

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice-Mayor Bradford J. Stipes; D. Michael Barber; Ann H. Carter; D. Henry Showalter; H. Earnest Wade. ABSENT: Mayor Richard G. Ballengee; James H. Vanhoozier.

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

VICE-MAYOR STIPES stated there was a quorum present of Council Members and Planning Commission Members.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

VICE-MAYOR STIPES reported on Mayor Ballengee's absence from tonight's meeting due to medical reasons. Mayor Ballengee is home after a short hospital stay and is recovering well.

VICE-MAYOR STIPES called for a motion to amend the agenda to add an item under the Street Committee report. Councilwoman Carter made a motion to amend the agenda, seconded by Councilman Wade. Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None. The added item is 2(a) under Discussions by Mayor and Council Members.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

1. A rezoning request by BSCE Investments, LLC for property at 20 Midway Plaza Drive (tax parcels 406 - ((2)) - 4 and 5 and an approximately 0.6 acre portion of tax parcel 406 - ((2)) - 3) from I-2 General Industrial to B-3 General Business. The property proposed for rezoning is approximately 2.1 acres of the total 2.288 acres and is scheduled as Industrial in the Future Land Use Map of the Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Bryant Altizer of BSCE Investments, LLC explained that the rezoning is being requested to allow for an all-suite hotel on Midway Plaza Drive. A site plan for the property was submitted several weeks ago. The individual who will manage the property addressed Council with his plans for the hotel, which will provide employment opportunities and tax revenue.
2. A rezoning request by David M. Linkous for property at 150, 180, and 190 Pine Hollow Road (tax parcels 503 - ((9)) - 1 and 2 and the Town portion of tax parcels 503 - ((9)) - 3 and 095 - ((1)) - 4) from A Agricultural to R-1 Single-Family Residential. The property contains approximately 4.6 acres and is scheduled as Residential in the Future Land Use Map of the Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. There was no one to speak for or against this matter.
3. A Conditional Use Permit request by Pathway Christian Academy (agent for property owner Hash Group, LLC) for property at 1550 Roanoke Street (tax parcel 529 - ((A)) - 4) for a private school in the B-3 General Business District. Ms. Sheena Esconey, Administrator of Pathway Christian Academy, gave a brief history of the school and its current need for expansion. The academy, which serves one hundred eighty-one students and employs thirty-three staff members, purchased thirty acres of land on Flanagan Drive with the intent to soon begin construction. Unfortunately, construction has been delayed due to the economic downturn. The school has the opportunity to temporarily relocate to Gateway Plaza, but this move requires a Conditional Use

Permit from the Town. Ms. Esconey estimated that the school would be housed at the temporary location for three years. Vice-Mayor Stipes said Council will take action on these Public Hearing requests at the April 21, 2009 regular Town Council meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

VICE-MAYOR STIPES called the Regular Meeting of Council to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the Minutes of March 17, 2009. There being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

VICE-MAYOR STIPES opened the Citizen Hearings for those desiring to address Council.

1. Planning Commission's recommendation on:
 - a. 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. Secretary Terpenney read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council approve the Conditional Use Permit as requested. The Planning Commission vote was unanimous by those in attendance.
2. Representative from Blacksburg Transit to present community survey. Ms. Rebecca Martin, Mr. Erik Olsen, and Mr. Dan Brugh were present on behalf of Blacksburg Transit. Ms. Martin expressed her gratitude to Nichole Hair and Dayton Poff for their assistance in the effort to make public transportation available to Christiansburg residents. Ms. Martin presented to Council, via powerpoint, an update on the public transportation survey recently sent to each Christiansburg household. Ms. Martin said she was pleased to receive a thirty-eight percent (38%) response rate to the survey. She then reviewed the service plan options outlined for Christiansburg, which include route options and costs to the Town. It was noted that the costs established in the report are for a partial year (nine months), and will be higher when based on a twelve month year. A complete copy of the presentation is attached and made a part of these minutes. Vice-Mayor Stipes thanked those involved for the effort put into this project.
3. Ms. Alexandra Wolff to address Council regarding anti-bullying education. Ms. Wolff, a senior at Christiansburg High School, asked for Council's assistance in helping her establish an anti-bullying campaign that would provide education, including student mentors and hotlines, for Christiansburg schools. Ms. Wolff recently moved to Christiansburg from Maryland, where she established herself as an antibullying activist as the result of having been the victim of bullying during her middle school years. Ms. Wolff has spoken publicly about her ordeal in an attempt to educate others, and she served on a panel legislators consulted during the drafting of an anti-bullying law, that was eventually passed by Congress. Councilman Barber suggested she speak to the Montgomery County School Board and directed her to Tacy Newell-Foutz, who served on the school board for many years. Ms. Newell-Foutz, who was present, welcomed the opportunity to speak with Ms. Wolff. Councilman Barber also suggested providing a letter to Ms. Wolff expressing Town Council's support for her anti-bullying efforts. Councilman Barber invited Ms. Wolff to update Council on her efforts after she has spoken with the school board. Vice-Mayor Stipes thanked Ms. Wolff for her efforts and agreed to submit a letter of support to the Montgomery County School Board.
4. Citizen Comments:
 - a. Ms. Jean Nelson, 406 West Main Street, spoke in opposition of the request to open a portion of First Street. She believes opening the street will encourage street skateboarding and the accumulation of trash and debris. Ms. Nelson respectfully requested Town Council deny the request.
 - b. Mr. Harold Shelton addressed Council regarding enforcement of downtown parking. Mr. Shelton spoke of his opposition to tire chalking as a means of monitoring the parking time limit. He also disagreed with the Town's decision to hire a parking enforcement officer and to provide a vehicle for this position. Mr. Shelton stated that as long as tire chalking is the practice used, he will avoid parking and doing business

downtown. Vice-Mayor Stipes said he is interested in comments on the downtown parking matter, and that citizen input, such as Mr. Shelton's, will be considered when this matter is revisited. Councilman Barber noted that a vehicle was provided because the Parking Enforcement Officer patrols parking lots, in addition to the downtown area, and assists patrol officers in parking matters.

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. Council action on:
 - a. 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. Councilman Wade made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.
2. Stipes and Vanhoozier – Street Committee report/recommendation on:
 - a. Plat of Subdivision, Lot 6, Phase 1, Sun Village, Wakeman Court. Councilman Stipes reported that this request is to divide one existing duplex lot into two, which will allow the units to be sold individually. All is in order with the plat and the Street Committee recommends approval. Councilman Wade made a motion to approve the plat, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.
 - b. Plat of Subdivision of Station Lane Prepared for Jennings Construction & Development, Inc.; creating 11 lots; located on Depot Street, N.E. Councilman Stipes reported that a Conditional Use Permit was previously approved for this property for R-3 Multi-Family Residential development in the B-3 General Business District, with proffers. All is in order with the plat and the Street Committee recommends approval. Councilman Barber commented that he is hesitant to vote on this matter until he has reviewed the proffers that were submitted for this site last year. Councilman Stipes pointed out that this request is only to subdivide the property, and that Council will have the opportunity to again review the proffers when the site plan is submitted. Councilman Barber made a motion to approve the plat, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Council voted on the matter as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.
 - c. Plat of Subdivision Cambria Crossing, Phase II Prepared for Cambria Crossing, LLC; creating 37 Lots; located on Roudabush Drive, N.W. Councilman Stipes reported that this request is in conformance with Planned Housing Development guidelines and the Street Committee recommends approval. Councilman Wade made a motion to approve the plat, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the matter as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.
 - d. Request to open unbuilt portion of First Street. Councilman Stipes reported that this is the second time this request has come before Council. During the Street Committee's review it was realized that there is no practical way to connect the street through to nearby Chrisman Street, thereby creating a road with no exit point. There was also spoken opposition to the request by neighboring residents. In light of these findings, the Street Committee recommended Town Council deny the request. After Council discussion, Councilman Barber made a motion to accept the recommendation to deny the request, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

MONTHLY BILLS – On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Wade, Council voted to approve the monthly bills to be paid 10 April, 2009, in the amount of \$2,256,588.20. AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.

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

May 5, 2009

1. Rezoning request, 540 Depot Street, 1-2 General Industrial District to B-3 General Business District.
2. Conditional Use Permit request, 2000 Roanoke Street, outside flea market and auto auction, and amendment to existing Conditional Use Permit.
3. Budget for Fiscal Year 2009 - 2010.

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

COUNCILMAN BARBER, who encouraged the adoption of an ordinance requiring safety gear, helmets and eye wear, for moped operators, suggested the Town broaden the ordinance to include safety gear requirements for skateboarders and bicyclists. Attorney Susan Waddell commented that the Town will be limited by State Code in its authority to require safety gear for skateboarders and bicyclists. She will research the matter and report her findings to Council at the April 21, 2009 meeting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 P.M. on motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilwoman Carter. Council voted as follows: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Wade. NAYS: None.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Bradford J. Stipes, Vice-Mayor