

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
WORK SESSION MINUTES – 5:45 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 7:00 P.M.
MAY 12, 2015**

A WORK SESSION OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN HALL, 100 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA, ON MAY 12, 2015 AT 5:45 P.M.

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

WORK SESSION

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR BARBER.

II. DISCUSSION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. Truman Wilson Property Master Plan.

III. ADJOURNMENT

The work session was adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

---Adjourned until 6:00 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 12, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor D. Michael Barber; Vice-Mayor R. Cord Hall; Samuel M. Bishop; Steve Huppert; Henry D. Showalter; Bradford J. Stipes; James W. Vanhoozier. 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 Val Tweedie; Planning Director Nichole Hair; Aquatics Director Terry Caldwell.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Conditional Use Permit request by Billy Massie (agent for Starlight MHP, LLC) for the expansion of an existing mobile home park with one single-wide mobile home and one single family residence on Starlight Drive (tax parcel 529 – ((A)) – 41) in the B-3 General Business District. Mr. Alvin Humes addressed Council on behalf of Bobby Christian who requested Council deny the CUP request out of concern that the expansion may decrease adjoining property values.

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR BARBER.

Councilman Stipes made a motion to amend the agenda to include a Street Committee recommendation on a request for a relocation/vacation of lot lines to create Lot 3A and Lot 4A of White Pine Subdivision; creating 2 lots; located on Evergreen Drive, N.E. Councilman Vanhoozier seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Council Meeting Minutes of April 28, 2015.

Councilman Hall made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilman Bishop. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.

III. RECOGNITIONS

1. Citizen Resolution. Mayor Barber read and presented a resolution in honor and recognition of the leadership accomplishments of Robert L. Dobson. A copy of the resolution is attached herewith. Mr. Dobson thanked Council for the special recognition and expressed his gratitude for a great working relationship with Council that has extended for many years.

IV. CITIZEN'S HEARING

- a. Mr. David Moore, Christiansburg resident, addressed Council regarding the Christiansburg Community Center located at 570 High Street. The 125 year-old landmark, formerly known as the "Old Hill School", continues to serve as a meeting venue for the community, even though it is in major disrepair. Mr. Moore came before Council to ask if the Town would consider partnering in helping to restore the building by repairing and/or replacing windows, soffits, roof, and windows, and he provided pictures of the specific areas of need, along with a packet of information providing an overview of the project with an estimate on the roof repair/replacement and window replacement. Patchwork improvements to the roof were made years ago, but those are now beginning to fail as indicated in the pictures. The single-pane windows are original to the building, most of which are broken or have leaking seals. In addition to the immediate repairs needed, Mr. Moore described to Council future needs for the building that include zonal heating system, air conditioning, remodeling of the bathrooms, kitchen, and meeting rooms; structurally, the building is sound. Mr. Moore explained that approximately \$2,500 has been raised through fundraisers, and several businesses provide regular donations, which cover operating costs, but funds for capital programs have been difficult to reserve. Council will discuss Mr. Moore's request at a future meeting.

V. DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. **ALAN FABIAN, FACHE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LEWIS GALE HOSPITAL, CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENT TO THE 911 AUTHORITY.** Councilman Hall made a motion to appoint Alan Fabian to fill the vacant seat on the 911 Authority created by the retirement of Alan Bowman. Mr. Fabian was present and was introduced to Council. Councilman Vanhoozer seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.
2. **ALICE JONES AND SPENCER HALL REAPPOINTMENT TO THE CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.** Councilman Huppert made a motion to reappoint Spencer Hall to the Cemetery Advisory Committee, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye. Mr. Hall thanked Council for the reappointment and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve on the Cemetery Committee. Within the two years Mr. Hall has served on the committee, the group has completed a master plan for the cemetery, and is implementing a number of initiatives including the opening of a new section of the cemetery, adding columbarium services, and placing records online for public use. Alice Jones did not want to be reappointed at this time.
3. **CHRISTIANSBURG AQUATIC CENTER FREE PASSES AND EXERCISE CLASSES FOR FULL-TIME TOWN EMPLOYEES AND VOLUNTEERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE RESCUE SQUAD.** Council was provided a copy of the proposed employee benefit that would provide all full-time employees, and active fire and rescue volunteers serving the Town of Christiansburg, with individual membership/admission to the Christiansburg Aquatic Center at no cost, as discussed by Council during the work session held April 28, 2015. A copy of the proposed policy is attached herewith. Councilman Stipes made a motion to adopt the policy addition with a one-year review, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.
4. **WATER AND SEWER FEE INCREASES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 – 2016, EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015, IN ACCORDANCE WITH *CODE OF VIRGINIA 15.2-2119 AND 15.2-928*, AS PROPOSED DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING ON APRIL 28, 2015.** Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to approve the water and sewer fee increases, effective June 1, 2015, as presented during the Public Hearing, seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council

voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.

5. DISCUSSION CONCERNING THE OPTION TO PURCHASE PROPERTY ON MILL LANE. Town Manager Helms reported that after reviewing adjoining property values, he offered \$10,000 for the property on Mill Lane, which the owner accepted. The property is 3/10th of an acre and would be used by the Town for needed overflow parking for the aquatic center and the Huckleberry Trail, once the expansion is complete. The lot would accommodate approximately twenty parking spaces and would not be paved. Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve the negotiated purchase price of \$10,000 for the lot on Mill Lane, pending a clear title search and deed, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.
6. MR. STIPES AND MR. VANHOOZIER – STREET COMMITTEE REPORT/RECOMMENDATION ON:
 - a. Request for a relocation/vacation of lot lines to create Lot 3A and Lot 4A of White Pine Subdivision; creating 2 lots; located on Evergreen Drive, N.E. Councilman Stipes reported that the Street Committee has reviewed the request and has found it conforms with the Town's subdivision ordinance. Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye.

VI. COUNCIL REPORTS

1. Councilman Hall stated his appreciation for the participation at the community input meeting for the Truman Wilson property, which received approximately one thousand citizen comments regarding future development of the land.
2. Councilman Stipes acknowledged the presence of Ms. Nannie B. Hairston at tonight's meeting.
3. Councilman Showalter thanked the members of the Farmer's Market Committee for their service, which has led to the opening of the Christiansburg Farmer's Market. Then, on behalf of the Central Business District Committee, he requested that Council consider asking the members of the Farmer's Market Committee if they would be interested in serving on a subcommittee for the Central Business District Committee, which he believes would provide needed support for the Central Business District Committee. Mayor Barber asked Council to submit their suggestions to him for a liaison to the Central Business District Committee.
4. Councilman Huppert expressed his gratitude for Hubble Lighting's recent announcement that it intends to do a \$6 million expansion in Christiansburg, which will increase local employment opportunities; he suggested sending them a note of appreciation from Council.
5. Mayor Barber commended the members of the Farmer's Market Committee on the recent opening of the farmer's market, noting that community feedback has been positive. He commented that insurance issues have created an obstacle to getting vendors to participate and the Town is researching insurance options. Mayor Barber then presented Council with a request to rename the armory park after for Christiansburg Police Officer, Scott Hylton, who lost his life in the line of duty. Officer Hylton was also in the Virginia National Guard. Council discussed the request and agreed to move forward with renaming the park after Officer Hylton.

VII. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS:

1. PUBLIC HEARING REQUESTS: Town Manager Helms presented the following request and recommended setting the Public Hearing for June 23, 2015:
 - a. Conditional Use Permit request for a major home occupation at 185 Central Drive for firearm sales.

On motion by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Stipes, Council voted to set the Public Hearing for June 23, 2015 as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier - Aye.

1. PROGRESS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The annual police memorial ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 18 at 5:00 P.M. at the government center.

- Town Manager Helms reported that the Town has been approached by a citizen interested in selling land to the Town. The property is located along North Franklin Street near Food Lion and the Waffle House, and the Town owns nearby property. The owner offered it to the Town for \$445,000, which is what the owner has invested in the land. The land may be sold for commercial development if not purchased by the Town. Council discussed the impact of this land on the future proposed redevelopment of Patrick Way, which would be a shared project between the Town and VDOT, and the feasibility of the purchase price at this time, considering the recent purchase of the Truman Wilson property and future developments to that piece of land. Town Manager Helms noted that he felt the price is reasonable and worth purchasing at this time considering the need for the land in redeveloping Patrick Way. Councilman Showalter stated that if the Town is to seriously consider purchasing the property, it needs to also consider the purchase of the old Rowe Furniture property on Cambria Street that, in conjunction with the property along North Franklin Street, would provide the land necessary for redevelopment of Patrick Way. Council agreed to begin discussions regarding both properties at the next regular Council meeting.
- Mayor Barber reported that on May 15th the Montgomery-Floyd Regional Library will be hosting a reception in honor of local police force in recognition of National Law Enforcement Day. Mayor Barber will make opening remarks at 10:00 A.M.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before Council, Councilman Showalter made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 P.M., seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Bishop, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

D. Michael Barber, Mayor