

Town of Haysi  
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting  
July 1, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

On July 1, 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. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve the agenda as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

### **ITEM #V - PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Yates asked Town Clerk, Amanda Perrigan to read the following Public Comment Policy out loud:

A Public Comment Period will be held during the regular Town Council monthly meetings, during Special Called meetings, and Public Hearings. The Public Comment period will be on the Agenda for the meeting. The Town Council asks that speakers only comment on the items listed on the Agenda for the Town Council meeting or Special Called meeting and only comment on the specific reason for the Public Hearing. All

comments made during the Public Comment period shall be subject to the following procedures:

- 1.) Anyone who wishes to make a statement during the Public Comment period will register on a sign-up sheet available 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.
- 2.) Persons who have signed the register to speak shall be taken in the order in which they are listed.
- 3.) Persons addressing the Town Council are asked to limit their comments to 3 minutes.
- 4.) Speakers will be acknowledged by Mayor Larry Yates in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet. Speakers shall stand at their seat to address the Council and not approach the Mayor or Town Council members. Speakers will start their comment by stating their name and address.
- 5.) Speakers will direct comments at the Town Council as a whole and not to individuals. Public Comment is not intended to require the Town Council to provide any answer to the speaker right away. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.
- 6.) Speakers will be courteous in their language, tone, and presentation.
- 7.) Only one speaker will be acknowledged at a time. If a large number of people are present to register concerns about the same subject, it is suggested that they might be acknowledged as a unified group and a designated speaker will cover the various points.
- 8.) In the event that there are more people who wish to speak than can be accommodated in the 30 minutes set aside for public comment, the Town Council may extend the period, delay it until the rest of the agenda has been completed, or continue it to the next regular council meeting.

Mayor Yates said that the thirty minute registration period would be waived for the meeting and asked if anyone else would like to sign up for public comment. The first person signed up for Public Comment was Tammy Donner of 534 Skyline Drive, Birchleaf.

Mrs. Donner introduced herself and gave her address. She stated that her purpose for speaking was in attempt to resolve an issue regarding an invoice for work provided at the Splashdam property. Mrs. Donner stated that she had requested a meeting with the Haysi Town Council to answer any questions regarding the invoice. She stated that she received word that her request was refused the night before. Mrs. Donner said that she wanted the invoice paid in full. She said that the amount on the invoice was already a greatly reduced price which is why a lesser or revised amount is not acceptable. Mrs. Donner had made up packets of information which she offered to give to the audience. Mrs. Donner briefly described some of the documents inside the packet such as information pertaining to permits and surveys. She said that the amount for the survey work was completely refused for payment yet it was necessary to establish boundaries. Mrs. Donner stated that Mr. Jerry Donner was not able to attend due to other obligations. Mrs. Donner said that she wants to resolve the issue and was available to answer questions.

Mayor Yates thanked Mrs. Tammy Donner for her comments. The second person signed up for Public Comment was Katie Brantingham of 534 Skyline Drive, Birchleaf.

Ms. Katie Brantingham choose not to speak.

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

**ITEM # VI – 2014-2015 RE-ORGANIZATION**

Mayor Yates stated that the purpose of the annual re-organization was to set the meeting date and time and choose the Vice Mayor. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to hold the Town Council Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month at seven o'clock in the evening. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Mayor Yates opened the floor for discussion regarding the annual Vice Mayor appointment. Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt and seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to continue Council Member Rocky Wood's appointment as Vice Mayor. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

**ITEM # VII – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- June 3, 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 in writing. 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:

- May 29, 2014 through June 30, 2014 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- May 28, 2014 through June 24, 2014 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 12249-12298 & deposits

- May 28, 2014 through June 24, 2014 Profit & Loss Report

Mayor Yates informed the town council that there were no payables due to the change in the fiscal year. He advised that the Town Clerk, Amanda Perrigan had been making changes based on recommendations of the auditors. Mrs. Perrigan added that the bank statements were not available from the bank in time for the meeting. Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood 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**

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

Chief Wallace pointed out that tonight was Officer Grant Garrett's first visit to the Haysi Town Council Meetings and he would like to point out what a good job the part-time patrolmen do for the town. Chief Wallace reported 49 calls for the month, which included a large variety. Chief Wallace asked if there were any questions regarding the police report. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about the item on June 16. Shots were fired on Kiser Street in an area suspected to be near Kay Owens residence between four and five thirty in the afternoon. Four shots were reported. Officer Garrett began his duty at five thirty and the individual he spoke with stated that he just had a BB gun. Council Member Susan Tiller commented that it was scary and loud. Officer Garrett stated that unless the individual is a convicted felon the weapon cannot be seized. Chief Wallace added that an eviction was in process in that area, but could take some time. Mayor Yates said that as much documentation as could be collected would be good to have on file. Mayor Yates asked if the suspicious person on June 2, was in town. Chief Wallace said it was an individual walking toward Sandlick. Also, on June 2, a theft reported at the Auto Parts resulted in the property being recovered at Splashdam. Chief Wallace said that Mr. Hillman was not pressing charges, but did issue a trespass notice. A trespass notice was also issued against a lady who attempted to shoplift at the Dollar General then put items back on the shelf. Chief Wallace said the manager was following the lady via video and does a good job watching over the merchandise. Mayor Yates asked if the Dollar General was still following the trash ordinance. Chief Wallace said that he thought they were trying, but the manager said they had problems due to wind and raccoons. On June 13, the animal issue on Sierra Street was the result of complaints on a barking dog over a long period of time. The animal's owners had already been issued a warning, so they were given a choice to get rid of the dog or be issued a citation. They chose to get rid of the dog. Mayor Yates asked if the tree in the road on June 10, was due to a vehicle accident. Chief Wallace said that the

tree fell in the road during the big storm and a truck hit the tree. Mayor Yates asked Town Clerk Amanda Perrigan if the town had packages for the Fire Department. Mrs. Perrigan replied that Mr. James Gilbert had already delivered the packages to the Fire Department. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood advised that it was foam. Mayor Yates asked Vice Mayor Rocky Wood about the oil spill just outside of town traveling toward Greenbrier. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said that oil dry was used to clean up the spill and the dust problem could not be resolved by the Fire Department. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said to refer inquiries to VDOT. Mayor Yates stated that he had received complaints about the dust. On June 13, assist ABC Agent on Investigation pertained to getting information on a still. Mayor Yates asked about the ECO on June 25. Chief Wallace said that was a transport of a mentally unstable person to Marion. Mrs. Tammy Donner said that she had trouble with people taking blocks from her property, which is private property. Chief Wallace asked if she had a tag number for the vehicle the people were driving. Mrs. Donner said she did and that Officer Wes Mullins had taken care of it for her. Chief Wallace asked her if it had happened more than once. Mrs. Donner said “yes.” Chief Wallace asked her if she had a sign posted. Mrs. Donner said that she needed to get one. Chief Wallace said that it was used as a flea market spot, but they could keep everyone off her property. Mrs. Donner stated that they were trying to manage the flea market and even put in a portable toilet. Mayor Yates thanked the Police Department for doing a good job in town.

#### Hiring Committee – Economic Development Special Projects Coordinator

Mayor Yates said that the Hiring Committee met last week to conduct interviews for the Economic Development Special Projects Coordinator position. There were two applicants; one from Haysi and one from Clintwood. Mayor Yates asked Council Member Barry Whitt as representative of the Hiring Committee for recommendations, if any. Council Member Barry Whitt said that Kirsten Deel stood out as the candidate the Hiring Committee was led to believe would perform the job best. Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood to approve the recommendation of the Hiring Committee to offer the position of Economic Development Special Projects Coordinator to Kirsten Deel. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood apologized for not being able to attend the interviews. Council Member Susan Tiller said that she was not able to attend the interviews either. Mayor Yates said that the other applicant was believed to be pursuing full time employment. However, Kirsten Deel will be able to work the flexible hours in addition to her current employment.

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

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates said that he was working with Virginia Tourism on a “readiness recommendation package” for the Town of Haysi for the expected ATV trails. The

package should be ready by August and will include information such as lodging and dining.

- Mayor Yates reported that the Spearhead Trails are going to ask for construction money. He said that our area would be a premiere area for the Spearhead Trails and construction will soon begin on Poplar Gap. Since Mayor Yates now serves on the Southwest Regional Recreation Authority Board; appointed by the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors, he would be able to stay informed on progress as it happens.
- Mayor Yates told the Town Council it would be a good time to start thinking about a Transit Occupancy Tax that would be collected from the property owner in which they would receive a commission to collect like the Meals Tax. Since the town will have extra expenses this will be a source of revenue to have ATVs in town. If the Town Council would like to pursue the Transit Occupancy Tax it would need to be passed as an ordinance.
- Mayor Yates reminded the Town Council that the Cookout will be held on July 12, at five o'clock in the afternoon at the shed at the John Flanagan Dam Spillway.
- Mayor Yates said that Richard Edwards requested him to extend an invitation to everyone to the annual fireworks display on Saturday.
- Attorney Derrick Yates is preparing easements for the sidewalks and should be able to put out to bid in thirty days.
- Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development have approved the town to spend around \$35,000 on the river viewing platform. It is expected to be put out to bid in the next thirty days. This project will be a good seed for a successful application on the Department of Conservation and Recreation Grant.
- Mayor Yates said that he has been asked to update the Haysi Noise Ordinance. The current fine on the noise ordinance is five dollars. Chief Wallace said that it would need to be updated before it should be enforced. Council Member Susan Tiller was in support of updating of the noise ordinance. Mayor Yates said that he would work on a draft to update the ordinance and bring it back for approval.
- Mayor Yates suggested that the Town Council voice support of a cell phone tower for the community when they have an opportunity to speak with a member of the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors or the Cumberland Plateau Planning District "CPPD" Board. The only cure for our current cell phone service problem is a new tower. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood stated that he is now serving on the Emergency Service Board. Mayor Yates said that he serves on the CPPD Board. Delano Sykes and Donnie Rife serve on the CPPD Executive Board. Mayor Yates said that they explained to him that it was an oversight and they thought the new towers would provide better cell service to our community. However, the Mayor and Town Council Members were not asked to be involved with the planning.
- Mayor Yates asked Vice Mayor Rocky Wood if any of the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Members had Swift Water Rescue Training. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood said that some of the members are trained. Vice Mayor Wood also advised that the Fire Department had ordered two defibrillators to have when the ATV trails open.

Mayor Yates said that he would forward the Fire Programs Grant Application to Vice Mayor Wood.

- Mayor Yates said that town would be applying for the VML Safety Grant.
- Mayor Yates stated that the Town was making good progress on the facades in town and the Russell Fork Trail Center. He said that the \$288,000 from ARC should be released in the next thirty days. Vice Mayor Wood asked when the grant area will be extended. Mayor Yates advised that it would not be extended. The grant only applies to the downtown area. Vice Mayor Wood said that he thought the area would be extended in Phase Two. Mayor Yates explained that Phase One was planning and design. Phase Two is construction. The Town of Haysi is currently in Phase Two. The grant is targeted at the downtown area only and attempts to talk DHCD into extending the area were unsuccessful. Vice Mayor Wood asked about using the ARC Grant money in other areas of town. Mayor Yates explained that the ARC Grant was for the Russell Fork Trail Center specifically. Vice Mayor Wood asked about the money in the Business Development Loan Pool. Mayor Yates explained that on the third time turned over it could be used anywhere in town. There are other loan resources available to business owners that are in town, but outside the downtown grant area. Mayor Yates said that the other areas of town were serviced by Police Protection, the Flower Program, weed eating, and trash removal.

**ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Council Member Tim Wallace asked if Mrs. Tammy Donner would be addressed. Mayor Yates said that Mrs. Donner's issue had been addressed by the Town Council as a whole in a previous meeting.

**ITEM # XV - 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 Billy Counts 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