

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
WORK SESSION AND SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 21, 2016 – 5:30 P.M.**

A WORK SESSION OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN HALL, 100 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA, ON JUNE 21, 2016 AT 5:30 P.M.

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

WORK SESSION

1. Call to order by Mayor Barber
2. Proposed Annual Budget for FY 2016-2017
3. Adjournment

SPECIAL MEETING

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN HALL, 100 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VIRGINIA, ON JUNE 21, 2016 FOLLOWING THE WORK SESSION.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Barry Helms, Director of Finance/Treasurer Valerie Tweedie, Assistant Town Manager Randy Wingfield, Director of Engineering and Special Projects Wayne Nelson, Engineering Project Manager John Burke, Assistant to the Town Manager Adam Carpenetti, Chief of Police Mark Sisson, Tax Billing and Collection Specialist Amber Beasley, Public Relations Director Melissa Powell. ABSENT: Clerk of Council Michele Stipes.

SPECIAL MEETING

- I. CALL TO ORDER BY MAYOR BARBER. Mayor Barber stated there was a quorum of Council present
- II. DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS
 1. Council action on:
 - a. Proposed water fee increases for the Fiscal Year 2016 – 2017, effective July 1, 2016, in accordance with *Code of Virginia 15.2-2119 and 15.2-928*. The Public Hearing was held on May 24, 2016.

Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve the water fee increase for FY 2016-2017. Councilman Hall seconded the motion. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE.

b. Ordinance amending Chapter 36 "Utilities" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to establishing a stormwater utility and system of stormwater utility fees. The Public Hearing was held on May 24, 2016.

Mr. Wayne Nelson stated that the last sentence of Sec. 36-305, Stormwater utility fee credits and exemptions, paragraph (b) which reads as: "Credits shall not be issued retroactively." should be deleted. Processing of credits will be discussed further in the Credit Manual. Town Manager Barry Helms reported that it is not legal to reduce fees for any senior citizens. Councilman Hall questioned Mr. Nelson to explain the reasoning behind the fees based on 6060 square feet for Residential Rates. Mr. Nelson explained that it was created to make a more consistent fee and normalize fairness issue for all lot sizes. Town property (such as roads, sidewalks, ditches, etc.) is used collectively by all citizens, so that tier was created to equalize the fees for different lot sizes. Engineering Project Manager John Burke continued that creating different fees based on the actual lot sizes would cause a huge increase in administrative costs for the town for figuring an individual fee for each different lot size.

Councilman Hall made a motion to approve the change in ordinance with Councilman Showalter seconding the motion. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE

c. Proposed Annual Budget for FY 2016 – 2017.

Councilman Showalter question Mayor Barber about a section of the proposed budget for the Alliance for Better Childcare. Mayor Barber answered that they were a new 503C organization that is asking for funding of \$13,000 from localities in Montgomery County to support administration costs for future fundraising to support the private child care business in this area. Mayor Barber added that the Town will provide funding for 1 year and then reevaluate. Councilman Hall made a motion to pass the FY 2016 – 2017 Budget, Councilman Huppert seconded the motion. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE.

2. Update on the new Park and Ride.

Town Manager Barry Helms presented a site plan drawing of the new Park and Ride. Mr. Helms and Councilman Brad Stipes pointed out the property plans. Also indicating that a private individual would have two parcels to develop fronting on Roanoke Street and the new park and ride would be behind them. Councilman Showalter questioned if there would be any restroom facilities and Councilman Collins questioned further if there would be any section of the facility designated for state or local police in the design. Councilman Stipes answered that there would not be any such areas, noting there was not any other Park and Ride in the state that currently has restroom facilities. It was also mentioned that the private developer may support a visitor center or 24-hour gas station on the site in the future.

3. Appointment to the New River Valley Regional Commission for the rotating member.

Councilman Harry Collins was selected to be on the New River Valley Regional Commission as a rotating member. Councilman Cord Hall made a motion to appoint Councilman Hall, Councilman Showalter seconded the motion. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE.

a. Hill Johnson was selected to be the citizen representative for the New River Valley Regional Commission. Councilman Hall stated that the former representative Mrs. Carter was an excellent representative and was thankful for her service. Councilman Hall made a motion to appoint Hill Johnson and Councilman Bishop seconded. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE.

4. Recommended appointment to the Montgomery Regional Economic Development Commission.

Councilman Brad Stipes was suggested for appointment to the Montgomery Regional Economic Development Commission. Councilman Hall made a motion to appoint Mr. Stipes and Councilman Showalter seconded the motion. Council voted as polled: Bishop – AYE; Collins – AYE; Hall – AYE; Huppert – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes - AYE.

5. Contract renewal with Radford City for the aquatic center.

This item was removed from the agenda.

II. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilman Hall reported that Brad Epperley, Director of Parks and Recreation, entered the Town in a sweepstakes for free playground equipment and the Town of Christiansburg was drawn as the winner. The Town of Christiansburg won \$80,000 in free playground equipment. It is understood that the only cost to the town would be to provide footers. Councilman Hall stated that the location of playground equipment would be discussed further and suggested that it possibly be placed on a recreation lot on the east end of Town.

Councilman Showalter stated that he would be requesting further discussions with the Recreation Commission for a new Cross Country course for the Blue Demon Cross Country camp, adding that any regional races would be great for the community.

Councilman Huppert reported that the recent Crooked Road music festival was a success. The organizers of the festival reported a good turnout and that organizers were pleased. The Mayor added that there were about 350 attendees and suggested that there be more advertising for the festival in future years.

Mayor Barber requested that there be a special work session scheduled for June 28th at 5:30. to perform Town Manager Helms' exit interview.

Mayor Barber also reminded everyone of Mr. Helms retirement party scheduled for June 25th from 2-5 at the Christiansburg Rescue Squad. He also reported of a dessert social for Mr. Helms retirement being hosted by the Christiansburg Aquatic Center June 24th at 2:30 pm.

Mayor Barber reminded everyone that Town Manager Barry Helms last day is June 30th. The new Town Manager will start July 1, 2016 and that Assistant Town Manager Randy Wingfield has been updating the new Town Manager on upcoming events and information so he will be informed once his employment begins.

Councilman Collins, Councilman Bishop and Councilman Stipes had nothing to report at this time.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS

Town Manager Barry Helms had nothing to report at this time.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Amber Beasley

D. Michael Barber, Mayor