

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL  
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 11, 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 SEPTEMBER 11, 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; Assistant Town Manager Andrew Warren; Clerk of Council Michele Stipes; Town Attorney Jim Guynn; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Director of Engineering Wayne Nelson; Director of Aquatics Terry Caldwell; Director of Parks and Recreation Brad Epperley; Building Official Jerry Heinline; Public Relations Director Melissa Demmitt; Public Works Director Jim Lancianese; Superintendent of Streets Travis Moles; Events Coordinator Casey Jenkins; Civil Engineer II Eli Mannon; Planner I Jared Crews.

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

- A. Councilman Showalter made a motion to hold the Introductions and Presentations prior to Citizen's Comments, seconded by Councilman Collins. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

III. PUBLIC HEARING

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Council Minutes of August 21 and August 28, 2018.
- B. Schedule Public Hearing on October 23, 2018 for a Conditional Use Permit request by Rye Property I LLC for a public amusement business located at 100 Arbor Drive, N.E. (tax map no. 406-8-14) in the B-3, General Business District.
- C. Notice of Award for a Contract in the amount of \$1,652,750.00 to DLB Enterprises, LLC. for the College Street Sanitary Sewer Repair and Replacement Project

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

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Aquatics Director Terry Caldwell to introduce Virginia Tech Senior Associate Athletic Director Danny White, Swimming and Diving Head Coach Sergio Lopez, and Diving Head Coach Ron Piemonte.

Aquatics Director Terry Caldwell talked about the importance of the Public Private Partnership with Virginia Tech to the success of the aquatic center, and introduced Senior Associate Athletic Director, Danny White, with a brief bio. Mr. White, who oversees the men's and women's swimming and diving programs at Virginia Tech, expressed gratitude for the partnership between Christiansburg and Virginia Tech and complemented the characteristics of the aquatic center that makes it a great facility for competitions, and has the potential to inspire young swimmers to become involved in swimming and diving programs. Mr. White introduced Head Diving Coach Ron Piemonte and shared his background and successes as a diving coach that have earned him national and international recognition. Mr. White then introduced Head Swim Coach, Sergio Lopez. Coach Lopez came to Virginia Tech in May 2018 from Auburn University with extensive experience in high school and university swim coaching, and is a three-time Olympic team coach. Mr. Lopez was a silver medalist at the 1993 World Championships and a bronze medalist at the 1988 Olympics. Mr. Lopez talked about his coaching experiences in the United States, Singapore, and Spain, and talked about the features of the aquatic center that makes it a great facility, and the accommodating nature of the aquatics staff that has contributed to the success of the student athlete program. Council welcomed Mr. Lopez and commended the men on their leadership contributions to the community through the swimming and diving programs at Virginia Tech.

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

- A. Jeff Stuart, Christiansburg Elementary School Physical Education teacher, addressed Council in support of the development of the former Truman Wilson property into a park. Mr. Stuart spoke of a disturbing trend of inactivity among children, which has been proven through research to have adverse effects on mental and physical health. Mr. Stuart explained that he chose to become a Physical Education teacher because he wanted to make a difference in the lives of his students, and he stressed that the Town would make a positive difference in the community with a park and amenities that would encourage physical activity and social interactions.
- B. Larry Martin, 2850 Roanoke Street, thanked Council, the Planning Commission, and the Planning Commission Development Sub-Committee for the efforts to study and amend the ordinance related to boardinghouses as the community requested. Mr. Martin expressed his respect and appreciation for the process involved and commented he had faith that Council would approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission and adopt the amendment.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Councilwoman Sachs reported that the Central Business District Committee had recently approved the first mural through the façade grant program, which would be displayed on the

police department. She then reported on events at the farmer's market and encouraged all to attend the market and the next Central Business District Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow.

#### VIII. DISCUSSION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

##### A. Council action on:

1. Ordinance to amend Chapter 42 "Zoning" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to boardinghouses, hotel/motels and tourist homes. The Public Hearing was held August 28, 2018. The Planning Commission voted 9 – 0 to recommend approval of the proposed ordinance amendment as presented. Councilman Stipes made a motion to approved the ordinance amendment as recommended by the Planning Commission, seconded by Councilman Collins. Councilwoman Sachs addressed negative comments she was aware of regarding the proposed ordinance and stressed that, while the Town was sympathetic to those in need, it realized the necessity for protocols that would be fair to everyone involved, and that Council action should not be viewed as an attempt to kick anyone out of their current residence. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

- B. Reappointment of Rich Alvis, Richard Caldwell, Chris Pfohl, Bob Poff, and J.D. Price to the Board of Building Code Appeals for four-year terms ending December 31, 2022, and reappointment of Larry S. Martin, Earl Shrader, and John Travis as Alternates to the Board of Building Code Appeals with terms ending December 31, 2021. This matter was tabled until a time when the appointees could be present for Council introduction.

- C. Reappointment of Lea Wall to the Montgomery Tourism Development Council (MTDC) for a two-year term from July 22, 2018-July 21, 2020. Lea Wall was present for Council introduction. Councilman Showalter made a motion to reappoint Lea Wall to serve another two-year term on the MTDC, seconded by Councilman Bishop. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

- D. Appointment of Luke Brugh to the Montgomery Tourism Development Council (MTDC) for a two-year term from Sept. 22, 2018-September 21, 2020. Luke Brugh was present for Council introduction. Councilman Showalter made a motion to appoint Luke Brugh to serve a two-year term on the MTDC, seconded by Councilwoman Sachs. Council voted on the motion as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

- E. Removal, reduction, or waiver of \$50,000 review fee for unsolicited proposals stated in Town of Christiansburg Guidelines to the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002.

Town Manager Randy Wingfield proposed Council consider reducing the review fee for PPEA proposals from \$50,000 to \$10,000 max cap to encourage competing proposals. Councilman Stipes noted that the review fee, which was put into place prior to construction of the aquatic center, was unusually high, and he made a motion to cap the review fee at a maximum of \$10,000 as recommended. Councilwoman Sachs seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.

F. Discussion regarding Cambria Trail development. (Stipes)

Councilman Stipes explained that the Cambria Trail was a project that had been projected to be included in the 2018 Smart Scale Application, but was removed because the project design was incomplete. Mr. Stipes said the trail would increase the connectivity of many areas in town and he proposed Council direct staff to move forward with the design of the trail in preparation for next year's Smart Scale Application. Council discussed the costs of project design and Town Manager Wingfield noted that \$70,000 would get the project to 30%. Finance Director Tweedie agreed the amount could be worked into the budget amendment in October and Engineering Director Wayne Nelson agreed to take the lead in bringing the design to 30% completion.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Town Manager Wingfield:

- The Town is currently working with emergency personnel to prepare for the potential impacts of Hurricane Florence, including the designation of emergency shelters if necessary.
- The Town Attorney who has replaced Theresa Fontana at Guynn & Waddell, P.C., Mark Popovich, will have office hours at Town Hall on Wednesdays.

B. Town Attorney:

C. Other Staff:

X. COUNCIL REPORTS

- A. Councilman Collins reported he attended the Planning Commission meeting last week when the commission unanimously voted to recommend amending the ordinance pertaining to boardinghouses; the Recreation Advisory Commission did not meet in September; Mr. Collins expressed appreciation for support of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Lung Transplant Foundation golf tournament yesterday.
- B. Councilman Bishop reported that the Fire Department and Rescue Squad were working on hurricane preparedness, and relayed a citizen concern with garbage cans being left by the road for extended periods of time. Town Manager Wingfield noted he would address the concern.
- C. Councilman Showalter asked for the projected timeline for the RFP for garbage privatization and Mr. Wingfield stated that he planned to have it in October.
- D. Councilman Stipes, no report.
- E. Councilman Huppert expressed appreciation for the flowers in the downtown area and at Town facilities.
- F. Councilwoman Sachs, no report.
- G. Mayor Barber reported on the upcoming Annual VML Conference and provided details on cancellation requests.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Closed Meeting:

1. Councilman Stipes made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting in accordance with Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711(29) for the discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. The discussion pertains to the former Truman Wilson land development contract and receipt of a Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (PPEA) proposal for development of the land as a park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Bishop and voted upon as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye.
2. Reconvene in Open Meeting.
3. 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 Showalter and voted upon as follows: Bishop – Aye; Collins – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Sachs – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes - Aye.
4. Council action on the matter. Council authorized Town Manager Wingfield to seek the submission review fee of \$10,000 for the Public-Private Education Facilities and Infrastructure Act of 2002 (PPEA) proposal for development of the former Truman Wilson land as a park. Once the fee is received by the Town, Council will then review the PPEA proposal.

XII. ADJOURN

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 9:14 P.M.

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Michele Stipes, Clerk of Council

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D. Michael Barber, Mayor