

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
May 2, 2017 @ 7:00 p.m.

On May 2, 2017, 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:
William "Billy" Counts
Barry Whitt
Susan Tiller
Michael Harris

ABSENT: 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 Chief George Wallace and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked for any changes or additions to the agenda. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt 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:

- April 4, 2017 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt 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:

- April 1, 2017 through April 28, 2017 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- March 31, 2017 through April 26, 2017 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 13837-13864 & deposits
- March 31, 2017 through April 26, 2017 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

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. Prior the beginning of the meeting, copies of the draft budget were handed out to Haysi Town Council Members. Mayor Yates said that Clerk Amanda Perrigan had been working on the presented draft budget, which currently has a deficit of \$27,930.21. Mayor Yates said that cost of living raises for full time employees and James Gilbert were calculated into the draft budget. Mayor Yates summarized the revenues, but specifically noted that he was informed yesterday the Coal Severance appropriation would not only increase \$5,000.00 from last year, but the town would receive a special appropriation for work on the streets/sidewalks. Mayor Yates stated that the town would know more numbers on the budget within the next two weeks, so he suggested holding a budget workshop one afternoon later in the month. Mayor Yates explained that each department's expenditures were on separate pages in the presented draft budget. Mayor Yates said that he would like to expense some of the Coal Severance funds on the streets since there were no requirements such as Davis-Bacon Laws and the town could use local contractors. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if the part time employees' salaries were included in line item 7002. Mayor Yates replied that they were included. Clerk Amanda Perrigan said that the amount for the part time employees was based on an average of their hours worked for the first quarter of 2017. Assistant Chief Bobby Edwards said that Officer Brent Wallace works an average of thirty-six to forty hours and Officer Grant Garrett works an average of 24 hours per month. Clerk Perrigan said that 66.5 hours each month was the average number that the draft budget calculations were based on. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to hold a Special Called Meeting for a Budget Workshop on May 30, 2017 at six o'clock in the evening. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

None.

ITEM # IX – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Chief George Wallace reported a record number of calls for the month of April. There was a total of sixty-three calls on the report, so Chief Wallace said that he would not summarize all the calls because of the time it would take to cover them. Chief Wallace pointed out that one of the major issues of the month involved the flooding and rising water. Chief Wallace stated that the water level rose fast and he kept a check on the low point, which is behind Johnnie Branham's building. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood commented that the water level was 13.37 on Saturday night and 14 on Sunday night, so if the rain hadn't stopped between times, the water would have reached 1977 levels. Chief Wallace stated that everyone for the Fire Department was out working during that time. Resident Patsy Kilgore was evacuated and other residents were notified about the high water level. A general discussion was held about the flooding and water levels. Chief Wallace stated that the volunteers do a good job and worked well with the volunteers in Clinchco. Chief Wallace reported that a volunteer had an accident in the fire truck, which was turned into the county's insurance. Chief Wallace hopes that Fremont Body Shop will do the repair. Chief Wallace stated that the other major issue for the month was an ATV accident on April 27, 2017, involving Jerry Stanley. The Haysi Police Department's officers were the first to arrive on the scene, so they didn't work the scene as police officers. Chief Wallace explained that the new AEDs had now been used on two occasions, but the call unfortunately did not turn out well. Mayor Yates asked about two calls that requested officers at the library for "dope heads." Chief Wallace said that a guy went into the restroom and stayed for a long period of time. After he left the restroom, staff found bloody gauze in the trash can, so now the staff calls when he comes into the library. Chief Wallace stated that he goes in the library and sits beside him when he gets the calls. The guy will leave within a few minutes of Chief Wallace's arrival. The library staff has the option to "bar" him from the property, but they chose to wait for the time being. Mayor Yates commented that the library was a community gathering place and children are there often. Chief Wallace said that a search was conducted in the restroom and no evidence was found hidden. Mayor Yates suggested that a camera be installed and utilize a T1 there that is not in use. Assistant Chief Bobby Edwards said that the Dickenson County School System were getting new cameras and he would like to get some of their old ones. Mayor Yates said that the library would probably allow a camera to be installed and an IP camera would be a "cheap fix." Assistant Chief Edwards thought it was a good idea and commented that he had asked for twenty-four old cameras from the school. Chief Wallace stated that sixteen "hard to find" yearbooks were stolen from the library. Mayor Yates suggested checking with the pawn shop. Council Member Susan Tiller suggested checking the Bargain Finder and Craigslist, since old ones had been sold for up to \$100.00. Mayor Yates mentioned another valuable book was the first edition of Meet Virginia's Baby. Council Member Tiller said that the library would make copies of the pages of old yearbooks to have for resources if anyone had any that could loan the library to do that. Mayor Yates asked for the police department's comments on the ATVs over the past month. Assistant Chief Edwards said that speeding is their worst complaint and seems to happen mostly around Council Member Susan Tiller's house and Splashdam. Assistant Chief Edwards also said

that those speeding were mostly dirt bikes running between 43-59mph. He said that warnings were given, but the excuses were that the bikes didn't have speedometers. Assistant Chief Edwards suggested that a limit be set on how ATV friendly the officers should be and put up a speed sign. A general discussion was held about Haysi's Ridgeview Trail and ATV use in town. Assistant Chief Edwards said that the police department's ATV was coming along well. Assistant Chief Edwards explained that he had traveled to pick up a container for the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department and a John Deere Gator for the Haysi Police Department. The investment in the gator right now is around four hundred dollars for a battery, starter, and throttle cable, but the value is just under three thousand dollars. Mayor Yates asked if all the filters and fluids had been changed. Assistant Chief Edwards said that all the fluids were changed. Mayor Yates advised that the oil and fuel filters needed to be changed as well.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report-Chief George Wallace

Chief George Wallace said that the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department had between ten and twelve calls, which were mostly traffic hazards related to trees and flood waters. Mayor Yates asked about fire season. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood advised that fire season has ended and there are no restrictions on burning until February.

ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates met with the Dickenson County Public Service Authority and Dickenson County Industrial Development Authority in town about getting water to Dean Hill's property in Splashdam.
- Mayor Yates said that the 361 Adventure Race in town went well although there was a river rescue, but that was due to a flaw in the course design.
- Mayor Yates reported over two hundred and fifty machines attended the Ribbon Cutting and Grand Opening for Haysi's Ridgeview Trail.
- Mayor Yates said that the Cumberland Plateau had reached an agreement with Sunset Digital to purchase Bristol Virginia Utilities Optinet.
- Mayor Yates spent April 12, with Ricky Matthews from WCYB and Spearhead Trails. The will be segment on Weekend Drive about Haysi's Ridgeview Trail and if it hasn't already aired it will be aired soon.
- Mayor Yates stated that seventeen people attended the Entrepreneur Express Workshop in town on April 13 and it was broadcast live on Facebook to several viewers. Clerk Amanda Perrigan commented that the instructor Sandy Ratliff reported during the workshop that the Facebook video had over nine hundred views.
- Mayor Yates reported that the Community Easter Egg Hunt went well this year.
- Mayor Yates said that Spearhead Trails is working on sixteen more miles for Haysi's Ridgeview Trail, which will conclude Phase I with around seventy-six miles in the next two weeks. The budget for Phase II is three hundred thousand

- dollars. Spearhead Trails doesn't plan to open any new ATV trails this season, but plans on working to connect Haysi's Ridgeview Trail to Coal Canyon next season.
- Mayor Yates mentioned that the Pre-Bid Conference for the Russell Fork Trail Center Renovations had one attendee. The town advertised the request for bids in the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, Bristol Herald Courier, and Roanoke Times, in addition to the Cumberland Plateau sending out bid packages and eVA notices. Mayor Yates asked that everyone help inform local subcontractors looking for work to contact the Mayor.
 - Mayor Yates said that the town had Mountains of Music Homecoming Books to share. Haysi will hold an opening night concert on June 9, with Doyle Lawson and Quicksilver at the Haysi Kiwanis.
 - Mayor Yates advised that the Veteran's counselor used the council chambers yesterday.
 - Mayor Yates informed everyone that bids on the Russell Fork Trail Center Renovations would be opened on May 9, 2017 at two o'clock in the afternoon.
 - Mayor Yates also informed everyone that K&C Analytics will present their study that the Dickenson County School Board requested on May 31, 2017 at a special called meeting by the board. This study is expected to have a huge influence on the decision for the location of the new elementary school. Mayor Yates stated there has not been a favored site by vote of the board and the location is a "moving target," but this study will prompt a decision, so he encouraged everyone to show support by attending that meeting.

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if Spearhead's trails were only open on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Mayor Yates clarified that Spearhead's trails are open seven days a week, but the state road are only open to ATV use on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and holiday Mondays. Vice Mayor Wood said he understood there was a six month trial. Mayor Yates said that the Virginia Department of Transportation has a six month standard period to evaluate traffic use with ATVs. Vice Mayor Wood questioned ATV use beyond the intersection above the Haysi Funeral Home. Mayor Yates said that the speed limit would have to be reduced. Assistant Chief Edwards said that the police department had enough accidents to justify the reduction. Vice Mayor Wood explained complaints he had heard, that if an ATV was on Haysi's Ridgeview Trail across route 80 that they would have to travel back to Ferrell's Branch or the trailhead before traveling to town to get something to eat. Mayor Yates said he understood and noted that there is some room for parking at Belcher Gap. Mayor Yates also said that the county had requested ATV use on the road to E&S Grocery and the town proposed using the road to JDM, but VDOT's response was that people don't obey the speed limit in that area. Vice Mayor Wood questioned the ATV signs in town. Mayor Yates said that the town didn't have all the signs needed and were still working on that project. Assistant Chief Edwards asked about another free ride day on Haysi's Ridgeview Trail since National Trails Day was coming up on June 3, 2017. Mayor Yates replied that he was already working on that with Spearhead Trails. Chief Wallace stated that permits were selling good and noted that E&S Grocery and Appalachian Auto Parts had to get more permits. Assistant Chief Edwards asked when the town could annex again since there is a proposed campground being constructed a short distance out of town

limits. Mayor Yates said that he had talked to Sandlick District Supervisor Ron Peters about it. Attorney Stephen Mullins said that the Dickenson County Board of Supervisors set a hearing at their May meeting to vote on in June. Mayor Yates offered to send Attorney Mullins a copy of Haysi's ATV Ordinance for reference. Assistant Chief Edwards commented that the attorneys for the Virginia State Police couldn't find any issues with Haysi's ATV Ordinance. Assistant Chief Edwards also said that a Kawasaki Dealership may accompany the campground. Mayor Yates asked Attorney Mullins if the distance for consideration was around one or two miles from the town limits. Attorney Mullins replied that would probably be correct, but it was still under development. A general discussion was held about roads and ATVs on roads. Vice Mayor Wood asked if Jewell Ridge charged the public to ride their trails. Mayor Yates said that Jewell Ridge charges a membership fee. A general discussion was held about the Jewell Ridge ATV Trails. Council Member Susan Tiller stated that she understood the membership fees to be high.

ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

ITEM # XII - ADJOURNMENT

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