

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
May 6, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

On May 6, 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

Council Members:

Michael Harris

Barry Whitt

Tim Wallace

William "Billy" Counts

Susan Tiller

ABSENT: Vice Mayor Rocky Wood

ITEMS # I, II, & III

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Yates at 7:18 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

Mayor Yates said that he had two items to add under New Business. The first was the Donation Request from Haysi High School Band and the second was a Donation Request from the Haysi Little League Baseball. He also had one item to add under Old Business, which was 2014-2015 Draft Budget. At this time Mayor Yates asked the Council for any additional changes to the agenda. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the agenda as amended. 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:

- April 1, 2014 Regular Town Council Meeting
- April 29, 2014 Special Called Council Meeting for Budget Workshop

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve both minutes as presented in writing. 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:

- March 26, 2014 through April 30, 2014 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- March 26, 2014 through April 30, 2014 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 12152-12217 & deposits
- February 26, 2014 through March 26, 2014 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables due from April 30, 2014 to date including checks # 12218-12231 for review

Mayor Yates said that the large amount in the Revitalization Bank Account was from the drawdown on the façade program. Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt 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 #VII – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

Donation Request from Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority

Mayor Yates welcomed Mr. Keith Viers to present the donation request. Mr. Viers passed out information to the Town Council about the Father's Day Initiative. Mr. Viers explained that the Father's Day Event is held in June and will focus on reconnecting fathers and their children. Last year two events were held, one in Lebanon and one at Centennial Heights. This year there will only be one event and it will take place at the Breaks Interstate Park.

VICE MAYOR ROCKY WOOD ENTERED THE MEETING.

Mr. Viers stated that the Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority is working to improve Centennial Heights and investing federal money to do so. Mr. Viers said that the Housing Manager for Centennial Heights had passed away and another Housing Manager had been relocated to cover Centennial Heights. Mr. Viers reported that the Housing Authority is working with law enforcement on the drug problem there as well. Mr. Viers

said that the donation request was for \$150, but any assistance would be appreciated. Mr. Viers said that the Housing Authority has the ability to perform the program, but funds have been reduced. Mr. Viers thanked the Council for their time and asked if he could answer any questions. Mayor Yates asked for the names of other partners in the program. Mr. Viers said that the event was a federal initiative and last year had record numbers which probably made the event in our area number one in the nation. The event date is set for June 13, 2014 from 10:00am until 2:00pm at the Breaks Interstate Park. Mr. Viers said that local business had been the contributors to the 2014 event thus far. Mayor Yates commented that he had seen improvements at Centennial Heights. Mr. Viers thanked him for his comment and said that are still working on improvements there and the goal is a family oriented community. Mayor Yates opened the floor for motions, questions, or comments. Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller to donate \$100 to the Cumberland Plateau Regional Housing Authority's Father's Day Event on June 13, 2014. Mayor Yates called for a second without a reply. Let the record show that the motion on the floor died.

Donation Request from Haysi Little League Football Team

Mayor Yates requested a representative from the organization present the donation request, but no one in attendance acknowledged a connection to the organization.

Donation Request from Dickenson County Fair Committee

Mayor Yates welcomed Mr. Charles Hay to present the donation request. Mr. Hay introduced himself as the Dickenson County Fair Committee Chairman and explained that the fair was a once a year event that was good for the whole county. This year the fair starts on July 26th. Mr. Hay gave a summary of events happening each day as follows: Sunday-Motocross, Monday-Gospel Night, Tuesday-Community gets free admission with a donation to the Dickenson County Food Pantry, Wednesday-Folk Soul Revival, Thursday-High Country, Friday-Truck Pull, and Saturday-Horse Show. In addition there will be Fame Racing, Remote Control Racing, Corn Hole Tournament, Barn Display, Arts and Crafts Display and Contests, Vendors, Rides, and much more. Mr. Hay said that some renovations are currently in progress at the fairgrounds including new bleachers obtained from the Ervinton school closing, which will be modified to create a covered grandstand. The bleacher area will also contain an A/V management location at the top. This will allow continuation of the shows in the rain (not storms) and also provide some shade in the sun as well. Mr. Hay explained that the performers were paid for their performance regardless of the weather, so having the covered grandstand would help to provide insurance on the investment through attendance. Mr. Hay stated that the stage area would be renovated to expand the dressing rooms. The Dickenson County Fair is located in the Town of Haysi. Since visitors have to come through the town it is good benefit to the town. Mr. Hay said that he did not include a specific amount on the donation request form. The Dickenson County Fair Committee is paying \$2,500 for Folk Soul Revival's performance which has a value of \$7,000-\$8,000. The fair committee is paying \$1,500 for High Country. Mr. Hay explained that the Town of Haysi would be welcome to sponsor one of those performances.

Mr. Hay also requested that a donation to the Dickenson County Fair Committee be included as a line item in the annual budget. Mr. Hay said that the fair committee asks for donations from others, but it is tougher with the condition of the economy. The average annual donations to the fair are around \$30,000 a year and the total cost to have the event is \$60,000. Mr. Hay said that he appreciated the time and consideration. Mayor Yates thanked Mr. Hay and asked if anyone had questions for him. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked how much Mr. Hay thought would be a good donation. Mr. Hay suggested sponsoring one of the performances he mentioned earlier or \$1,000 if the other amounts were too much. Mayor Yates commented that the donation request form from the Dickenson County Fair Committee included their Federal Identification Number. Mr. Hay said that the fair committee is a non-profit with a filed 501c(3). Mr. Hay gave donation amounts from the large donors as follows: Dickenson County Board of Supervisors donated \$7,500 last year down from \$15,000, EQT donated \$5,000 the last two years, Pepsi-Cola and Johnson Chevrolet have both donated \$3,500 for the last twelve to fifteen years, Range Resources donated \$1,000-\$2,500 last year, and Alpha Natural Resources no longer donate, but they used to donate a large amount as well. Mr. Hay went on to say that the fair receives lots of smaller donations too. Mr. Hay said that he thought Folk Soul Revival could be the biggest night at the fair this year. Mr. Hay stated that with the completed renovations and increase in attendance from Gospel Night that this year has the potential to be the best fair ever. 2014 is the 26th year of the Dickenson County Fair. Mayor Yates asked if it was the 26th year that the fair has been in Haysi. Mr. Hay said that it was the 24th year that the fair has been held in Haysi, the first two years it was held in Clinchco. The Haysi Kiwanis offered the Dickenson County Fair Committee a lifetime lease for one week on the property for the event. Mr. Hay said that he considered it an asset for Haysi. Mayor Yates agreed that the event had a positive impact on the town. Mayor Yates asked Vice Mayor Rocky Wood if the Haysi Fire Department still worked at the fair as a fundraiser. Mr. Hay said that the Dickenson County Fair Committee works with the Haysi Fire Department every year. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve a \$1,000 donation to the Dickenson County Fair Committee. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed 5-1 by verbal voting with Tim Wallace voting Nay. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to add the Dickenson County Fair Committee Donation as a line item in the annual budget. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Donation Request from Haysi Community Library

Mayor Yates welcomed Kim Rose to present the donation request. Ms. Rose introduced herself as the Branch Manager of the Haysi Community Library and explained that the Library hosts children's programs every Wednesday for six weeks during the summer. The donation request would help pay for performers including storytellers and puppeteers. The total cost for the performers is \$475 and the requested amount is \$100. Ms. Rose said that if the town would approve the donation that the flyers would include the town's sponsorship. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked how many kids were served by the program. Ms. Rose said that last year the tally was 283 total kids and adults. Ms. Rose said that the

program encourages reading. Mayor Yates told Ms. Rose that she was doing a good job and the library had a host of great people to work with. Ms. Rose said that if people start reading when they are young that they will continue to read as they age. Council Member Barry Whitt asked what age groups the program served. Ms. Rose stated that the program was for everyone, but the focus is on the children. The children are not split into age groups for the Summer Reading Program. Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the \$100 donation request from the Haysi Community Library. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Austin Bradley, Breaks Interstate Park Superintendent

Mayor Yates said that Mr. Bradley was not in attendance and must be busy with his duties at the Breaks Interstate Park.

Façade Program Income

Mayor Yates said that the issue he was going to discuss pertained to the interest on property owner payments under the façade program, but the issue has resolved itself.

Donation Request from Haysi High School Band

Mayor Yates welcomed Band Director Katie Elswick to present the donation request. Ms. Elswick passed out pages of information and photos. She thanked the Haysi Town Council for the \$800 past donation that allowed the repair of the percussion instruments and she summarized the information and described the photos that were included in the pages she handed out. Ms. Elswick said that they were able to present a legit drum line this past season. She said that the donation also allowed the purchase of cymbals, drum sticks, and stands. Ms. Elswick explained that the official receipts had to be turned into the High School. Ms. Elswick stated that the band was happy to announce a full show and performance at every home game for the upcoming year. Ms. Elswick said that she has worked with the band for three years and the students had improved greatly during that time. She explained that she was interested in rewarding the students for their hard work with a trip to Virginia Beach, Williamsburg, and surrounding areas. The Haysi High School Band is currently doing fundraisers to collect money for the trip. One fundraiser is a benefit show that will be held on Sunday, May 18, at Haysi High School. Ms. Elswick stated that the donation request was for \$100 per student for a total of \$1,700 or \$50 per student for a total of \$850. She continued by saying that some of the students have never seen the beach or a roller coaster. Ms. Elswick said that the Haysi High School Band plans to march in the town parades this year and they are working on a Veteran's Day program as well. Mayor Yates asked when the spaghetti dinner fundraiser would be held. Ms. Elswick replied that it would be Thursday, May 8, and orders could be placed by calling Haysi High School. Ms. Elswick said that a concert was also planned for Sandlick Elementary that day. Mr. Charles Hay said that he was impressed with the band's performance at the Dickenson

County School Board Meeting. Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Michael Harris to approve a \$250 donation to the Haysi High School Band for their trip. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood, Council Member Barry Whitt, and Council Member Tim Wallace voted nay. Council Member Susan Tiller, Council Member Billy Counts and Council Member Michael Harris voted aye. Mayor Yates exercised his right to break the tie and voted aye. Let the record show that the motion passed.

Donation Request from Haysi Little League Baseball

Mayor Yates requested a representative from the organization present the donation request, but no one in attendance acknowledged a connection to the organization.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

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

Chief Wallace reported 47 calls for the month, which included the town calls and assisting the county. Chief Wallace said there has been several complaints about dogs in the Fork Bottom area, which resulted in 2 or 3 summons that are going to court in May. Chief Wallace summarized some of the calls listed on the report such as a prowler was trying to get in Roger Musick's residence, but nothing was found and no one called back. Council Member Susan Tiller asked if the 1st grader listed in the report was the same one each time. Council Member Billy Counts commented that it was listed five times on the report. Chief Wallace said that he thought it was the same 1st grader each time. There was a destruction of property call, which was a bus camera that caught the criminal on tape and he was charged. Charges for underage alcohol was made on April 15. Bobby made an arrested lady at the Pawn Shop that had a warrant out for her and found eighty pills in her pocket at the time of arrest. There were several calls on J & M Belcher Drive that were all pertaining to the same residence, the county ended up making a charge before the town arrived on the scene. Mayor Yates asked about the threat call listed on April 21 and if it was a threat to the police department. Chief Wallace said it was regarding a threat made at school, but was later wrote off. On April 24, there was a call regarding a lady that fell over a hill, but she was not hurt. On April 28, Brad's Auto was burning trash too close to some tires and caught them on fire. The Fire Department had to use foam to put the fire out. On April 30, the Clinchco Police Officer came in the police department to have Bobby check his blood pressure. While he was there he escalated to where he was unable to breathe. Chief Wallace and Patrolman Edwards escorted him to the clinic and then to Dickenson Community Hospital. The officer is doing better now, but is off work.

Mike Owens, Haysi Track and Field Team

Mayor Yates welcomed Mike Owens to address the Haysi Town Council. Mr. Owens thanked the council for their donation of \$250 at the last meeting. Mr. Owens apologized

for not being able to attend due to illness. Mr. Owens explained that when James Colley was coach of the team that he was able to use football funds for the track team. Mr. Owens stated that meets could not be held in Haysi/Sandlick, so it cut down on the ability to raise money. Mr. Owens said that two members of the Haysi Track and Field Team were offered scholarships. One scholarship has been signed and the other offer is “on the table.” Mr. Owens commented that sports is an opportunity for college. Mr. Owens has been the coach for four years and it been working out well. Mr. Owens thanked the council again for the donation. One scholarship was for \$30,000 per year and the other was for \$7,500.

Audit Engagement Extension with Thrower, Blanton, & Associates, P.C.

Mayor Yates said that Tamara Greear will speak at the June meeting regarding the audit. Mayor Yates explained that when he originally negotiated the contract with Thrower, Blanton, & Associates that it included an option for a two year extension. Mayor Yates said that there was no increase in cost and would be good for the town. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the Audit Engagement Extension with Thrower, Blanton, & Associates, P.C.

2014-2015 Draft Budget

Mayor Yates informed the council that with some changes and even some items cut from the budget workshop added back in that the draft budget presented in the board packets was balanced without a transfer from the savings account. Funds were added to the Administrative Miscellaneous line item to complete the balance. The draft included Hazardous Duty Coverage for the full time police officers. Mayor Yates stated that the council have given him the direction to move forward with the study, but that has not be conducted thus far. The draft budget includes a three percent raise for the Clerk and an hourly raise for Maintenance, but does not include a raise in pay for the police department. Mayor Yates said that the draft budget would be condensed and advertised in the local newspaper. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to hold a fifteen minute Public Hearing for the purpose of the 2014-2015 Budget at 6:45pm on June 3, 2014. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates advised that the Third Quarter Activity Report for the Four County Transit was included in the board packets for review.
- Mayor Yates said that he contacted the Health Wagon as discussed in the budget workshop. The Health Wagon’s mobile unit is broke down, but it is expected to be back in service within thirty days. The Health Wagon will work to fit Haysi into their programs.

- Mayor Yates said that Chuck Reidhammer, Executive Director of the Spearhead Trails toured the area last week. There are three expected trail connections; Fearl's Branch, Kiwanis Park, and Belcher Gap. Mayor Yates said that he met with VDOT last week and thinks that the Land Use Permit will pass approval. It was extended to include Clyde Colley Trailer Park. There are no standardized signs yet. Mayor Yates explained that he saw the most up to date maps last week and the "main artery" is Belcher Gap. The mapping includes both Dickenson and Buchanan Counties and the design process was completed for Buchanan County first. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood commented that it made sense to connect the trails. The Mayor stated that the Dickenson County Trails are more canopy style while Buchanan County are open. The plan is to try to open the Coal Canyon Trail by autumn. EQT and Range Resources agreed to a swap in Dickenson County. There is a meeting planned for May 23, with Range Resources to discuss the use of gas well roads and cross over pipelines.
- As a Fair Housing Activity for The Department of Housing and Community Development Mayor Yates advised that free Fair Housing Brochures were available on the table and requested that those interested please take one and sign their name for the town's records.

ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked if any money was left in the revolving loan fund. Mayor Yates said that the town lost approximately \$70,000 in the fund because it was unused. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked how much was available. Mayor Yates said that he thought it was around \$30,000-\$35,000. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked what happens if the money is loaned out. Mayor Yates said that fund will fill back up as payments were made, but he has knowledge of other programs that may be able to assist and he could be contacted for that information. Ms. Tammy Crandall asked if the loan area was expanded outside of Downtown Haysi. Mayor Yates said that the request to expand the loan fund option outside of the Downtown Haysi area was denied. Mayor Yates said that there are still available options for those outside of the downtown area though People, Inc. or Dickenson County Industrial Development Authority for example. Ms. Tammy Crandall asked if any of the Revitalization Project extended outside of the original area. Mayor Yates replied "no."

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood asked about getting Bristol Virginia Utilities, "BVU" to service his house. Mayor Yates said that he didn't see a problem with the possibility and he would send him the contact information for George Pickard since BVU has done business connections. Council Member Susan Tiller asked if BVU's service was only available to businesses. Mayor Yates said that it was because of restrictions associated with grant funds received.

Council Member Susan Tiller asked if the roads in Fork Bottom would be open to ATV use. Mayor Yates said that the roads in Fork Bottom were included in the Land Use Permit. Mayor Yates also said that the Land Use Permit could be amended and asked if residents that approached her were for ATV use or against it. Council Member Susan Tiller said that the residents that talked to her were against it. Mayor Yates stated that the ATV Ordinance was not intended to allow ATV users to cruise town.

ITEM # XV – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts 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