

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL  
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 13, 2018 – 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 MARCH 13, 2018 AT 7:00 P.M.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Randy Wingfield; Clerk of Council Michele Stipes; Town Attorney Theresa Fontana; Director of Public Relations Melissa Demmitt; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Director of Planning Andrew Warren; Public Works Director Jim Lancianese; Public Works Superintendent of Streets Travis Moles; Public Works Superintendent of Utilities Ryan Hendrix.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA**

**III. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- A. Ordinance to Amend and Clarify Chapter 42 “Zoning” of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to the definition of “kennel”.

Planning Director Andrew Warren reviewed the proposed ordinance amendment that would change the term “adult dog” in the definition of *kennel*, to provide clarification and ease of ordinance enforcement. Mr. Chris Waltz, 1370 Rigby Street, questioned the legality of the Town redefining the kennel ordinance, since the definition was already defined by the State in Code of Virginia. Mr. Waltz provided Council with a copy of the State Code pertaining to kennels and asked if the Town had been given authority by the State to amend the given definitions. Town Attorney Theresa Fontana clarified that the State Code section referenced by Mr. Waltz pertained to animal statutes; however, the proposed amendment under consideration pertained to the zoning ordinance and land uses within residential areas.

- B. Public Hearing regarding fee increase to garbage fees from \$17 to \$22 for provision of curbside recycling beginning July 1, 2018.

There was no one to speak.

C. Public Hearing for adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 28 "Solid Waste" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to curbside recycling.

Town Manager Wingfield reported that the ordinance amendment would provide for curbside recycling and would add provisions for recycling carts. A copy of the amendment was provided to Town Council for review. There were no public comments on this matter.

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Council meeting minutes of February 27, 2018.
- B. Schedule Public Hearing on April 24, 2018 for a Conditional Use Permit request by Roger Woody for an approximately 2.209-acre portion of tax map no. 528 A 83 located at 1145 Roanoke Street to construct seven (7) single-family dwellings in the B-3, General Business zoning district. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.
- C. Reschedule Public Hearing on Agreement to amend Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority Articles of Incorporation from March 13, 2019 to April 24, 2018.
- D. Approval of UV Disinfection System Upgrade Project Engineering Services Contract with Hazen and Sawyer, P.C.
- E. Resolutions Recognizing Christiansburg High School State Champions:
  - \* Christiansburg Wrestling Team 3A State Championship
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Brandon Crowder (106 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Garrett Kuchan (113 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Marshall Keller (138 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Xander Whitehurst (145 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Nick Giantonio (170 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Erik Eva (182 pounds)
  - \* Wrestling Individual 3A State Championship – Ty Kwak (195 pounds)
  - \* Track and Field Individual 3A State Championship – Cassidy Cromer (pole vault)
  - \* Track and Field Individual 3A State Championship – Kaylyn Cromer (triple jump)

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

#### V. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- A. No comments

#### VI. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Christiansburg Town Council/High School Partnership.

Christiansburg High School students, Molly Straub, Courtney Wright, and Zoe Vidal, provided Council with an update on current activities at the high school that included a dodgeball tournament, canned food drives, fundraisers for various charities and events, and participation in the nationwide walk-out planned for March 14. Senior Molly Straub said she planned to attend VMI after graduation, noting that she would be the fifth member of her family to attend the

military school, further noting that her grandfather, Charles Straub, was once mayor of Christiansburg. Senior Courtney Wright said she planned to attend Virginia Tech after graduation, and junior Zoe Vidal was undecided on her post-graduation plans. Councilman Collins asked if the school would be interested in helping to organize a parade in honor of the wrestling team and asked what they thought of curbside recycling. The students expressed support for helping with a parade and for the proposed recycling program, which they stated would be beneficial for the environment. Councilwoman Sachs requested they bring their SGA supervisor and teacher Angie Robins to a council meeting for introduction, and Mr. Collins asked them to tell the student body how much Council enjoyed working with the students.

- B. Barry Helms to provide an update on the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority. Mr. Helms thanked Council for the opportunity to serve on the Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority Board, and for the opportunity to speak tonight. Council was provided a copy of the authority's annual budget. Mr. Helms reviewed the budget and highlighted line item increases and decreases, and explained the future upgrades reflected in the document. Mr. Helms expressed support for the proposed curbside recycling service and talked briefly about the benefits of recycling to municipalities. Councilman Showalter questioned the current recycling volume of both Christiansburg and Blacksburg, and Mr. Helms said he would get that information for him. Council thanked Mr. Helms for his representation and his report.

## VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Councilman Collins reported that Christiansburg would begin a bike share program in April with a location at the recreation center and one at the NRV Mall, beginning with seventy-five bikes. Blacksburg also plans to participate in the program with six bike stations.
- B. Councilman Stipes reported on the Finance Committee meeting yesterday and commended Town staff for a well-prepared budget request proposal. Mr. Stipes said the Finance Committee intended to poll council members on their level of support for community donation requests for final budget planning, and that more information could be expected soon. To address the problem of lifeguard retention at the aquatic center, Mr. Stipes reported that the Finance Committee recommended increasing the starting pay for lifeguards to \$10/hour, with a \$0.25 annual increase for three years. Council approved the recommendation, effective immediately. Councilman Showalter added that the Finance Committee reviewed the reserve funds and determined they were appropriately earmarked, with no opposition. The first budget draft could be expected in late March.
- C. Councilman Huppert reported that the aquatic center would hold a fundraiser for Relay for Life this coming Friday and he invited all to participate.
- D. Councilwoman Sachs reported that the Central Business District Committee would meet tomorrow to continue discussions on the farmers' market and she invited all to attend.

## VIII. DISCUSSION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

- A. Council action on Agreement to Amend Montgomery Regional Solid Waste Authority Articles of Incorporation.

On recommendation by Town Manager Wingfield, Council tabled this matter until April 24, 2018.

- B. Council action on increase to garbage fees from \$17 to \$22 for provision of curbside recycling beginning July 1, 2018.

Councilman Bishop stated that he was not opposed to curbside recycling but had concerns with mandating a \$5.00 increase for all residents, even those who may not choose to participate in the

recycling program. Councilwoman Sachs replied that the Water-Sewer-Solid Waste Committee had studied the fee structure at length, and determined that the most cost-effective service required full participation by town residents, adding that “ala carte” service would drive costs up. Councilman Stipes said he had the same concerns with mandating the \$5.00 fee and suggested Council action be postponed to allow for public comment. Councilwoman Sachs commented that there had been several advertised public input meetings regarding curbside recycling, with no public attendance or public comments/opposition. Councilman Stipes talked about past discussions of Council to study privatizing garbage service in an effort to decrease overall costs and noted that the privatized curbside recycling service could serve as a model for future privatized garbage services. Councilman Showalter commented that the Water-Sewer-Solid Waste Committee was studying all aspects of trash service to find ways to save costs, and that many citizens have expressed support for a curbside recycling program. Councilman Huppert made a motion to approve the proposed increase to garbage fees from \$17 to \$22 for provision of curbside recycling beginning July 1, 2018. Councilwoman Sachs seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Nay; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

C. Council action on contract for curbside recycling services with Waste Industries, Inc.

Council was provided a copy of the contract in the agenda packet. Mr. Pat Luce, Government Contract Manager for Waste Industries, Inc., explained to Council the curbside recycling program Waste Industries, Inc. would provide the Town of Christiansburg. Residents would have the option of a 95-gallon or 65-gallon cart, and Waste Industries would provide assistance to senior citizens who were unable to move their recycling carts on their own. According to Mr. Luce, single-stream recycling is a service that is easy and convenient for residents to use, and participation will result in the reduction of the Town’s overall tipping fee costs. Mr. Luce discussed the company’s process for handling citizen complaints, and violations, and noted that Public Works Director Jim Lancianese would serve as liaison for the Town. Councilman Showalter made a motion to approve the contract as presented for curbside recycling services with Waste Industries, Inc., seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

D. Council action on adoption of an ordinance amending Chapter 28 “Solid Waste” of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to curbside recycling.

Councilman Stipes made a motion to adopt the ordinance amendment as presented, seconded by Councilman Huppert. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

**X. STAFF REPORTS**

A. Town Manager Wingfield:

- The Town of Christiansburg was awarded a Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for the Finance/Treasurer Department’s Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the Fiscal Year ending 2017. The Town has been awarded this certificate of achievement for six consecutive years. Council thanked Val and her staff for their hard work.
- A Public Hearing for the closing of Hickok Street has been scheduled for April 10, 2018. Councilman Showalter recommended including the Christiansburg Presbyterian Church in discussions regarding the closure, due to its close proximity to Hickok Street.

Councilwoman Sachs commented that all neighboring properties would be invited to participate in discussions.

B. Town Attorney:

C. Other Staff:

## XI. COUNCIL REPORTS

- A. Councilwoman Sachs – No report.
- B. Councilman Huppert – No report
- C. Councilman Stipes – No report.
- D. Councilman Showalter expressed his appreciation for the support of the council members and staff that attended the Water-Sewer-Solid Waste Committee meeting and the Finance Committee meeting yesterday.
- E. Councilman Bishop – No report.
- F. Councilman Collins thanked the high school students for attending the meeting and providing an update to Council.
- G. Mayor Barber – Planning Commissioner Jeananne Kries has requested a maternity leave of absence from April 6 through June 18. It was the consensus of Council to grant the request with best wishes.

## XII. CLOSED MEETING:

- A. Councilman Stipes made a motion to enter into a Closed meeting in accordance with Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1), for the discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body. Councilman Showalter seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye. The Closed Meeting was held for discussion of the town manager contract.
- B. Reconvene in Open Meeting. Councilman \_\_\_\_\_ made a motion to reconvene in Open Meeting, seconded by Councilwoman Sachs. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
- C. Certification. Councilman Stipes 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 Collins and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes - Aye.
- D. Council action on the matter. Council authorized Mayor Barber to complete the final details of the town manager contract, as discussed in the closed meeting, which is to include a base salary of \$140,000.

## XIII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 9:44 P.M.

---

Michele Stipes, Clerk of Council

---

D. Michael Barber, Mayor