

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
TOWN HALL – 6:00 P.M.**

Council Members:

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

Jerry Couch - CVTimes

Others Present:

Debora Baca – Clerk/Treasurer
Julie Hensley – Town Attorney
Jonathan Johnson – Acting Police Chief
Steve Arney – Police Chief Applicant
Carlos Nash – Police Chief Applicant
Lou Wallace – SP Tomorrow
Kathy Stewart – Main Street
Kelly Miller – DEQ
Shawn Lindsey – Spearhead Trails
Brian Becker – Natural Capital
Mary Quillen – Resident/Business Owner
Johnny Steele - Resident

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fletcher at 6:03 p.m.

Councilman Kilgore asked to add “Little League Donation” and “Pool Internet Service” to the agenda as #7 and #8 under new business. Councilman Salyer asked to move Item#6 to #9, following closed session. Councilman Holbrook moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and unanimously approved.

Under public requests and presentations, Shawn Lindsey, Director of Spearhead Trails, gave an update on plans for the trails. Trails will be opening in November for mountain biking. Spearhead will be hiring six trail techs this year, four for maintenance of existing trails and two for new construction. There will be a couple of newly constructed trails under the Mountain View System; one will be expansion of trails into Russell County, more specifically into Dante, and the next will be additional expansion of the trail to Coeburn. Mr. Lindsey said they are hoping to expand the trails to offer about 200 miles of trail riding. Spearhead will be asking each county for \$25,000 this year and will ask Russell County for an additional \$30,000 to assist in building the Dante trailhead. He briefly discussed events, marketing, and increasing permit sales. The biggest event to be held this year will be a mountain bike race. He told Council that Spearhead will be requesting a contribution of \$1.00 per resident from each municipality, rounded down to the nearest hundred.

Next, Mary Quillen, owner of the car wash, thanked the St. Paul Police Department for notifying them of a leak in one of the propane lines into their building. Ms. Quillen told council members that the town police officers did a great job of patrolling and checking on businesses. The police

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
PAGE II**

officer who discovered the leak in the propane line contacted Heritage propane, then contacted her. She said if not for the police officers and fire department personnel, this leak could have devastated their business and possibly the entire area if an explosion had occurred. She again commended the dedicated officers for paying such close attention and expressed her appreciation. She also thanked the Mayor and Council Members for their public service, saying that St. Paul is a role model for small towns.

Kelly Miller, Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, talked about the grant application she had previously requested permission to file on behalf of the town. However, there is a stipulation in the grant that requires a certain amount of phosphorous reduction. There has to be less than \$50,000 spent per pound of phosphorous removal and they just could not get the project calculations to fall within that cost. Even though the project is ineligible for this grant opportunity, she and the Storm Water Work Group will continue to look at projects for another grant application in October, 2017. Ms. Miller said the group will also be looking at applying for the Dominion grant again. She discussed a small grant that has been received from TVA for educational material aimed at storm water awareness. This grant includes installation of storm water drain markers that say "No Dumping" to remind everyone that storm drains are not trash receptacles, but the water going into storm drains runs directly into local streams. She asked Council to allow the storm drain markers to be placed throughout town. Ms. Baca said she can put that on the agenda for next month. Mayor Fletcher thanked Ms. Miller and the group for working to get grants on behalf of the town.

Richard Childers was on the agenda to speak but was not in attendance.

Lou Wallace gave a brief update on the new pave drain system on Russell Street. She thanked the town council for their contribution and expressed her appreciation for the town workers who prepared the site and placed the heavy pavers. This was an engineering challenge and the town workers did a wonderful job. She also thanked the agencies that helped make this possible and The Rogers Group for their donation of gravel.

Kathy Stewart, Main Street Manager, reported that the Strategic Planning meetings were a success, having very good attendance at all three sessions. Four goals were developed and strategies on how to reach those goals were discussed. All of the information is being compiled at this time. She asked Ms. Baca to please put on the March agenda a request to sponsor the Business Challenge with a monetary contribution to help cover the cost of the prize for the winner. The applications are due March 15th and are available online and at the town hall. Ms. Stewart handed out a flyer on "Rally Southwest Virginia". She encouraged everyone to attend the meeting to discuss what project would be best for a \$3,000 grant that has been received. There will be several meetings to work on this project. Councilman Kelly advised that the guttering has been replaced on the Lyric building. A grant through the Clinch River Valley Initiative is being used to develop concepts for an ecological education center and a

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
PAGE III**

walking/moving campus throughout St. Paul. A consulting firm has been hired to develop these concepts. The consultants participated in the Strategic Planning workshops. Ms. Stewart asked Council to approve the resolution for an IRF grant application on behalf of the Lyric Project. She advised that the Lyric Project has the matching funds and she just needs the Council to authorize the grant application. Councilman Salyer commented on the success of the strategic planning workshops and how beneficial it is to have input and group discussion about the future of the town.

Brian Becker, representing the Center for Natural Capital, gave a presentation on integrating natural capital solutions into the marketplace. He discussed Streamsweepers, a program that employees young adults to assess, clean and maintain rivers. He also talked about the Community Energy Program to advance the use of wood and grass fuels for space, hot water and heat, Soilkeepers, a landscaping service that maintains yards through healthy soil biology, and the Wildlife Habitat Cooperative that connects landowners to pool habitat restoration services. A market analysis is needed for the program and a Planning Grant is available through the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The grant provides funds to local governments for market analysis. The grant is \$20,000 for a single jurisdiction and \$35,000 for multiple jurisdictions with a 50% in-kind or cash match. Mr. Becker said he will also be presenting the program to Russell County. Several questions from the audience and brief discussion followed Mr. Becker's presentation. A copy of the presentation is attached to the official minutes.

Mayor Fletcher excused himself from the meeting, and asked Vice Mayor Holbrook to take over until he was able to return.

A motion was made by Councilman Salyer, seconded by Councilman Boardwine, to approve the January minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Under the Consent Agenda, Acting Chief Jonathan Johnson advised that, at the previous request of Councilman Salyer, he has researched the matter of trailers being parked in public parking spaces and has been unable to find any state code or town ordinance that makes this illegal. He gave Councilman Salyer a sample of language that could be used if Council chooses to adopt an ordinance to prevent trailers from being parked in the downtown area. Councilman Salyer thanked Chief Johnson for the effort. Councilman Kelly suggested having the state police look into it as, since these are VDOT maintained streets. Chief Johnson said he has looked at the state code and was unable to find any language that would apply.

Ms. Baca said Earl Carter asked her to get direction from the Council regarding additional summer help. He would like to consider getting workers from Camp 18. They will send four inmates with a guard for \$12 per man per day. The town would be required to sign an agreement with Camp 18 and he could present that at the March meeting. Mr. Carter asked for a consensus

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
PAGE IV**

on utilizing the inmates so he would know what option to pursue. If Council is not interested in this, then he would like approval to advertise for two seasonal workers. Following a brief discussion about the advantages of using Camp 18, Ms. Baca was asked to include a draft of the contract in next month's council packet. Councilman Kelly moved to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine, followed by discussion. Councilman Bailey said that back in October, there was concern about a sewer odor on Fifth Avenue. He said the odor is coming from wash water draining from one of the apartments above the brewery. Ms. Baca said she would ask Earl to come by and see him about it. Ms. Baca mentioned that an email was received from Robert Hilt of Rural Development, stating that we need the interim financial documents approved prior to advertising the bids for West Hills. Ms. Baca said she is waiting for a response from Co-Bank and has already received a rate of 3.25% and 2.25%. Councilman Holbrook called for a vote on the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

Old Business:

Councilman Kelly read the Resolution asking VDOT to take into their system the additional section of Riverside Drive from Oxbow down to the guardrail at the entrance of the park. Roy Balthis completed the survey and Councilman Kelly had it recorded and sent it to VDOT. After a brief discussion about the exact location of the section of road at issue and when VDOT may pave this portion of the road, Councilman Kelly moved to adopt the VDOT Resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilman Salyer and a roll call vote was taken: Kelly-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Boardwine-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Salyer-Aye. The motion passed 5-0.

Councilman Kilgore talked about the draft contract for a Project Manager. Bill Wallace was previously selected from those who submitted proposals. The budget for this work is \$10,000. Ms. Baca explained that the contract was done on a task order basis similar to the general engineering contract. The town attorney has reviewed the language and does not have any issues to address. A motion was made by Councilman Kelly, seconded by Councilman Kilgore, to approve the contract as presented. Councilman Salyer clarified that this contractor will be working for the entire council. Vice Mayor called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

A motion was made by Councilman Salyer, seconded by Councilman Boardwine, to adopt the Resolution to Apply to DHCD for an Industrial Revitalization Grant for the Lyric Project. The motion was unanimously approved.

Next, Vice Mayor Holbrook asked Jonathan Johnson to address the Virtual Golf Tournament request. Chief Johnson explained that he would like to hold a Virtual Golf Tournament from March 1-March 31st to raise money for the upcoming Kid's Fishing Tournament. After

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
PAGE V

explaining how the event works, he asked Council to consider donating \$250 for prizes. Councilman Kelly offered a motion to approve a \$250 from the Donation line item to the Police Department's Virtual Golf Tournament. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kilgore and carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Councilman Salyer to allocate \$700 to sponsor a table for the Annual Wise County Chamber Gala. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and passed unanimously. Councilman Bailey said he will be buying his own ticket. Ms. Baca asked that anyone wishing to attend to let the office know within the next week or so.

Councilman Kilgore moved to purchase 1/3 page ad in the 2017 Crooked Road Visitor Guide. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilman Kilgore to purchase a full page ad for \$80 to be placed in the Coeburn Middle School Yearbook. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and passed unanimously.

Councilman Kilgore has been asked by Bob Salyer, Clinch River Little League, to make a request to Council to donate approximately 20 bales of straw for the Little League field. The cost is about \$5.75 per bale. Ms. Baca pointed out that there is \$1,000 allocated in the budget for Little League expenses. A motion was made by Councilman Boardwine, seconded by Councilman Kilgore, to approve the purchase of straw for the Little League. There being no questions or comments, Vice Mayor Holbrook called for a vote and the motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Kilgore has been working with Kathy Stewart to get their laptop and printer working better with the network. They need a router at the pool building and we need to get internet service at the pool. This would also provide internet service to the public for use while at the swimming pool. He expects the cost to be around \$40 or \$50 per month. Councilman Kilgore made a motion to purchase wireless internet service for the recreation room and the pool area. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kelly and passed unanimously.

Vice Mayor Holbrook called for a short break and Mayor Fletcher returned to the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Holbrook to enter into Closed Session to discuss Personnel under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), Legal under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7), and Contracts under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(30). The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and a roll call vote was taken: Salyer-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Holbrook-Aye; Boardwine-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Kelly-Aye. The motion carried 6-0.

Councilman Kelly moved to enter back into Open Session. The motion was seconded by Councilman Boardwine and passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16, 2017
PAGE VI**

A motion to certify that the only matter discussed in closed session was Personnel under VA Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) was made by Councilman Holbrook. The motion was seconded by Councilman Kelly 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 Kelly, seconded by Councilman Kilgore, to appoint Jonathan Johnson as Chief of Police with a beginning salary of \$46,000. Councilman Boardwine made a substitute motion to appoint Carlos Nash to the Chief of Police position with a salary of \$46,000. The substitute motion was seconded by Councilman Salyer. Councilman Holbrook raised the question of whether the appointment should be made by nomination or a motion. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Holbrook withdrew the question. Mayor Fletcher called first for the vote on the substitute motion: Kelly-Nay; Kilgore-Nay; Boardwine-Aye; Bailey-Aye; Salyer-Aye; Holbrook-Nay. The vote was a 3-3 tie. Mayor Fletcher broke the tie by voting Nay. The motion failed on a 4-3 vote.

Next, Mayor Fletcher called for a roll call vote on the original motion to appoint Jonathan Johnson. The roll call vote was taken: Kelly-Aye; Kilgore-Aye; Boardwine-Nay; Holbrook-Aye; Bailey-Nay; Salyer-Nay. The vote was a 3-3 tie, with Mayor Fletcher breaking the tie with an Aye vote. The motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

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

Mayor

Clerk