

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF JULY 18, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.**

A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA. WAS HELD AT THE CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN HALL, 100 EAST MAIN STREET, CHRISTIANSBURG, VA, ON JULY 18, 2006 AT 7:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Linkous, Councilmembers Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None. Also present Town Manager Terpenney, Assistant Town Manager Helms, Town Clerk Stipes, and Town Attorney Waddell. ABSENT: None.

MAYOR LINKOUS stated there was a quorum present of Council Members.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Councilman Ashworth.

REGULAR MEETING

MAYOR LINKOUS called the Regular Meeting of Council to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of June 20, 2006. There being none the Minutes were approved as presented.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

MAYOR LINKOUS opened the Citizen Hearings for those desiring to address Council.

There being no one to address Council, MAYOR LINKOUS closed the Citizen Hearings.

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

RECOGNITION OF PARKS AND RECREATION CENTER EMPLOYEES. Mayor Linkous acknowledged the attendance of Parks and Recreation Director, Art Price, at tonight's meeting, and congratulated him for passing the Certified Park and Recreation Professional Examination offered through the National Recreation and Park Association. Councilman Huppert commended Mr. Art Price, and the employees of the Parks and Recreation Center, for an outstanding job with the annual Fourth of July celebration held at the Christiansburg High School. He, and many others, enjoyed the show and appreciated the effort that was put into organizing the celebration. Councilman Huppert also commented on the Parks and Recreation Center's involvement with the upcoming ribbon cutting for the Harkrader Sports Complex, another great facet of Christiansburg's recreation opportunities. Mr. Art Price thanked Council for the opportunity to participate in the Certified Parks and Recreation Professional Examination, and he thanked Council for commending his employees for the Fourth of July celebration. Mr. Price said that Charlton McCoy, Special Events Coordinator, planned and organized the Fourth of July event. He said he is proud of his employees at the Recreation Center and he is honored to have worked for the Town, in a profession he loves, for twenty-three years. Councilman Ballengee said the Fourth of July celebration was outstanding and he thanked Mr. Price for a job well done. Councilman Barber commented that, recently, he was at the Kiwanis Park early one Saturday morning, after a heavy rain, and several Parks and Recreation employees were at the Kiwanis Park, prepping the baseball fields, so the baseball games scheduled for that day could be played. Councilman Barber commended the employees for their dedication to the Parks and Recreation programs, and the participants.

APPOINTMENT TO BLACKSBURG CHRISTIANSBURG VPI WATER AUTHORITY. Mayor Linkous reported that Town Manager Terpenney has served as Representative on this Authority for many years. Town Manager Terpenney has agreed to serve another term and Mayor Linkous recommended reappointing him. Councilwoman Carter made a motion to reappoint Town Manager Terpenney to the Blacksburg Christiansburg VPI Water Authority. Councilman Barber seconded the motion and Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

CONSIDERATION OF AN "UNUSUAL DISPLAY" ADVERTISEMENT AT 1600 ROANOKE STREET. Mr. Thom Rutledge of Hash Investments, L.L.C. told Council that several changes are being made to the former Ames plaza.

Memory Lane will be closing and the furniture store known as “Elements” will be moving to the store vacated by Memory Lane in the strip mall. The façade of the entire plaza will be updated. As part of updating the façade, Hash Investments is asking Council for permission to place three billboard type signs advertising furniture on the “Elements” end of the plaza. The signs will be larger than a billboard, but there will be no wording on the signs. Mr. Rutledge showed Council a photo rendering of the building with the proposed signs. The plaza is in close proximity to the 460 bypass, and Roanoke Street, but, Mr. Rutledge said, the signs would be most visible on northbound Roanoke Street and would not create a distraction for drivers on the 460 bypass. Mr. Rutledge said Hash Investments is willing to erect the signs on a temporary basis, and suggested a review by Council in twelve months. Town Manager Terpenney said the Town’s ordinance allows for signs to be ten percent of the wall space, or a maximum of two hundred square feet. The signs Hash Investments are requesting are approximately eight hundred square feet. There is a provision in the ordinance for “unusual displays”, which would permit the type of signage requested. Councilman Huppert said this type of signage is unusual for this area and he is unsure of how the community will receive this type of advertising. His concern is that this type of advertisement may not be suitable for Christiansburg. Councilman Barber agreed, but suggested allowing a temporary, twelve-month permit, since the signs pose no threat of distraction to drivers on the 460 bypass. Councilman Wade commented that more needs to be done to draw people to this shopping center, and suggested that maybe the bolder signage will entice people to that area. He agreed with Councilman Barber’s suggestion to allow a temporary, twelve-month sign permit. Councilwoman Carter commented that it is important to record public comments regarding the signs during the twelve-month period, if the request is approved. Councilman Wade made a motion to allow the three requested signs on interior facade of the strip plaza for a period of twelve months with the option to deny at the end of the twelve month period. Councilman Barber seconded the motion, and Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, and Wade. NAYS: Huppert.

MR. ASHWORTH AND MR. BARBER – Street Committee Recommendations on:

1. Resubdivision & Vacation of Lot Lines, Lot 17 – “Map of Lee Hy Court” & Lots 1B through 8 and Part of 9 - “Map of the Property of Nat S. Shifflette” for Barry D. Helms & N. Francine E. Helms and Fred K. Jones & Mary Jo H. Jones, creating 3 lots, Hillcrest Drive N.W. and Lee Hy Court, N.W. Councilman Ashworth explained that this request is to vacate the interior lot lines to make one large lot and to straighten the exterior lot line. All is in order with the request and Councilman Ashworth made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.
2. Boundary Line Adjustment on Lots 5 & 6 Kelseywood, Phase I, 2 Lots, Howery Street, S.E. Councilman Ashworth explained that this request is to slightly adjust the boundary line and the existing boundary line easement. All is in order with the request and Councilman Ashworth made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.
3. Vacation of Interior Lot Lines on Alfred L.F. Heslep Property, creating 1 Lot, Nursery Lane, N.E. Councilman Ashworth explained that this request is to vacate the interior lot lines along Nursery Lane. The unbuilt portion of Nursery Lane can then be vacated completely at a future Town Council meeting, after a Public Hearing, and the property owners on each side of the lane will receive one half of the vacated lane. All is in order with this request and Councilman Ashworth made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Wade. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

CLOSED MEETING:

REQUEST FOR A CLOSED MEETING under Section 2.2-3711A(7) for the discussion of specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal consultation and advice by legal counsel; and Section 2.2-3711 A(5) for the discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business’ or industry’s interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Ashworth, Council voted to enter into a Closed Meeting. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council, on the motion, as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

MAYOR LINKOUS declared Council out of Closed Meeting and into Regular Session.

CERTIFICATION – Councilwoman Carter moved to certify that the Town Council of the Town of Christiansburg, meeting in Closed Meeting, to the best of each member’s knowledge, discussed only the matters lawfully exempt

from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law and only such matters as are identified in the Resolution to enter into Closed Meeting. Councilman Barber seconded the certification and Town Clerk Stipes polled Council, on the certification, as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

MONTHLY BILLS – On motion by Councilman Ashworth, seconded by Councilman Barber, Council voted to approve the monthly bills paid 10 July, 2006, in the amount of \$1,320,875.99. AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None. The delay in bringing the July bills before Council for approval is because of the cancellation of the first meeting in July, which fell on the July 4th holiday.

PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST – Town Manager Terpenney presented the following requests and recommended setting the Public Hearings for August 15, 2006:

1. Rezoning request, 290 and 300 Ellett Drive, and 305 Circle Drive, B-3 General Business to R-2 Two-Family Residential.
2. Conditional Use Permit request, 403 Cambria St., mini-warehouses, MU-2 Mixed Use zoning.
3. Conditional Use Permit request, Family Day Home serving 6 – 12 children, R-1 Single Family Residential.
4. Conditional Use Permit request, Farmview Road, residential use in the B-3 General Business District.

On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Wade, Council voted to set the Public Hearings for August 15, 2006. Council voted as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION PROJECT UPDATE – Town Manager Terpenney reported that the paving bids for Main Street, and the streets included in the annual paving program, would go out later this week. The sewer work along Main Street has been completed, and once the Town receives approval from VDOT, paving and sidewalk work towards the west end of Main Street will be put out to bid.

AQUATIC CENTER UPDATE – Town Manager Terpenney reported that the construction documents for the aquatic center are currently being drawn up. The contract between Virginia Tech and Christiansburg, outlining details and usage, is also currently being drafted for Virginia Tech's review. The Town has received a verbal agreement from Virginia Tech for funding.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M. On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Council voted as follows: AYES: Ashworth, Ballengee, Barber, Carter, Huppert, and Wade. NAYS: None.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Harold G. Linkous, Mayor