirt, or something similar. Vice Mayor Wood requested that the town consider donating \$500 to help fund the dinner and gift. Vice Mayor Wood said that they normally have enough money to cover the cost, but unexpected vehicle maintenance had caused them to come up short of the total needed. Vice Mayor Wood explained that one tire costs \$820 and eleven tires were purchased. The volunteers that serve the fire department give their time all year without pay. The Christmas Dinner is scheduled for January 17, 2015 at Spring Branch Farm. The total cost of the dinner is usually \$1,000. Mayor Yates asked if the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department had the other \$500 needed to meet that total. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said that they did. Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the Donation Request for \$500 to the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and Council Member Barry Whitt abstained from the vote with all others voting aye. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed by verbal voting.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

Police Department Monthly Report-Chief George Wallace.(See Attachment)

Chief Wallace reported forty-three calls for the month of November and briefly described some of the calls on the November Monthly Report. During the month there were six school related incidents, trouble at the Pizza Factory that couldn't be discussed due to an ongoing investigation, property recovered, a safety talk for Kids Central, and several calls to assist the county. Assistant Chief Edwards is working on getting the agreement with Dickenson County Sherriff's Department updated. The agreement has been approved by VML. Assistant Chief Edwards spoke with a manager at Stanco regarding the "J braking" discussed at last month's meeting and reported that if the truck was unloaded the J brakes would be turned off and otherwise they would be instructed not to use them in town, so there should be no further issue. Mayor Yates said that he would work on updating the noise ordinance. Chief Wallace said that he contacted Matt Slemple with Dickenson County Mapping Department about the road around the town gazebo. Chief Wallace said that Matt Slemple will provide signs and take care of the necessary steps involved. Mayor Yates asked

Chief Wallace to contact Jeff Sams with VDOT to make sure that there is no oversight of what needs to be done.

Community Development Block Grant – Streetscape and Treehouse Projects

Mayor Yates reported that the contract with Elk Knob, Inc. has been signed to construct the sidewalks from the Post Office to Appalachian Auto Parts for \$196,925. Elk Knob, Inc. is scheduled to start on the project next week. Mayor Yates is exploring other ideas and opportunities for the other sidewalks that couldn't be funded in this portion of the project. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked when the town would know if the grant extension was approved. Mayor Yates replied that the request was sent out before Thanksgiving break and he hopes to hear back from the Department of Housing and Community Development this week. Mayor Yates informed everyone that the Treehouse Project did not receive any bids, however, there had been some local interest since that time. The time constraint was to blame to some degree for not receiving any bids. If the requested extension is approved that will change the grant deadline to October 22, 2015.

Mayor Yates reported that the town has entered contract negotiations for the ARC grant funds. The meeting in November gave the town detailed requirements that have to be completed by February 1, in order to sign the contract on February 18. This process involves mostly "red tape", non-discriminatory notice, budget, and historic evaluation for example.

Council Member Susan Tiller asked if the town would borrow money for the sidewalk project. Mayor Yates said not at this time. The town has \$36,000 in coal severance money to blend with the Community Development Block Grant funds to cover the cost negotiated with Elk Knob, Inc. However, Mayor Yates explained that there is still no specific figures on the cost of the street light fixtures and installation cost. Mayor Yates said that he checking to see if VDOT can help with funding. The new sidewalks will be ADA compliant with a ramp and hand rails at the curve near the dentist office. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said that access to the second floor needed to be included in the ARC grant. Mayor Yates said that the design has two sets of stairs and an elevator shaft that would be included in this grant. The elevator would not be included, only the shaft.

ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates reported that the ribbon cutting ceremony at Cranesnest Trail went well. There was a good crowd that turned out. He said that the trail was a good hike at around two miles with places to sit and rest, restrooms, and shelter areas.

- Mayor Yates advised that the Haysi Tree Lighting was scheduled for Friday, December 5, at 6 o'clock in the evening. Council Member Billy Counts volunteered to light the tree this year.

ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked about the town's Christmas Dinner. Mayor Yates said that the dinner was scheduled for December 12, 2014 at 6 o'clock in the evening at the Haysi Town Hall. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about having the dinner at Spring Branch Farm. Mayor Yates said that option could be explored next year.

ITEM # XII – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt 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