

Town of Haysi  
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting  
March 2, 2021 @ 7:00 p.m.

On March 2, 2021, 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  
Tim Wallace  
William "Billy" Counts  
Susan Tiller  
Carter Branham

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 Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### **ITEM # IV – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

At this time Mayor Yates asked to add Cumberland Forest Community Fund to the agenda under New Business. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood 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 if anyone had any comments to present to the Haysi Town Council at this time. Mr. David Yates expressed his concern about the possibility of all property owners deciding to sell. Mr. David Yates asked if anyone had discussed relocating the town with the Corp of Engineers since the town was in the Flood Way. Mayor Yates replied that only the right side of the town and the corner of the Haysi Town Hall is in the Flood Way for acquisition. Mr. David Yates said that a town relocation would be an option that would solve two issues. Mayor Yates stated that the option to relocate the town was "not on the table" and he didn't think it would be. Mayor Yates continued to say that he had talked to the Corp of Engineers about other options, but was presented with only option available t

the town now. Mayor Yates added that the Corp of Engineers will help relocate businesses if the property owner is interested. Mr. David Yates said there was property along the New Road toward Clinchco that would be good for relocation for many reasons. Mayor Yates expressed the opportunity for public information missed because of the pandemic would have helped in the process.

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

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

- February 2, 2021 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting on February 2, 2021 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:

- February 1, 2021 through February 26, 2021 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- January 28, 2021 through February 25, 2021 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 15740-15774 & deposits
- January 28, 2021 through February 25, 2021 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve the financial report. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

#### **ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS**

##### **Cumberland Forest Community Fund**

Mayor Yates explained that a new one hundred thousand dollar grant opportunity had been developed as a result of a partnership between the Nature Conservancy, Nature Vest, and UVA-Wise to fund area projects. The Nature Conservancy bought Forestland Group and focuses on improving water and soil quality. Mayor Yates continued that the Riverwalk Management Team suggested applying for twenty to thirty thousand dollars for add-ons or cushion for the existing project tied to soil and water improvements. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to authorize Mayor Yates to submit a grant application to the Cumberland Forest Community Fund on behalf

of the Town of Haysi for the Riverwalk Project. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

**ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS**

Flood Plain Ordinance

Mayor Yates asked for any questions regarding the Flood Plain Ordinance. Mayor Yates stated that the requirements included were the minimum allowed. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the Flood Plain Ordinance as presented. Mayor Yates asked for a roll call vote:

Michael Harris	Yes	Tim Wallace	Yes
Billy Counts	Yes	Rocky Wood	Yes
Susan Tiller	Nay	Carter Branham	Yes

Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed by verbal voting.

**ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

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

Chief Bobby Edwards reported 44 calls for the month of February and asked if anyone had questions about the report. Chief Edwards stated that the town had received several complaints about Taylor Construction’s work in the town. Chief Edwards added that there was a police report made of vandalism and one property owner did not want to allow Taylor Construction access to their property. Dickenson County is handling the property access issue. Council Member Billy Counts mentioned that the town had issues with the same owner in the past. Mayor Yates said that Taylor Construction had been “pulled” to another location for work. Council Member Susan Tiller added that Taylor Construction wasn’t handling property access properly with owners. Mayor Yates wanted to point out that the town didn’t “run off” Taylor Construction, but several properties were being disrespected. Council Member Susan Tiller stated that they had never offered her or her neighbors service for crossing their property. Mayor Yates said that Point Broadband had sixteen million dollars to spend across all four counties, not per county as rumored. Chief Edwards said that he didn’t have an update on the Tahoe, but he had been debating the details. Chief Edwards explained that he had requested a quote on the work, but had not received it yet. Chief Edwards said the company had given him excuses due to the weather, but he thought it was unacceptable to not have the quote within a month’s time. Mayor Yates asked about the shoplifting at the Dollar General Store on the police report. Chief Edwards answered that the person was charged and already found guilty. Mayor Yates asked about the animal on J&M Belcher Drive. Chief Edwards answered that a dog had gotten tangled up and the owners were not home; Officer Jerry Fuller was able to get the dog loose. Chief Edwards advised that the animal call listed on February 8, should have been on Garmond Sutherland Street. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about the wanted person on Fearl’s Branch. Chief Edwards answered that the police are still looking for the person; they are wanted

and hiding. Mayor Yates asked about the call at the Country Kitchen. Chief Edwards replied that he wasn't sure about it because Officer Grant Garrett worked that call.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report

Chief Rocky Wood reported two body recoveries after shootings, one structure fire, one fuel spill, two trees in the roadway, five motor vehicle accidents, two additional motor vehicle accidents with entrapments, two utility fires, and one cat in a tree. Chief Wood advised that he wrecked the fire truck on black ice resulting in one fire fighter being sent to the hospital, but everyone is fine now. Chief Wood said that the truck is going to be repaired and that the insurance has the information. The estimated damage is five thousand dollars. Mayor Yates asked if it was the new truck. Chief Wood answered that it was not.

**ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Yates said that he didn't have anything to add tonight for his comments.

**ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS**

None.

**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 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