

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – 5:45 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 7:00 P.M.
MAY 27, 2014**

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT THE EDGAR A. LONG BUILDING, 140 SCATTERGOOD DRIVE, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA, ON MAY 27, 2014 AT 5:45 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Mayor James W. Vanhoozier; Samuel M. Bishop; R. Cord Hall; Steve Huppert; Henry D. Showalter; Bradford J. Stipes. ABSENT: Mayor D. Michael Barber.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Barry Helms; Assistant Town Manager Randy Wingfield.

SPECIAL MEETING

The purpose of the Special Meeting is to tour the historic Edgar A. Long building, hosted by Mr. Bob Leonard of Christiansburg Institute. No action was taken by Council.

---- Adjourned until 7:00 P.M. ----

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN HALL, 100 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA, ON MAY 27, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor D. Michael Barber; Vice-Mayor James W. Vanhoozier; Samuel M. Bishop; R. Cord Hall; Steve Huppert; Henry D. Showalter; Bradford J. Stipes. ABSENT: None.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Barry Helms; Assistant Town Manager Randy Wingfield; Clerk of Council Michele Stipes; Town Attorney Theresa Fontana; Finance Director/Treasurer Valerie Tweedie; Assistant to the Town Manager Adam Carpenetti; Planning Director Nichole Hair; Director of Human Resources/Public Information Officer Becky Wilburn.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Conditional Use Permit request by MTS Associates for a welding shop at 610 N. Franklin Street (tax parcel 496 – ((8)) – 51) in the B-3 General Business District. Brad Taylor of Christiansburg, a majority partner of MTS, explained the location of the property and the intent to rent it to a small wood and metal fabrication shop. Anticipated tenant, Willie Price of 1700 Blake Drive, explained that his business focuses on small fabrications such as railings and staircases for area contractors. Most of his shop supplies are small and generate limited noise, and there are no large trucks involved. Some MIG and TIG welding would be done at the shop, but most welding is done at the construction site. Mr. Price's son is the only other employee, besides himself. There will be no business advertising and no signs on the building. Councilman Huppert reported that the Planning Commission was satisfied with the information provided by Mr. Taylor and Mr. Price and it supports the CUP request.
2. Proposed Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-2015. Financial Director/Treasurer Valerie Tweedie provided Council with a copy of the proposed annual budget that reflected the modifications requested by Council at the May 6, 2014 work session. Mrs. Tweedie reviewed the minor modifications and offered to answer questions of Council.

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER:

MAYOR BARBER called the regular meeting of Council to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the meeting minutes of May 13, 2014. Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

II. CITIZEN'S HEARING:

1. RESOLUTION IN RECOGNITION OF CHRISTIANSBURG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RONNIE PIEMONTE FOR HIS THIRD CONSECUTIVE DIVING STATE CHAMPIONSHIP. Mayor Barber presented Christiansburg High School student, Ronnie Piemonte, with a resolution recognizing his third consecutive diving state championship. A copy of the resolution is attached herewith.

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS.

- a. Samuel Bauer, 100 Alleghany Street, Miller/Alleghany traffic concerns. Mr. Bower spoke of his support for establishing traffic divisions within the Police Department and the Engineering Department that would focus solely on addressing the ongoing traffic concerns in Christiansburg, mainly roadway design and enforcement of traffic laws. According to Mr. Bower, Police Chief Sisson has stated that his department is not staffed enough to focus on traffic as needed, and he was disappointed that the requests for additional staff were cut from the proposed budget. Three new patrol officer positions were requested by the Police Department, which were to be used to form a traffic division. Mr. Bower stressed the need for traffic enforcement and encouraged Council to consider increasing the staff within the Police and Engineering departments in the future. He then reported that the stop signs placed on Alleghany Street and Miller Street are not effective enough and that commuter traffic is heavy through the area several times each day. He has been actively working with the Town's engineering department to identify traffic and potential traffic problems in the area, and he suggested a ban on commercial vehicles on Alleghany and Miller streets. Town Manager Helms reported that he thought that the temporary speed humps were ordered last week for placement on Alleghany and Miller streets, which would be used as a pilot for other problem areas in town.

III. DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. COUNCIL ACTION ON:

- a. Proposed Water and Sewer fee increases for the Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015, effective June 1, 2014, and in accordance with *Code of Virginia 15.2-2119*. The Public Hearing was held May 13, 2014. Councilman Hall made a motion to adopt the proposed water and sewer fee increases as presented for the Fiscal Year 2014-15, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council was polled on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.

2. DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON ADOPTING A SELF-FUNDED HEALTH INSURANCE POLICY. Council was provided information on this matter during the May 13, 2014 regular meeting. Town Manager Helms explained that, because of the fees and requirements related to recent health care reform, self-funded group health insurance would result in an estimated cost savings to the Town of \$135,000. Individual claims would be reinsured at \$125,000 and the groups' claims at 125% of expected claims. A self-funded health insurance plan would provide the same network and savings that are currently available to employees and dependents. Councilman Vanhoozier said he is familiar with this type of insurance plan and understands it operates on an annual basis. Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to adopt a self-funded health insurance policy as presented by Town Manager Helms, seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council was polled on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye. A reserve fund of \$300,000 will be established to cover any shortfalls if Council decides to return to fully-insured, or for use in the event of a catastrophic situation.

3. RESOLUTION FOR HYBRID ENTITY STATUS FOR PURPOSES OF HIPAA. Town Attorney Fontana explained that the purpose of the resolution was to give clarity to requirements pertaining to health care HIPAA laws and all local governments were required to adopt the resolution. Town Attorney Fontana recommended Council adopt the resolution as presented. Councilman Hall made a motion to adopt the resolution, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council was polled on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter –

Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.

4. MR. STIPES AND MR. VANHOOZIER – STREET COMMITTEE REPORT/RECOMMENDATION ON:

- a. Plat Showing Lot Line Relocation and Private Easement Dedication; creating 2 lots; located at 1048 and 1090 Radford Street. Councilman Stipes reported that the request was to enlarge the property located behind Country Kitchen, and to adjust the lot line to provide street frontage for the property. The plat conforms to the subdivision ordinance and the Street Committee recommended approval. Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

Councilman Huppert made a motion to amend the agenda to include the Planning Commission recommendation and Council action on the Conditional Use Permit request by MTS Associates for a welding shop at 610 N. Franklin Street (tax parcel 496 – ((8)) – 51) in the B-3 General Business District. Councilman Hall seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None. Mayor Barber set the matter as item #5 under Discussions by Mayor and Council members.

5. Council action on:

- a. Conditional Use Permit request by MTS Associates for a welding shop at 610 N. Franklin Street (tax parcel 496 – ((8)) – 51) in the B-3 General Business District. Town Manager Helms read the Planning Commission resolution recommending Town Council issue the CUP with six conditions. A copy of the resolution and conditions is attached herewith. Councilman Huppert made a motion to issue the CUP with the six conditions as recommended by the Planning Commission, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

IV. COUNCIL REPORTS:

- a. Councilman Huppert reported on the recent improvements to Depot Park by the staff of the recreation center. The staff worked at the park on a day the recreation center was closed during floor replacement due to chemical fumes. Installation of the gym floor is going well and nearing completion.
- b. Councilman Showalter spoke briefly about the Authority tipping fees paid by the Town each month, and the Town's plans for the old trash trucks now that the new trash system has been implemented. Town Manager Helms reported that the Town currently has five trash trucks, two of which will be liquidated, one is currently in use daily and two will be reserved for back up use. The trucks are usable, but not in good shape.
- c. Councilman Stipes clarified a matter mentioned by Mr. Bower during the citizen's comments regarding the number of new employee positions included in the budget. Originally, a total of nine new positions were requested by Town departments. With a focus on preparing a balanced budget, the Finance Committee studied the requests and recommended including two of the requested positions: a cemetery laborer and an assistant Fire Marshall/Inspector. Councilman Stipes then suggested Council consider moving towards a consent agenda in the future, which would condense general business and could shorten council meetings.
- d. Councilman Hall reported that the new gym flooring and lighting initiative at the recreation center, noting that lighting installment is complete and the flooring replacement is nearing completion. On June 2, 2014, the Recreation Advisory Committee will meet in the recreation center gym to present the proposed recreation center master plan. The Recreation Advisory Committee plans to meet with the Aquatic Advisory Board in late June to discuss ways to increase membership.
- e. Councilman Bishop met with Rescue Captain Joe Coyle and had the opportunity to view the new lighting system at the rescue squad, which is expected to result in a cost savings to the Town. Election of rescue squad officers will take place on June 1, 2014.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS:

1. MONTHLY BILLS: On motion by Councilman Stipes, seconded by Councilman Hall, Council voted to approve the monthly bills to be paid on June 10, 2014 in the amount of \$1,907,074.54. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None. Town Manager Helms noted that the

billing for janitorial supplies was high this month because the Town purchased a new floor cleaning machine, two new vacuum cleaners, and wax strippers for use at the recreation center.

2. PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST: Town Manager Helms presented the following request and recommended setting the Public Hearing for June 10, 2014:

1. Capital improvement bond included in the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15.

On motion by Councilman Stipes, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier, Council voted as follows to set the Public Hearing for June 10, 2014 as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- VML Regional Supper will be held at Blacksburg Airport on June 26, 2014 at 5:30. Council to rsvp by June 19, 2014.
- At Councilman Halls' request, Mayor Barber reported that VDOT has pledged to focus on moving the Falling Branch park and ride to a new location. VDOT is actively seeking a suitable location and will fully fund the project. In the meantime, Mayor Barber and Police Chief Sisson will remain involved in keeping the focus on safety at Falling Branch Elementary School.
- In response to the written projected accounting by representatives of Christiansburg Institute as to the anticipated usage of Town contribution, if provided for FY 2014-15, Council agreed to keep the annual contribution of \$10,000 to Christiansburg Institute in the budget for FY 2014-15.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

D. Michael Barber, Mayor