

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2009 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 MARCH 17, 2009 AT 7:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Richard G. Ballengee; Vice-Mayor Bradford J. Stipes; D. Michael Barber; Ann H. Carter; D. Henry Showalter; James H. Vanhoozier; H. Earnest Wade. ABSENT: None.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager R. Lance Terpenney; Assistant Town Manager Barry D. Helms; Town Clerk Michele M. Stipes; Town Planner Hair; Town Attorney Susan Waddell. ABSENT: None.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Byrd; Ann H. Carter; Steve Huppert; Craig Moore. ABSENT: Chairperson Simmons; Wayne Booth; Dan Canada.

MAYOR BALLENGEE stated there was a quorum present of Council Members and Planning Commission Members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

1. Conditional Use Permit request by Scott L. Wade and Gregory B. Wade for property at 500 Roanoke Street (tax parcels 527-((A))-190 and 191) for residential use in the B-3 General Business District. Mr. Scott Wade commented that he and his brother have used this property as their corporate office for approximately twenty years. Recently, the corporate office was relocated, and the property put up for sale. There are no interested buyers at this time, and the Wades are interested in converting the property into a single-family residence. There is ample parking on the property, and the property adjoins R-1 Single Family Residential zoning. Mr. Wade welcomed questions. Council action on this request will be taken at the April 7, 2009 regular Town Council meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

MAYOR BALLENGEE called the Regular Meeting of Council to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of March 3, 2009. There being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

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

1. Representatives from Christiansburg Institute to address Council. Mr. Wayne Muhommad and Ms. Elaine Carter of the Christiansburg Institute reviewed with Council, through a powerpoint presentation, progress to date on revitalization of the Institute. Noted accomplishments are land acquirement, new building construction, property investment, and partnerships formed within the community. Objectives discussed are new building construction initiated, financing for Edgar A. Long building secured, Five-Year Program plan established (with future revisions), potentially six to eight new board members with a focus on diversity in the business community, emphasis on community outreach, strengthening of administrative unit. Expected impact of the revitalized campus includes an increase in workforce development opportunities; will provide innovative ways of teaching cultural diverse student groups; enhancement of opportunities for building culturally diverse communications, associations, and collaborations. The Institute has received national recognition of African-American emancipation era education history, and will be a dynamic tourist attraction. Christiansburg Institute is in the process of designing a partnership with Virginia Tech under the direction of Mr. John Dooley. Mayor

Ballengee noted that Councilman Stipes is Town Council's representative on the Christiansburg Institute Multi-Jurisdictional Partnership Board. Council thanked the representatives of the Christiansburg Institute for their presentation.

2. Mr. Bob Poff to address Council regarding Arts Commission Grant. On behalf of the Lewis Miller Museum, Mr. Bob Poff addressed Council regarding the annual application for the Local Government Challenge Grant for the Lewis Miller Museum. The Virginia Commission of Arts will match the funds contributed by the Town. Mr. Poff asked Council to approve filing of the grant application, which must be received by the Virginia Commission of Arts by April 1, 2009. Manager Terpenney explained that the Town allocates \$5,000.00 in the budget each year for this grant, and Virginia only requires that the Town commit to contributing the funds at this time. Funds will be allocated in the 2009 – 2010 budget year. Mr. Poff thanked Council for its past and continued support of the Lewis Miller Museum, and introduced Sue Farrar, Executive Director of the Lewis Miller Museum. Ms. Farrar thanked Council for its past and continued support, and promised to keep Council updated on the progress of the museum throughout the year.
3. Fran Hart – Christiansburg High School reunion. Ms. Fran Hart presented to Council her plans for a Christiansburg Alumni Return, which will include all alumni and staff of Christiansburg schools. The event is scheduled for August 8, 2009, from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., at the Christiansburg Recreation Center. Ms. Hart noted the numerous benefits to the community, including tourism and showcasing local resources. Ms. Hart requested the following assistance from the Town of Christiansburg: 1) Issue a proclamation declaring the August 8 date a "Christiansburg Alumni Return Day". 2) Purchase of two banners to be placed along Main Street, and the Recreation Center. 3) Assistance of two traffic control officers at the Recreation Center from 5:00 P.M. to 10:30 P.M. 4) Provide Two-Hundred Dollars in start-up funding for post office box rental and initial supplies. 5) Assist in publicizing event by adding a note in the June water bills. 6) Schedule a Christiansburg town official at the event to welcome all participants. 7) Provide use of Christiansburg Recreation Center, tables, and chairs free of charge for the event. Councilman Showalter suggested Ms. Hart apply for a grant through the Tourism Development Commission, which receives a monthly contribution from the Town through the lodging tax. Mayor Ballengee referred this request to the Finance Committee for review and recommendation.
4. Kevin Stoner – Spring Game Tailgate Party. Mr. Kevin Stoner requested Council approval to hold five downtown festivals this summer. Festival dates are May 23, June 27, September 11, September 19, and October 9. The June 27 and September 19 dates would be daytime, family festivals held during the Cruisin Christiansburg and Wilderness Trail events. The May 23, September 11, and October 9 dates would be night, "tailgate" parties planned and organized in the same manner as the "tailgate" party held on Main Street last fall. Mr. Stoner requested that the Town provide employee and police coverage for the tailgate events, as well as use of the Parks and Recreation's stage, and town dumpsters. Alcohol sales are intended for the tailgate events. After some discussion, Councilman Vanhoozier requested that Council vote on the daytime festivals separately from the night-time tailgate parties. It was suggested that Mr. Stoner apply for a grant with the Tourism Development Commission to help with the funding of these downtown events.
5. Planning Commission recommendation on:
 - a. Council's intention to adopt an ordinance in regards to a rezoning request by MEH, LLC for property at 2880 Roanoke Street (tax parcel 501 – ((1)) – 21) from R-1 Single-Family Residential to B-3 General Business. The property contains 0.704 acres and is scheduled as Mixed Use - Residential/Limited Business in the Future Land Use Map of the Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Secretary Terpenney read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council approve the rezoning request. The Planning Commission vote was unanimous with two absent.
 - b. A Conditional Use Permit request by Deon R. Smith for property at 245 First Street (tax parcels 526 – ((A)) – 196 and 196A) for residential use in the B-2 Central Business District. Secretary Terpenney read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council issue the Conditional Use Permit with one condition. Planning Commission's vote was unanimous by all in attendance.

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. Council action on:

- a. Council's intention to adopt an ordinance in regards to a rezoning request by MEH, LLC for property at 2880 Roanoke Street (tax parcel 501 – ((1)) – 21) from R-1 Single-Family Residential to B-3 General Business. The property contains 0.704 acres and is scheduled as Mixed Use - Residential/Limited Business in the Future Land Use Map of the Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Due to continuing concerns with stormwater run-off from this site, and Council's lack of authority to require stormwater maintenance for this request, Councilman Barber made a motion to deny the request, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade – AYE. The request is denied.
- b. A Conditional Use Permit request by Deon R. Smith for property at 245 First Street (tax parcels 526 – ((A)) – 196 and 196A) for residential use in the B-2 Central Business District. Councilman Wade made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to issue the Conditional Use Permit, with one condition, seconded by Councilman Stipes. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade – AYE.
- c. Ms. Fran Hart – Christiansburg Alumni Return. Due to the time constraint in organizing this event, Councilman Barber made a motion to contribute Two-Hundred Dollars to the Christiansburg Alumni Return to cover start-up costs. Councilman Stipes suggested amending the motion to include all of Ms. Hart's requests, except for the purchase of two banners, which may include a significant cost to the Town. Councilman Barber amended his motion to reflect Councilman Stipes' suggestion. Councilwoman Carter seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None. The Finance Committee will review the request to purchase two banners for the event, and will provide a recommendation to Council.
- d. Mr. Bob Poff's request regarding Arts Commission Grant. Councilwoman Carter made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.
- e. Kevin Stoner – Spring Tailgate Party. After much discussion by Council, Council voted on this request as follows:
 1. Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to approve the request by Kevin Stoner for a daytime, downtown festival on June 27, and on September 19, in conjunction with the Cruisin Christiansburg and Wilderness Trail festivals. Councilwoman Carter seconded the motion, and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.
 2. Councilman Barber made a motion to approve Kevin Stoner's request for night, downtown, tailgate parties on April 24, September 11, and October 9, seconded by Councilman Wade. Councilmen Vanhoozier and Stipes stated their opposition to the tailgate parties, due to the public sale of alcohol, with Councilman Stipes further commenting that the presence of alcohol does not send a good message to our youth, nor does it reflect what Christiansburg is about. Councilwoman Carter expressed her concern over Town monies being used to support the tailgate party held downtown last fall, through overtime pay to Police Officers, and Parks and Recreation staff, working the event. Councilman Wade commented that he understands the issues at hand, but noted that the tailgate parties, which will generate revenue, are necessary to fund the other events. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council on the motion as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – NAY; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – NAY; Vanhoozier – NAY; Wade – AYE. Mayor Ballengee – AYE. The request is approved.
- f. Stipes and Vanhoozier – Street Committee report/recommendation on:
 1. Plat showing subdivision of property for AT MAP, LLC of Lot 2, The DeMaury Lots; creating 2 lots; located on Brown Street, N.E. Councilman Stipes reported that this request will divide an existing duplex, which will allow the units to be sold individually. All is in order with the plat and Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.
 2. Plat of Boundary Line Adjustment Midway Plaza Lots 3, 4 & 5; creating 3 lots; located on Midway Plaza Drive, N.W. Councilman Stipes explained that this request is to create one large lot and two smaller lots from three existing lots. All is in order with the plat and Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve,

seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

3. Update on Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Councilman Stipes reported on the Street Committee's discussion to begin participating in the federal Community Development Block Grant program. Funding is focused on low to moderate income areas within Town, and to participate, the Town must provide a consolidated action plan for utilizing the funds. The Town is also required to annually update the action plan. Councilman Stipes provided a map indicating an area in Town that qualifies for the grant. Councilman Stipes welcomed Council input. The Street Committee plans to have an action plan completed by May and will then begin the public comment period, followed by a Public Hearing, with submittal in July. The deadline is August. Mayor Ballengee suggested that the action plan name a project supervisor to manage the funding and oversee the projects.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

PUBLIC HEARING REQUEST(S) – Town Manager Terpenney presented the following request(s) and recommended setting the Public Hearing(s) as indicated:

April 7, 2009

1. Rezoning request, Pine Hollow Road, A Agricultural to R-1 Single Family Residential, Pine Hollow Road.

April 21, 2009

1. Conditional Use Permit request, adult business in the I-2 General Industrial District.

On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Wade, Council voted to set the Public Hearing(s) as indicated. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

MAYOR BALLENGEE – Congressman Boucher has invited elected officials to attend a meeting regarding federal stimulus funds. The meeting will be held on April 20, 2009, from 9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. Further information will be provided soon.

AQUATIC CENTER UPDATE – Town Manager Terpenney reported that work is being done on the mechanical systems, internal block walls, and installation of glass windows. Crews will soon begin work on the second floor support system. Much of the work is internal and not visible from the exterior. Estimated completion date is this summer. The Town's usage agreement with Virginia Tech is currently being reviewed by Attorney Jim Guynn.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:06 P.M.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Richard G. Ballengee, Mayor