

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

On January 7, 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

ABSENT: William "Billy" Counts  
Susan Tiller

### **ITEMS # I, II, & III**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Yates at 7:00 p.m., and the Invocation was held by Chief of Police, George Wallace and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

At this time Mayor Yates asked Council for any additions or changes to the agenda.

With no changes to the agenda the motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood to approve the agenda. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

### **ITEM # V - APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- December 3, 2013 Regular Town Council Meeting

Mayor Yates stated that the minutes had the wrong date and needed to be corrected to reflect the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December instead of the 4<sup>th</sup>. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the minutes with the change to the date. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

## **ITEM # VI – FINANCIAL REPORT**

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

- Current listing of payables due from December 31, 2013 to date
- November 27, 2013 through December 31, 2013 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- November 27, 2013 through December 31, 2013 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 11966-12039 & deposits
- November 27, 2013 through December 31, 2013 Profit & Loss Report

With no further discussion the motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the financial report. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

## **ITEM #VII - NEW BUSINESS**

### **ARC Grant Award**

The Governor announced that the Town of Haysi's application under Community Facilities Grant for the Russell Fork Trail Center had been awarded in an amount around \$288,000. The town will have around \$400,000 total to spend on the trail center, however there no dates for work to begin right now. Mayor Yates stated that the town already had a match for the grant in place.

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if the construction work would be put to bid. The Mayor said it would since it involved federal money.

Mayor Yates explained that the Cumberland Plateau would be assisting with the project and a lot of the planning had been completed. The grant application was written for around \$450,000 to finish the first floor open for business and upgrade the infrastructure in preparation for the second floor build out. There is \$140,000-\$150,000 earmarked for the Trail Center in the Downtown Revitalization Grant as well making it a total of around \$400,000 to work on the building.

## **ITEM # VIII - OLD BUSINESS**

### **Police Report-Chief of Police George Wallace (See Attachment)**

Chief Wallace reported a total of 26 calls for December, which was down quite a bit from last month. He said that traffic slowed due to the cold weather. They did have a lot of road hazard calls.

On December 20, 2013, he was going to see if Patrolman Edwards needed assistance with someone he had pulled over when he noticed two people walking. He recognized one of them as a man that was wanted and decided to pursue him, but the man ran. He chased the man for a long distance up the side of the mountain across from the old Napa and onto a trail, but was not able to catch or find the man. He was arrested later in the Emergency Room.

There were a couple of alarms, trees in the road, and hang up calls. He said that there was trouble with nonoperational phones calling dispatch, but the calls had to be checked.

There is a lady from Wytheville who wrote a bad check at FasMart. Apparently she had already written several and there are other warrants out for her arrest. The employee at FasMart who took the lady's check without processing it before the lady left lost their job. Patrolman Bobby has issued a couple of warrants out for her arrest as well.

#### **ITEM # IX - PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

#### **ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Southeast RCAP Alternative Spring Break– It is a program for students and there is no cost to the town. It is good for grant applications. The students work hard and get introduced to the community. The Mayor will continue to work on the program for this spring.
- The Mayor attended a meeting yesterday between Forestland Group, Spearhead Trail Group, and the Dickenson County IDA Director. The IDA gave authorization to begin mapping on a ATV trail. The hope is to have the plans completed within ninety days.
- Mayor Yates thanked Vice Mayor Rocky Wood, Council Members, and the community for their support and effort in the Haysi Tree Lighting, Haysi Christmas Parade, and Christmas Dinner.
- Mayor Yates advised that the town is in the process of updating items such as the website and email accounts. He asked if the Council Members wanted individual email accounts and if they wanted them listed on the website for the public to have access. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said that he thought he would be good for the members to be accessible, however he was concerned about keeping up with another account. Town Clerk, Amanda Perrigan advised that she could help the members forward the mail to an existing account if they wanted.
- Mayor Yates informed the Council that a small meeting was held earlier in the evening for concerned citizens regarding the sites for the new elementary school that were discussed at the December 18<sup>th</sup> Dickenson County School Board Meeting. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked where the Upper Backbone Site was located. Mayor Yates explained that the Lower Backbone Site is where the old

trash bins once sat above the Stone Mountain Clinic and that the Upper Backbone Site was above that area. There were two sites at Sandlick, but there were complications due to cemeteries. He said the preferred site is the Upper Backbone Site. The site is cheaper than the others and has some additional benefits. Mayor Yates mentioned that there was a site on Rakes Ridge, but it would take a lot of money to build a road to the location, so that it made it low on the list. Vice Mayor Rocky Woods said that the School Board didn't want to move cemeteries. The Mayor told him that was correct. The Corp of Engineers suggested that they move forward with the Upper Backbone Site and contact the seven property owners to begin negotiations and reserve the Sandlick Site for Plan B. The said that part of the Upper Backbone Site was in the Town Limits. The Engineers don't like a terraced type layout that would be best suited for the Lower Backbone Site. Road entry work would become necessary if the school is located on the Upper Backbone Site.

- The order to proceed has been completed and sent to Hamilton Construction on the Façade Program.

#### **ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Vice Mayor Rocky Woods asked for an update on the damaged fence in town. Mayor Yates advised that the parts were on order and the fence would be repaired to same state that it was before the accident. Council Member Tim Wallace asked if VDOT or the town owned the fence. Mayor Yates said that the town owned it. Mayor Yates went on to explain that the hitch broke on the tongue of his welder and the fence saved the welder from going into the river. There was a lot more damage to the fence than what it seems by looking at it.

Vice Mayor Rocky Woods asked who owned the land to the left of the intersection to Backbone Ridge. Mayor Yates said that if Berchie Belcher didn't own it then he would know who does own it. Referring back to the school property, Mayor Yates said that all of the property in the Lower Backbone Site belongs to Arlene Deel. There are more owners involved in the Upper Backbone Site. Vice Mayor Rocky Woods asked if eminent domain would be an option for the School Board. Mayor Yates stated that he believed they had set a precedent on that issue with the Rose Ridge property owners.

Mayor Yates encouraged everyone to contact our Federal and State Representatives to lobby for money to the Corp of Engineers for work on the Elementary School Project.

Mayor Yates advised the Council that a joint resolution had been signed by the Dickenson County IDA, Board of Supervisors, and School Board to outline project priorities in the county. The first priority in the resolution is the new high school, second is the new courthouse, and third is the new elementary school. No time line has been developed for the elementary. There isn't a document in place stating that the Haysi High

School building couldn't be used because it isn't in the flood plain and there are no plans for demolition at this time.

Mayor Yates said that Patrolman Edwards reported that Dollar General cleaned up the land beside their store. Dollar General now sells alcohol. Council Member Barry Whitt stated that the alcohol isn't sold cold or chilled there.

**ITEM # XV – ADJOURNMENT**

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace 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