

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Town Council Meeting
September 12, 2023

Council Members: Mayor Paige, CM Reams, VM Moss, CM Baker, CM Harris, CM Venable

Council Members Absent: CM Frank

Others: Clerk Reams, Dennis Carney, Consultant, Faye Shumaker, Stephanie Miller, Sandra Moss, Travis Towns, John Staton, J. Robert Snoddy, III

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.

Resolution for Charlene Davis Snoddy: Mayor Paige presented a Resolution for Mrs. Snoddy to her family.

Resolution for Meredith Spencer Staton: Mayor Paige presented a Resolution for Mrs. Staton to her family.

Minutes: VM Moss made a motion to accept the minutes of the August meeting as written. The motion was seconded by CM Baker. All others: Aye. The motion carried.

Announcement from Donna McRae-Jones presented by Mayor Paige: On October 7, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. Habitat for Humanity is holding a fund raiser at Francis Redwood Center.

On September 17, 2023, at 2:00 p.m. there will be a sculpture unveiling at The Buckingham County Public Library.

Dennis Carney, Consultant: SLFRF Update: The Town Hall project is very near completion. Mr. Carney and Mr. Walton will do a walk through for a punch list of final things needing to be completed. Mr. Carney is very proud of the renovation and feels that Council should be also. There is a generator for safety and continuing the operation of Town Hall business. The basement is now dry and could be used for storage. Mr. Carney encourages the Council to invite Mr. Walton and Buckingham County Building inspector, Mr. Tommy Ranson, to the October Town Council meeting to extend their appreciation for a job well done and how it was expedited to be completed.

There is around \$200,000 remaining funds. Final accounting is necessary before any further large expenses. Mr. Carney pointed out that there will be a new Council beginning in January 2024. The pandemic caused the Council to dissolve the CDs that were previously purchased. Mr. Carney suggested that the Council consider purchasing CDs with the funds. Also use the funds in the budget for "Rainy day fund" and label it as such.

Mr. Carney also pointed out that there is a need for a municipal parking lot to business growth or for economic development.

Broadcasting to YouTube: The technology required to be able to broadcast to YouTube start up costs exceed \$10,000. Town Hall is grandfathered under the ADA Act. If someone hat is handicapped wanted

to join the meeting and provided enough notice, provisions could be made for them. The Council could use Zoom for a cost of around \$1,000.

Town Charter: The current Charter requires a six-person Council. There is often an issue reaching quorum. Mr. Carney suggested that the number of members be reduced to help solve this issue.

ZONING FOR RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS:

Zoning and Residential:

Ordinances: VM Moss updated the Council regarding the letters that were mailed to citizens in violation of the Grass & Junk Cars Ordinance. The recipients of the Violation letters have been working to make improvements on their property and appear to be complying with the Ordinance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

(discussion on items)

NEW BUSINESS:

National Night Out: Mr. Travis Towns, a local town citizen, suggested contacting the Buckingham County Sheriff's Department to collaborate a National Night Out. Sheriff Kidd has appointed Lt. Albert "Bo" Jamerson to lead the planning for their department. Mr. Towns will be on the committee that the Mayor will form.

The Buckingham County Sheriff's Office has asked Council for a donation for the Children's Safety program.

There is a new Planning Commission member. Mr. Bob Pinelli was asked by Mayor Paige to serve, and he accepted the appointment.

The rock at the back of the Town Hall has been replenished. There were some issues when the gravel was first delivered. Those issues were resolved. Mr. Snoddy commented that he appreciated having gravel behind his business. He also announced that he would like to offer a donation to the Town in the name of his mother, Mrs. Charlene Snoddy, for the gravel.

Halloween Event 2023: The Halloween Event will be held on Main Street on October 31, 2023. The times will be determined by the Halloween Committee.

Christmas Parade 2023: The contact for the parade is Amy Call. She did a great job contacting and obtaining a lot of participants for last year's parade. She will be contacted to serve again this year. She would like more activities for the children during the parade.

Mr. Carney suggested that it may be a good idea to hold an "open house" at Town Hall. It would be convenient since the children and their families stop by to visit with Santa Claus.

Announcements:

The Buckingham County Comprehensive Plan: It is a questionnaire to ask what you would like to see in the future the County. What would you like it to look like five years from now? Ashley Shumaker is the Planner for our District.

Mr. Snoddy: The largest building in Town is being renovated. The renovation is almost complete. Mr. Snoddy suggested to the Town Council to encourage the property owner, Mr. Calvin Bachrach with his business plans.

Mr. Travis Towns: Please contact the State Police to monitor the traffic on Main Street for safety concerns regarding the bus traffic. He stated that the bus driver does not open the door for fear that a child will be hit by traffic that fails to honor the bus stop sign and flashing lights. Mayor Paige asked Clerk Reams to contact the State Police to assist with this matter.

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, Joseph Patterson, Beverly Hudgins-King, Dennis W. Carney, Robert L. Pinelli

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, Amy Call

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 7:41 p.m.