

Town of Haysi  
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting  
October 14, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

On October 14, 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

Susan Tiller

William "Billy" Counts

ABSENT: Vice Mayor Rocky Wood  
Susan Tiller

### **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 to amend the agenda by adding Resolution for Auxiliary Police and Resolution for Downstream, Off Property Recreation as items under New Business. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the agenda. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

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

Since no one signed up for the public comment period, Mayor Yates asked Mrs. Kirsten Deel for a report on the Autumn Fest. Mrs. Deel reported that there was "quite a bit" of people and vendors with a lot of participation. She added that the festival helped the vendors and businesses in town. Mayor Yates added that one of the goals was to support local businesses. Mayor Yates asked if any complaints had been made. The major complaint was regarding the intersection with the traffic light. VDOT denied requests from the town for assistance in moving the traffic more effectively. In addition, there was a funeral procession trapped in the traffic jam that had been created. Chief Wallace said that

he thought closing Bridge Street helped to keep the traffic moving and it worked out well in his opinion. Mayor Yates commented that the parade was one of the best parades in Haysi. He and Mrs. Deel agreed with Chief Wallace regarding the Bridge Street closure. Mayor Yates stated that next year the bridge construction will not be an issue. Mayor Yates said that he was told there was a good crowd on Sunday as well. Competition among the vendors was a good thing and the variety was great. Mayor Yates said that he received two criticisms; one about traffic control and the need for signs and the second about getting disabled people from Centennial Heights to town. Council Member Barry Whitt suggested that parking be limited en route to the Fire Station, so the Fire Trucks can get through.

#### **ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- September 2, 2014 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts 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:

- August 28, 2014 through September 30, 2014 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- August 28, 2014 through September 30, 2014 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 12402-12473 & deposits
- August 28, 2014 through September 30, 2014 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review
- September Bank Statements

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 # VIII - NEW BUSINESS**

Resolution for Auxiliary Police

Mayor Yates said that during the process of updating the policies and procedures manual for the police department that Chief Wallace and Assistant Chief Edwards found that the auxiliary police officers needed to be covered by compensation. Mayor Yates read the following Resolution:

Whereas The Town of Haysi could employ through the Haysi Police Department Auxiliary Police Officers and or Part Time Police Officers and,

Now, Therefore be it RESOLVED, Auxiliary Police and or Part Time Police Officers, are hereby authorized to be included as employees for the purposes of the Workers' Compensation Act of the Commonwealth of Virginia and entitled to all coverage provided under said Act.

Mayor Yates asked if anyone had any questions about the Resolution. Attorney Derrick Yates said that he did not have any problems with the Resolution. Mayor Yates said that the Resolution would be sent to VML. Motion was made by Council Member Barry Whitt seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace to approve the Resolution as read. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

#### Resolution for the Support of Downstream, Off Property Recreation

Mayor Yates read the letter to Senator Kaine included in the board packets and summarized how the situation arose. Dickenson County Board of Supervisors passed a similar Resolution. On November 7, 2014, the letters and Resolutions will be hand delivered to Senator Kaine's Office. Attorney Derrick Yates said that he did not have any problems it. Mayor Yates read the following Resolution:

Whereas the Town Council of the Town Of Haysi believes A Diversified Economy Is A Better Economy and

Whereas a key component of The Town Of Haysi's efforts to diversify its economy is to attract outdoor enthusiasts, adventure outdoor enthusiasts and other types of tourism and

Whereas The Town Of Haysi is a Gateway Town to both John Flannagan Dam and Reservoir and The Breaks Interstate Park, both being connected by waters of The Pound River and The Russell Fork River and

Whereas the current legislation governing The US Army Corps Of Engineers as it manages and releases water downstream from John Flannagan Dam flowing though The Breaks Interstate Park does not currently include "Enhanced Recreation" or "Downstream, Off Property Recreation" as a project purpose and

Now, Therefore be it Resolved, that The Town Of Haysi supports changes by The United States Congress to that legislation to include both "Enhanced Recreation" and

"Downstream, Off Property Recreation" as project purposes for John Flannagan Dam and Reservoir.

Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Barry Whitt to approve the Resolution as read. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

**ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS**

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

Chief Wallace reported fifty-three calls for the month of August and briefly described several of the calls on the September Monthly Report. During the month there were nine school related calls, three vehicle crashes, a lot of calls to assist the county, and Assistant Chief Edwards caught two juveniles in the act of breaking and entering. Mayor Yates thanked Chief Wallace and Assistant Chief Edwards for the work of the Haysi Police Department.

VRS Hazardous Duty Study

Mayor Yates stated that he didn't have much to add to the discussion from the last meeting. However, he did receive a copy of the contract with VRS dated June 7, 2005. Chief Wallace said that the police department would like to have the benefit, but were aware of the town's situation. Chief Wallace said that the officers would not have any hard feelings. Mayor Yates said that he would like to have all six town council members vote on such on big decision. Mayor Yates stated that the town would love to offer the benefit, but would need discussions on how to fund it. Assistant Chief Edwards said brought up the subject of a tax increase. Mayor Yates stated that he was morally opposed to raising taxes because the citizens could not afford it. Assistant Chief Edwards said that he did not feel it could be justified for two employees anyway. Chief Wallace pointed out that if the town saw an increase in revenue in the future that it could be reviewed at that time. Mayor Yates advised that the VRS was governed in VA Code Section 51.1-100 through 51.1-168. Mayor Yates pointed out that the decision to offer Hazardous Duty Coverage was irrevocable and recommended more reading and studying on the subject. Council Member Barry Whitt said that the police department deserved the benefit, but felt that a vote should be delayed until all council members were present. The expense of the Hazardous Duty Coverage is not included in the current budget. Mayor Yates stated that the topic would be tabled to the November meeting.

**ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates advised that there was a letter from The Health Wagon included in the board packets.
- Mayor Yates advised that he ran out of time to write the grant for the Department of Game and Inland Fishery.
- Mayor Yates said that the Streetscape Project was out for bids and the Treehouse Project would be out for bid this week. He informed everyone that the Façade Project is complete, although there are a few loose ends.
- Mayor Yates told everyone that the Town of Haysi had signed the contract with ARC on September 30, 2014, on the Trail Center. A meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2014 to negotiate/sign the contract with DHCD.
- Mayor Yates said that he attended the VML Conference last week. He noted that St. Paul and Rocky Mount got the most recognition and those localities are doing separately what we are working toward accomplishing together.
- Mayor Yates advised that the new ATV Trail would open in Pocahontas this week. The trail name is OP Trail. The issue in Buchanan County has been resolved and He intends to begin work on submitting another Land Use Permit to VDOT next week.
- Mayor Yates said the Town Council Members and employees would be touring the Ridgeview School tomorrow at 10:00am.

**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 Billy Counts 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