

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**September 13, 2022**

**Council Members:** Mayor Paige, CM Reams, CM Frank, CM Venable, CM Baker, CM Harris

**Council Members Absent:** VM Moss

**Others:** Consultant Dennis Carney, Clerk Reams, Donna McRae-Jones, Supervisor for District 2 Cameron Gilliam, Amy Call, Annie Holland Mahan, Makelya Harrison, Sandra Moss, Eric Sundberg

Introduction of the newly appointed District Supervisor for Buckingham County, Cameron Gilliam.

**Call to Order at 7:00 p.m.**

**Open the Meeting:** The meeting was held at 1030 Main Street, Dillwyn, VA (Town Hall). Mayor Paige established that a quorum was present.

**Minutes:** A motion was made by CM Reams to accept the August minutes as written. The motion was seconded by CM Harris. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

Eric Sundberg, Graduate student from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU): Mr. Sundberg is in the master's program involved in an urban planning project. The project is offered free of charge to the Town. It has a three-prong approach. The first being analysis of market and labor. The second is the "low hanging fruit" and studies the immediate needs of the town for the next 5-10 years. The third is forecast which will look ahead for the next 25-100 years for a playbook of what could happen. Mr. Sundberg states that Dillwyn has good bones and has so much potential for growth. Dillwyn is a great town in a great location. It is triangulated between Richmond, Charlottesville, and Lynchburg. He will need to obtain some information like budgets and maps for his study. A motion was made by CM Reams to accept the help Mr. Sundberg is offering. CM Baker seconded. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

Amy Call: Ms. Call posted on Facebook concern about the lack of activities in the Town and County. She would like to see the Town grow and bring life back to Dillwyn. She would like to see a reason to want to stay in the Town and grow old here. She would like to see citizens have some community pride, honor our veterans, and perhaps have other activities in Town. She would like to see the town have activities like a fall festival, maybe fireworks on July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Christmas at Town Hall. She suggests forming an activities committee. Mayor Paige offered to set a date and time for she and Ms. Call to meet.

Donna McRae-Jones: Relay for Life is on hold at this time. Habitat for Humanity has a lot of activities going on in the County. There will be a pig roast at the Farmer's Market in Farmville, VA. This event has been on hold for the last two years due to the pandemic. This is the biggest fund raiser for the organization, and it has been missed by all who participate.

Five homes have been built and one renovation has been completed. Habitat for Humanity has received just under \$1 million in donations. However, there is not any property available in Buckingham County or the Town of Dillwyn.

Habitat for Humanity will hold a BINGO game on December 11, 2022, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. There will

be food available at this event. It is anticipated that the food will be things like chili, stew, or other comfort food items as it is thought it will be cold about that time of year.

Annie Holland Mahan: Ms. Holland Mahan hails from Martinsville, VA. Ms. Holland Mahan asks the Council to approve a parade honoring Reverend and Mother Carter. The parade is a surprise for them. She would like to hold the event on November 19, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. (Saturday). The line up for this event will start at 2:00 p.m. She would like to begin at First Bank on Rosney Road and go to the Crystal Cathedral on Oak Street. She will need to contact the Sheriff's department, VDOT, and the State Police. The Clerk will send her contact information for her to be able to get the permissions she will need to hold this event.

#### **ZONING FOR RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS**

**Zoning and Residential:** Dennis Carney, Planning Consultant: The last meeting of the Planning Commission was held in November 2018. There is a need for a Conditional Use Permit for a child care center at 192 LeSueur Street. Close to the end of the street is where the business will be located. Mr. Carney suggested a "text amendment" to the existing Zoning for the business that is proposing to be located at the former location of Davis Variety Store on Main Street. The zoning amendment text will be made to the Section 11-71 in the B-1 permitted uses. CM Reams made a motion to hold a joint public hearing for both issues. CM Venable seconded the motion. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

**Ordinances:** An announcement needs to be placed in the newspaper regarding a public hearing for the amended ordinance. A motion was made to set the date for the public hearing to coincide with the next Town Council meeting on October 11, 2022 by CM Venable. The motion was seconded by CM Baker. All others: Aye. The motion carried. The Clerk will contact the local newspaper to ask them to publish the advertisement.

**PARK EVENTS:** Ellis Acres Memorial Park funding request. There is an amount of \$12,150 still needing to be raised for the improvements at the Park. A motion was made by CM Reams to see whatever is left after the other projects have been completed and maybe a percentage of those remaining funds could be donated. The motion was seconded by CM Harris. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

#### **GRASS CUTTING:**

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

(discussion on items)

Halloween Event on Main Street: The Chamber has raised \$707 to spend on candy. The event will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on October 31, 2022 on Main Street in the Town of Dillwyn.

Dennis Carney, Planning Consultant: Town Hall renovations with the SLFRF funds will have a bid opening on September 30, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. Mr. Carney is working on ideas to obtain a handicap access to the Town Hall building.

Closed Session: 2.2-3711(A)(1) Personnel: A motion was made by CM Venable to enter Closed Session. The motion was seconded by CM Baker. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

A motion was made by CM Reams and was seconded by CM Venable to re-enter Open Session. All others: Aye. The motion carried and the Council returned to Open Session. No other items were discussed during the Closed Session.

A motion was made by CM Venable for Mr. Carney to continue assisting with the zoning issues for no additional fee. The motion was seconded by CM Baker. Reams voted Nay. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Announcements:**

**COMMITTEES:**

**Finance** – Linda Paige, Karen Sue Moss, Ossie J. Harris, III, Janel Venable

**Town Buildings/Grounds** – Ossie J. Harris, III, Gilbert W. Reams

**Planning Commission** – Karen Sue Moss, James O’Bryant, Bill Carmines, Joseph Patterson, Beverly Hudgins-King, Dennis W. Carney

**Beautification** – Gilbert Reams, Sandra Moss, Mark Brown, Tricia Taylor

**Ordinance** – Linda Paige,

**Christmas Parade** – Linda Paige, Diane Holman-James, Sarah Walker, Sharon Baker, Rachel Frank

**Community Service Workers** – Linda Paige, RW Maxey, Janel Venable

**Halloween Event** – Sharon Baker, Gilbert W. Reams, Melissa Wallace, Buckingham Chamber of Commerce, Adrian Jones, Rachel Frank

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:21 p.m.