

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
June 4, 2019 @ 7:00 p.m.

On June 4, 2019, 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
Carter Branham
Susan Tiller
Tim Wallace

ABSENT: William "Billy" Counts

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 Joseph Boyd and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked for changes to the agenda as presented. Mayor Yates requested that Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A1 for Personnel be added under Unfinished Business as item C. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the agenda as amended. 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.

The first person signed up for Public Comment was Kathy Harrison of the Haysi Community Library. Kathy Harrison thanked the Haysi Town Council for all their past support of the Haysi Community Library in general, adding that the town had been very supportive. Mrs. Harrison asked for continued support of the Summer Reading Program, which has been taking place for twenty-eight years. Mrs. Harrison explained that the library pays performers between three hundred and three hundred and fifty dollars each. Mrs. Harrison stated that the library is asking for a one hundred dollar donation. Mrs. Harrison said that the program serves over three hundred and fifty children during its duration. This year the library is working with the school system to provide bag lunches. Mayor Yates commented that he was glad to hear about the lunches being provided and was amazed at the kids served over the years along with friendships that developed there. Mrs. Harrison stated that they hope to have a teen game night and that the whole town had been supportive as well. Mayor Yates said that he was glad that the Virginia Department of Transportation got the road paved. Motion was made by Council Member Michael Harris seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve a two hundred dollar donation to the Haysi Community Library. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

The second person signed up for Public Comment was Joseph Boyd. Joseph Boyd asked for notification about the meeting and stated that he didn't know about it. Clerk Amanda Perrigan advised that the Haysi Town Council Meetings are scheduled in July for each month throughout the year and include an alternate date. Clerk Perrigan added that the

meeting for today was publicized by special ads in the Dickenson Star. Council Member Michael Harris stated that the meetings are on listed on the town's website. Mayor Yates mentioned scheduling posts on Twitter. Mr. Boyd said he wanted to talk about taxes. Mayor Yates advised him that the county assess taxes and the town has held property taxes the same for almost ten years. Mr. Boyd expressed his disapproval of the building code for building in the flood zone. Mayor Yates explained that he was told a structure would be fine if it could be moved or flood proofed in ninety minutes. Mayor Yates asked Mr. Boyd if he had talked to Dickenson County Building Inspector Chris Rakes. Mr. Boyd answered that he had not because he was still two years out on his project. Mr. Boyd said he wanted to raise initiatives and brought up extending the ATV routes on public highways, such as to Belcher Gap, the John Flanagan Marina, or E&S Grocery. Mayor Yates advised that the Virginia State Code must back up the wanted route and right now the state code doesn't allow for those routes. Mr. Boyd said that it could be done because he had seen it. Mr. Boyd said that he would keep working on it and asked about Airbnb training. Mayor Yates asked if he had talked to Sandy Ratliff. Mr. Boyd answered no.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- May 7, 2019 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace to approve the minutes of the meeting on May 7, 2019 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:

- May 1, 2019 through May 31, 2019 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- May 1, 2019 through May 30, 2019 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 14903-14943 & deposits
- May 1, 2019 through May 30, 2019 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

A general discussion was held about Four County Transit. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham 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 Ridgeview Beta Club

Mayor Yates called for a representative from the Ridgeview Beta Club to present the request, but no one came forward.

Tammy Robinson and Drug Court

Interim Police Chief Bobby Edwards reported that he had received a text message from Tammy Robinson stating that she had a probation issue arise that had to be addressed and would not be able to attend the meeting.

2019-2020 Budget

Mayor Yates read over the revenue and expenditure totals. Joseph Boyd commented that mowing and trash pickup was needed. Mayor Yates replied that the town tries to have an annual trash pickup day each year. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve the 2019-2020 budget. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting. Mayor Yates read the following ordinance:

TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED TOWN OF HAYSI 2019-2020 BUDGET
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of the Town of Haysi,
Virginia, that the Town of Haysi's
Projected Revenue: \$758,004.42
Expenditures:
Administration: \$136,826.34
 Economic Development: \$415,633.68
 Maintenance: \$31,199.01
 Haysi Police Department: \$160,745.39
 Haysi Fire Department: \$13,600.00

THIS ORDINANCE shall be effective July 1, 2019

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Interim Chief Bobby Edwards reported fifty-five calls for the month of May and read off the hours worked on the report. The Dodge Charger can be put back in service, the repair was not covered by warranty. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked about the driver. Interim Chief Edwards answered that Officer Synthia Viers will drive the Dodge Charger, the Ford Explorer can't be used at the academy. Interim Chief Bobby Edwards answered a few questions regarding the suspicious vehicle in the area on May 16, theft on Breaks Park Road, tickets over the Memorial Weekend by the Virginia State Police Officers, a missing person on Spearhead Trails, and noise issues on Ferrell's Branch.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report

Chief Rocky Wood reported that the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department had six motor vehicle accidents, two trees down, three med flight calls and lift assist. Chief Wood said that one motor vehicle accident was pretty bad and involved a child. Mayor Yates asked about the condition of the child. Chief Wood answered that the ten year old would require plastic surgery because he was cut from eyebrow to eyebrow. The call involved the Department of Social Services and a state arrest.

Council agreed to hold off on Executive Session until after Mayor Comments and Council Comments.

ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates advised that the United States Army Corp of Engineers had reduced the number of sites to two from the four reviewed and asked about one more site. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked about the sites they were considering. Mayor Yates answered Backbone Ridge, New Road Trade Center, the old Laurel Shop Motel, and the old Haysi High School sites. The Corp hopes to begin negotiations in January.
- Mayor Yates reported that Flatwoods Job Corp is potentially going to be shut down and asked if the council members knew anyone of influence to please for it not to happen. The Flatwoods Job Corp saved the Haysi Community Library around fifty to sixty thousand dollars and the town was interested in having them assist with the sidewalks. Mayor Yates added that he and Clerk Amanda Perrigan visited their campus in April for an open house.
- Mayor Yates also reported that he and Clerk Perrigan had met with Joe Blevins from the Department of Housing and Community Development on the revolving loan fund and was still working on the transition, but it was a process.
- Mayor Yates commented on the good turnout last weekend for Haysi Trails Day and thanked everyone for their help. Mayor Yates stated that planning will start on the Haysi Russell Fork Autumn Fest and a schedule of meetings would be published soon.

ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked how the town could “help get more going for ATVs?” Mayor Yates answered that the town was limited by man hours, but doing all it can. Mayor Yates added that the Haysi Partners needed new membership, but that was a key portion of their mission; to build the economy of the town. Vice Mayor Wood asked if the problem had to do with entry to the Haysi Kiwanis Property. Mayor Yates replied that the trailhead isn’t an ideal trailhead and he had been working with Spearhead Trails over the past month trying to get a route to town on a trail, but high walls have been problematic. Joseph Boyd commented on using the route to the FasMart. Mayor Yates said it may be possibility eventually. Vice Mayor Wood stated that the town is losing opportunity. Council Member Carter Branham said losing it to Southern Gap Outdoor Adventure. Mayor Yates advised that Southern Gap Outdoor Adventure is a private business and Haysi needs more private investment. Mayor Yates stated that it is a good chance for locals, but if not outside investors will come in because they see potential. Mayor Yates also advised that the opening date for the equestrian trail will be July 13. Vice Mayor Wood stated that the Haysi side of the trail is the best and prettiest side, but there was nothing to offer in town. Mayor Yates mentioned the local ATV clubs and how he thought they were more social riding clubs. Mayor Yates said the equestrian trail will be the first one for Spearhead Trails and they plan to add fifteen new ATV trail miles this year too. Vice Mayor Wood said the Haysi Kiwanis not wanting food vendors at the trailhead is “killing us.” Mayor Yates replied that the Haysi Kiwanis is working on their campground and has a grant application submitted for it. Vice Mayor Wood asked about the President of the ATV club. Mayor Yates answered Vicky O’Quinn.

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A1 for the discussion of personnel. 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:

Carter Branham	Yes	Michael Harris	Yes
Tim Wallace	Yes	Susan Tiller	Yes
Rocky Wood	Yes		

Upon motion made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Carter Branham the Council was now convened in Open Session. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # XIII – 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 Carter Branham 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