

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2014
TOWN HALL – 6:00 P.M.**

Council Members:

Kyle Fletcher-Mayor
Kenneth Holbrook
Greg Bailey
Tim Boardwine
Harry Kelly
Jason Kilgore
Monty Salyer

Julie Hensley – Town Attorney
Debora Baca - Treasurer/Clerk
Earl Carter – Public Works Director
Bo Phillips – Police Chief
Kathy Stewart – Lyric Committee
Cody McElroy – Mattern & Craig
Allen Gregory - CVTimes

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fletcher at 6 p.m.

Councilman Bailey asked to add “Park Pavilion and Stage” to new business. A motion was made by Councilman Holbrook to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kilgore and approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Under public requests, Kathy Stewart reported on the Lyric Theater fundraising project. The kickoff was very successful, raising approximately \$1400 in donations with an attendance of about 100 people. She thanked everyone, especially Julie Hensley for her attendance at this event and the interest she has shown in the community. Ms. Stewart also reported on the Outdoor Expo held at Heartwood. The town was well represented at the event and it provided an opportunity to talk with a lot of people about St. Paul. Councilman Salyer thanked Kathy, Lou Wallace, and Wes Lawson, for their work on this event. Kathy also mentioned Teresa Harless, Destiny Blevins, Buzz Witt, and Jennifer Bailey for their help and participation at the Expo. Clinch River Adventures and Spearhead Trails each had a booth which allowed visitors to talk about three different aspects of St. Paul. As agreed when Main Street asked for the money to participate in the Expo, Kathy gave the Town Treasurer a check for \$500 from Main Street, to pay back some of the promotional money. The final item Kathy discussed was the Lyric Committee’s work on the IRF grant. At the September meeting, Councilman Holbrook shared with you that the committee has been working on an IRF grant application. The amount of the grant application is \$144,000 which would cover the first phases of design. She reviewed the 1:1 matching funds available, noting that the additional work on the building and the volunteer hours have not been included in the \$140,000 match. Ms. Baca pointed out that the DHCD façade money of \$9500 spent on the building can also be counted. Kathy asked the Council to place on the agenda for next month a resolution to approve the application for the IRF grant. Ms. Baca said she will prepare a resolution and place it on the October agenda.

Ms. Baca said Sherry Allen asked to reschedule her public request until October.

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Mayor Fletcher made the following announcements:

- 1) A picture of the plaque for the new wastewater treatment plant was handed out.
- 2) Wayne Fields and King Construction will be submitting a cost estimate for the additional work need on the Lyric building.
- 3) Mayor Fletcher acknowledged Frank Kilgore for his efforts in improving downtown by painting his building.
- 4) Jody Evans has been contacted about the status of the old home economics building. The town has mowed the property this year, but it is owned by Wise County Schools.
- 5) Mayor Fletcher thanked Bobby Turner and his crew once again for all the trimming and mowing along the roads and streets.
- 6) The new South St. Paul sewer pump station is nearing completion. It will be ready for operation once the wiring is finished.
- 7) The Eastern Star building will be painted by Eugene Mullins at a cost of \$450 plus the cost of the paint.
- 8) The Wastewater Treatment Plant Project did not get the Tobacco Commission funding in this round, but we will try again when they meet in Bristol later this month.
- 9) Mayor Fletcher met with VDOT and the 7/10 mile paving in South St. Paul will be done this month. Councilman Salyer inquired about Wise Street and Mayor Fletcher said they told him they will do that in about two weeks.
- 10) A copy of correspondence between Wise County and Dante Rescue Squad was reviewed by Mayor Fletcher. There was discussion about the primary responder for our area and the controversy regarding calls requesting Dante. Earl Carter suggested having a workshop to talk about this situation to prevent misunderstanding. He further elaborated on response procedures, explaining how a responder will move in the direction of the more advanced facility, ALS provider, or med flight. Councilman Salyer asked why this has recently become an issue. Councilman Boardwine said it is happening because there are now paid members at Castlewood now and for several years Dante has answered 90% of the calls. Councilman Bailey commented that he believes this a money issue. Councilman Boardwine asked several questions about Castlewood Rescue Squad and meetings at the water plant. Following a lengthy exchange between Mr. Carter and Councilman Boardwine, the Town Attorney advised staying with the agenda. Mayor Fletcher said a meeting can be scheduled to discuss this matter further if necessary.

Councilman Bailey mentioned that the Wise County Chamber of Commerce will be holding their monthly meeting at the St. Paul Town Hall on September 25th at 12 noon.

A motion was made by Councilman Kilgore, seconded by Councilman Holbrook, to approve the minutes of September 18, 2014 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Phillips asked to speak to Council about the police report prior to approval of the consent agenda. A recent topic of interest has been the speed limit sign and radar set up on Rt. 63 coming into town from Dante. Chief Phillips clarified that the radar doesn't pick up a driver

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until they top the hill and asked council members for direction regarding this issue. Mayor Fletcher said he has suggested setting up the radar at the bottom of the hill since the goal is to slow the traffic entering town. He further stated that VDOT said the sign could be changed from a 25 mph to 35 mph if the town so requested. Chief Phillips pointed out that when he applied for the first DMV grant, DMV advised that the problem area showing serious accidents was on Wise Street near the Boody curve. The department is required to commit 30% of their time to that location as indicated by the grant. Councilman Salyer stated his support for keeping the sign as it is. Mayor asked if anyone wanted to change it and there was no response. A motion was made by Councilman Holbrook to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kilgore and unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Cody McElroy reported on the bids received for the dredging of Oxbow Lake. The low bid was submitted by Estes Brothers at \$83,160. After reviewing the additive costs, it was recommended by Mattern & Craig that the Town consider rejecting all bids and perform the work by force account using Town personnel since the funding available wouldn't allow the installation of a trap/access road for future maintenance. Mayor Fletcher offered an estimate for the town crew to perform the work with rented equipment. John Hicks estimates that if the project can be done in one week, it will cost approximately \$14,000; if it takes two weeks, it will cost approximately \$25,000. Mayor Fletcher recommended that the Town do the work. A motion was offered by Councilman Holbrook to allow the town crew to dredge Oxbow Lake. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine. Following a brief discussion, a substitute motion was offered by Councilman Kilgore to approve the work by the town crew at a cost up to \$35,000. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Holbrook and the motion carried by a vote of 5-0 with Councilman Salyer abstaining because this will be paid from TVA funds.

Councilman Salyer made a motion that Council consider any future offers on the Lion's Den only with the understanding that the property is "Sold As Is". The motion was seconded by Councilman Kilgore and a roll call vote was taken: Kelly-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Boardwine-Aye; Holbrook-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Salyer-Aye. The motion carried 6-0.

Earl Carter discussed the ongoing problems with the grit chamber. He reviewed a thread of emails between himself, Mattern & Craig, and Kason. The correspondence addressed the continuous sand problems and the issues with the screens and pumps. Mr. Carter pointed out that the Town has spent \$23,359 in 2014 just on Kason parts and another \$23,156 with Boggs since the grit chamber has been in service. The sand is getting through to the vertical turbines and a new pump is about \$8,000 and we have already bought two new ones. Mayor Fletcher mentioned discussions between himself, Earl, John, and Cody about the possibility of building a sediment settling tank since the method recommended is not working. Mr. McElroy commented on the astronomical costs and suggested evaluating an alternative solution. He talked about a sediment basin or tank, getting some rough costs for that alternative, and the method to get it out. There was brief discussion about the water intake and consideration for moving it. Following

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comments about the maintenance process, the problems and possible solutions, a motion was made by Councilman Holbrook to leave this matter on the table for further discussion. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bailey and unanimously approved.

Councilman Salyer expressed his appreciation for repairs made at the Gray Hill sewer pump station on Mr. Holbrook's property. Noting that the Town has done all we can do, he offered a motion to allocate up to \$300 and ask Cody to look for a landscaper to plant shallow root shrubbery to improve the looks of the pump station area. He understands that there will be occasional odor because it is a sewer pump. A second was offered by Councilman Boardwine and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Fletcher provided a copy of a bid from Deer Builders on the Lyric building repairs. Councilman Salyer suggested moving forward with this work. Ms. Baca said they are waiting on one other bid from King Construction. Councilman Salyer moved to get the second quote and to allocate up to \$4,000 for these repairs. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holbrook and passed by a vote of 5-0 with Councilman Bailey abstaining.

Councilman Kilgore advised that Bradley's will be the subcontractor for the work previously approved to remove the river rapid rocks. Council has already authorized the expenditure pending approval from all state agencies. Since we now have approval from all the state agencies, he recommended that the town move forward with this project. All agreed.

Councilman Kelly said he would like to wait a while before taking action regarding work on the IDA parking lot. He received information from St. Paul Tomorrow that they will be working on a storm drainage grant. He asked Kathy Stewart to comment on this matter. Ms. Stewart said Lou will be meeting with DEQ about possible improvements to the storm drainage in the Market Square area. They have received some positive feedback and a phone conference is scheduled on Thursday. Lou will be requesting that they look at assisting with storm drainage in this area because no VDOT dollars will ever help with this street because it is not a VDOT street. The plan would also help with the drainage problems in the parking lot as well. Councilman Kelly said anyone interested in the phone conference should be at Lou's office Thursday morning. Kathy said she hopes to attend a DEQ grant writing workshop in Roanoke on October 1st. Mayor Fletcher emphasized the importance of coordinating with Earl and Cody so this ties into the other storm drainage and streetscape projects we have pending. Councilman Holbrook moved to table this item. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kelly and carried unanimously.

New Business:

Councilman Kelly requested that ODP be contacted to replace the directional light on the pole in Market Square with a standard light fixture. This will help light a larger area in the alleyway. A motion was made by Councilman Holbrook authorizing Mayor Fletcher to contact ODP regarding this request. A second was offered by Councilman Bailey and passed unanimously.

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Ms. Baca said Council approved the purchase of the three new police vehicles and the BB&T lease/purchase option was presented. However, Council has not yet approved the finance agreement with BB&T. After reviewing the proposed Resolution Approving Financing Terms, a motion was made by Councilman Salyer to adopt the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kilgore. Ms. Baca said the interest rate is 1.63% and it is the exact type of governmental financing we had on the garbage truck where the Town holds the title and BB&T is the lienholder. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Councilman Holbrook reviewed a proposed Resolution Regarding the EPA Clean Power Plan. He explained that EPA is having public hearings everywhere but in the coalfields where they need to be held. The resolution is asking EPA to hold these hearings in the coalfields where the people are being affected by the plan. Councilman Holbrook offered a motion to adopt the proposed resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and passed by a vote of 6-0. Councilman Holbrook asked that a copy of the resolution be sent to the UMWA and to each of our representatives.

Councilman Bailey commented how good the park looks with the exception of the red roof on the pavilion and stage. The Council has previously discussed painting the roof and black will match the new restroom. A motion was offered by Councilman Bailey to paint the stage overhang and pavilion roof black. Mr. Carter advised that you cannot get onto the roof because there isn't enough support, therefore, it will have to be done from scaffolding or a bucket truck. The motion was seconded by Councilman Holbrook and passed unanimously. All agreed to paint the entire stage roof. Mayor Fletcher said he will contact local painters.

Councilman Holbrook moved to enter into Closed Session to discuss Acquisition & Disposition of Property under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3). The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and a roll call vote was taken: Kelly-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Boardwine-Aye; Holbrook-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Salyer-Aye. The motion passed 6-0.

A motion was made by Councilman Holbrook to enter back into Open Session, certifying that the only matters discussed in Closed Session was Acquisition & Disposition of Property under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(3). The motion was seconded by Councilman Bailey and a roll call vote was taken: Kelly-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Boardwine-Aye; Holbrook-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Salyer-Aye. The motion passed 6-0.

There being no further business, Mayor Fletcher adjourned the meeting.

_____ Mayor

_____ Clerk