

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 27, 2017 – 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, VIRGINIA, ON JUNE 27, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Randy Wingfield; Clerk of Council Michele Stipes; Town Attorney Theresa Fontana; Planning Director Andrew Warren; Director of Public Relations Melissa Powell; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Director of Engineering Wayne Nelson; Police Chief Mark Sisson; Engineering Director Wayne Nelson; Public Works Director Jim Lancianese; Assistant Director of Engineering Jessie Nester; Assistant Superintendent of Streets Travis Moles; Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Ryan Hendrix; Director of Parks and Recreation Brad Epperley; Micheal Huesman, Right-of-way Crew Supervisor; Justin Shepherd, Crew Supervisor - Streets.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- A. Moment of Reflection
- B. Pledge of Allegiance

II. ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 "Buildings and Building Regulations" and Chapter 36 "Utilities" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to the Sewer Use Ordinance. Wastewater Treatment Superintendent Ryan Hendrix reviewed with Council the proposed revisions that would address the negative impacts of fats, oils, and grease (FOG) on the Town's sewer collection system and infrastructure through the implementation of a permit program. FOG entering the sewer system through the food industry resulted in twenty-three sewer line blockages since 2010 and reduced efficiency at the wastewater treatment plant. FOG guidelines are currently set forth in the building regulations and Mr. Hendrix explained how updating the guidelines, and moving them to the sewer use ordinance, would allow the Town to better enforce regulations and minimize negative impacts on the Town's infrastructure. Mr. Hendrix explained to Council how the permit program would work through inspections and reporting requirements, and he outlined the Town's goals to educate restaurant owners on the importance of responsible FOG management.
- B. **Cancelled** - Ordinance Amending Chapter 4 "Advertising" and Chapter 42 "Zoning" for the purpose of regulating the time, place, and manner for displaying signs in the Town of Christiansburg. **The Public Hearing will be rescheduled for August 8, 2017 under the Consent Agenda.**
- C. An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 42 "Zoning" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to permit "Clubs/Lodges" with a Conditional Use Permit in the I-2 General Industrial District. John Beamer, administrator of the Christiansburg Moose Lodge, explained that the lodge had recently sold its previous property and intended to lease 225 Industrial Drive. The current zoning on Industrial Drive does not permit clubs or lodges. Mr. Beamer explained that the activities of the lodge consisted of nightly dinners, youth camps, and community fundraisers, which would not be disruptive to neighboring properties. Per Mr. Beamer, beer and wine would be permitted on premises, with no sales after midnight, as has been done for fifty-two years without incident. Members would be permitted to bring their own liquor on site. Whitney Abraham, daughter of Michael Abraham, owner of property located at 225 Industrial Drive,

spoke on behalf of her father in favor of the ordinance amendment request. Ms. Abrahamsaid

her family strived to conduct business in a manner beneficial to the Town and its business and organizations, and that her father believed the property at 225 Industrial Drive would be an appropriate location for the Moose Lodge.

- D. Contingent on the above item, a Conditional Use Permit request for Club/Lodge (Applicant: Moose Lodge) in the I-2 General Industrial zoning district at 225 Industrial Drive. See above comments.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Meeting Minutes of June 13, 2017.
- B. Monthly Bills.
- C. Resolution to Adopt the Member Agreement to Join the Virginia Association of Counties Group Self Insurance Pool.
- D. N. Franklin Street Improvements – Independence Boulevard Intersection, Construction Engineering and Inspection (CEI) Term Services Project Contract.
- E. Reschedule Public Hearing for An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 4 “Advertising” and Chapter 42 “Zoning” for the purpose of regulating the time, place, and manner for displaying signs in the Town of Christiansburg from June 27, 2017 to August 8, 2017.
- F. Easement dedication to Appalachian Power Company for property on Wades Lane (tax parcel 496 – ((A)) – 107).

Councilman Hall requested that the minutes of June 13, 2017 be amended as follows: Page 5, XI. Council Reports, A. add “Mr. Hall noted that the Recreation Advisory Commission meeting for July had been cancelled due to the July 4th holiday.

Councilman Bishop made a motion to approve the consent agenda, with the amendment to the June 13, 2017 minutes as noted by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council was polled on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- A. Don Simpkins, representing Angle Florist, in regards to on-street parking time limits. Mr. Simpkins expressed to Council his concerns with limited parking on Main Street, specifically in the area of East Main Street near the courthouse. There are approximately five on-street parking spaces for retail customer parking, and often those are taken by individuals conducting business at the courthouse for extended periods of time. This often leaves retail customers with nowhere to park. Mr. Simpkins has met with Police Chief Sisson, Mayor Barber, members of Council, and the ordinance officer, concerning on-street parking concerns, and has developed what he called a friendly solution to the problem. Mr. Simpkins outlined his proposal to Council using photographs and a handout, which detailed placing more adequate and effective parking/directional signs and increasing the fine for illegal parking. Mr. Simpkins stressed that losing business due to lack of parking was not acceptable and he stated that he represented all small business owners who struggled to stay in business. He urged Council to take his proposal into consideration and to make changes that would create a business-friendly downtown. Council expressed appreciation for Mr. Simpkins bringing this issue to their attention. Mayor Barber turned this matter over to the Street Committee for review and a recommendation at the July 25th Council meeting. Councilmen Hall and Showalter recommended including Montgomery County in discussions due to the parking needs associated with the courthouse.

VII. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Introduction of new Town employees.

1. Introduction by Andrew Warren, Planning Director:

- Jared Crews, Planner I
- 2. Introduction by Travis Moles, Assistant Superintendent of Streets
 - Eric Eanes, Traffic Control Technician Trainee
- 3. Introduction by Justin Shepherd, Crew Supervisor - Streets
 - Eric Sheppard, Truck Driver, Storm Water
- 4. Introduction by Micheal Huesman, ROW Crew Supervisor
 - Michael Wiley, ROW Maintenance Worker
 - Chris Combs, ROW Maintenance Worker
- 5. Introduction by Police Chief Sisson
 - Andy Beane, Police Officer
 - Nicholas Barnes, Police Officer
- 6. Introduction by Jessie Nester, Assistant Director of Public Works
 - Matthew McGarry, Engineering Intern

VIII. DISCUSSION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

A. Council action on:

1. Resolution in regards to parking fine increases. The Public Hearing was held and an ordinance amending fines for violations not specified by resolution was adopted June 13, 2017. Councilman Hall made a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Councilman Collins. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
2. Ordinance adopting Personal Property Tax Rate of \$0.45 per \$100 for calendar year 2017. Councilman Stipes made a motion to adopt the Personal Property Tax Rate as presented, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
3. Ordinance adopting Real Estate Tax Rate of \$0.16 per \$100 for calendar year 2017. Councilman Hall made a motion to adopt the Real Estate Tax Rate as presented, seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
4. Resolution for adoption of the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2017-18. The Public Hearing was held June 13, 2017. Councilman Hall made a motion to approve the Annual Budget for FY 2017-18 as presented, seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop - Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye. Councilman Hall expressed appreciation for the efforts of Town staff and Council in preparing the budget and in minimizing the impact of meeting the Town's water utility obligations. Council and Mayor Barber echoed Mr. Hall's comments.
5. Resolution for the appropriation of funds as designated in the Fiscal Year 2017-18 Annual Budget. Councilman Hall made a motion to adopt the resolution as presented, seconded by Councilman Stipes. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Hall – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
6. Ordinance Amending Chapter 10 "Buildings and Building Regulations" and Chapter 36 "Utilities" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to the Sewer Use Ordinance. The Public Hearing was held earlier in the meeting. Councilman Showalter made a motion to approve the ordinance amendment as presented, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye;

Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye;
Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye. Council

expressed appreciation for the FOG presentation by Ryan Hendrix during the Public Hearing.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Showalter reported on the Council work session held June 22, 2017, during which downtown business owner, Ray Alcorn, addressed Council regarding his proposal to assist with the revitalization of downtown Christiansburg through improvements and small business incentives. Council expressed appreciation for the information provided by Mr. Alcorn and agreed it was important to include him in future downtown planning matters. Town Manager Wingfield commented that he had spoken with several downtown business owners regarding Mr. Alcorn's proposal, and that he planned to schedule a meeting with Delegate Nick Rush and Congressman Morgan Griffith to discuss state funding opportunities for downtown growth and revitalization. Council stressed the importance of having the support and involvement of downtown business owners in moving forward with downtown improvements.

X. STAFF REPORTS

A. Town Manager Wingfield:

- The property owner of 100 South Franklin Street has asked if the Town would be interested in purchasing the property, which included the lot and a house. Town Manager Wingfield estimated the property would likely be priced in the \$250,000 to \$300,000 range, and would need significant improvements. The building is not on the historic registry and Mr. Wingfield said he did not see that the Town had a use for the property at this time.

B. Town Attorney:

C. Other Staff:

XI. COUNCIL REPORTS

- Councilman Showalter: No report.
- Councilman Huppert expressed sympathy for the family of Bob Abraham who recently passed away. Mr. Huppert stated that Mr. Abraham was a fixture in the Town for many years, and it was his granddaughter who addressed Council tonight during the Public Hearing for the ordinance amendment request regarding "clubs/lodges" in the I-2 General Industrial District.
- Councilman Stipes echoed Mr. Huppert's comments regarding Bob Abraham, noting that Mr. Abraham was an advocate for the placement of restrooms on the Huckleberry Trail and pedestrian crossings in Town.
- Councilman Hall reported on plans for the July 4th celebration, and asked Director of Parks and Recreation Brad Epperley to elaborate on the details. Mr. Hall then congratulated the Girls Dixie Angels for winning the 2017 district championship. In closing he reported on the Jill's Buddy Camp summer program, hosted by the Parks and Recreation Department in partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools.
- Councilman Bishop: No report.
- Councilman Collins reported that a parade honoring the Christiansburg High School wrestling program would be held with the high school homecoming parade on October 11. Councilman Collins requested that Council be given the option to participate in the Town's insurance beginning next year.
- Mayor Barber gave a reminder of the July 4th downtown celebration and announced the employee picnic scheduled for July 7, 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the aquatic center. Council scheduled a work session for July 5 at 6:00 p.m. to discuss town manager applicants.

XII. CLOSED MEETING:

1. Councilman Bishop made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(5), for 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, seconded by Councilman Collins. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye. The Closed Meeting was held to discuss two economic development prospects.

2. Reconvene in Open Meeting. Councilman Bishop made a motion to reconvene in Open Meeting, seconded by Councilman Collins. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
3. Certification. Councilman Bishop 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. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hall and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes - Aye.
4. Council action on the matter. No action taken by Council.

XIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 10:33 P.M.

Michele Stipes, Clerk of Council

D. Michael Barber, Mayor