

CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 12, 2022 – 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 APRIL 12, 2022, AT 7:00 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor D. Michael Barber; Vice-Mayor Henry Showalter; Samuel M. Bishop; Tanya Hockett; Casey Jenkins. COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Johana Hicks; Tim Wilson.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Randy Wingfield; Assistant Town Manager Andrew Warren; Town Attorney Reid Broughton; Executive Assistant/Clerk of Council Tracy Heinline; Director of Human Resources Alicia Dials; Director of Public Relations Christina Edney; Director of Parks and Recreation Brad Epperley; Director of Aquatics Terry Caldwell; Director of Engineering Mike Kelley; Police Chief Mark Sisson.

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Bishop.

II. ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

Councilman Showalter made a motion to table all items under Discussion and Action by Mayor and Council due to two Council members absence. Councilwoman Hockett seconded the motion.

Mayor Barber expressed concern for tabling all the items under Discussion and Action by Mayor and Council and suggested postponing items C. and H. instead.

Town Council voted as follows: Councilman Bishop – Nay; Councilwoman Hockett – Aye; Councilman Jenkins – Aye; Councilman Showalter – Aye.

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

No public hearings.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes of March 15, 2022, and March 22, 2022
- B. Resolution Authorizing a local official to execute agreements with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and acknowledgment of local funding commitment as required in VDOT funding agreements
- C. Contract Amendment #1 to the Professional Services Contract for Christiansburg Industrial Park Stormwater Upgrade
- D. Set Town Council Public Hearing for May 24, 2022, for a Conditional Use Permit request by McNeil Property Management LLC, owner, to allow a private school in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at 1650 Cambria Street, NE, Tax Parcel 467 – ((A)) – 55, Parcel ID 020103. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Comprehensive Plan.
- E. Authorize Town Manager to Execute Task Order between Town of Christiansburg and New River Valley Regional Commission to administer the Appalachian Regional Commission Grant for the Christiansburg Downtown Gathering Space
- F. Contract approval for Ourisman Ford of Manassas for \$149,000 for Truck with Crane Service Body

Councilman Bishop made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilman Jenkins seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Councilman Bishop – Aye; Councilwoman Hockett – Aye; Councilman Jenkins – Aye; Councilman Showalter – Aye.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

- A. Director of Public Relations Christina Edney to update Council on the Public Relations Department

Director of Public Relations Christina Edney began her presentation by explaining the specific goals and objectives for the department moving forward. Ms. Edney spoke about the external and internal communications the department is responsible for and explained Public Relations role in those communications. She noted that social media was an important platform to share information with the community, especially during the COVID19 pandemic. Ms. Edney spoke about print marketing and presented several examples of how Public Relations forwards information out to the community, including the Town's welcome guides and Town maps, as well as internal reports for different departments. She explained that digital marketing was an important aspect as well for the community and expressed that the Public Relations Department remains people focused and presented Council with photos of past events in the community. Ms. Edney touched briefly on FOIA requests and how those requests are tracked and processed. She spoke about the goals pertaining to FOIA, such as cross-training internally and a potential

automated system for requests. She explained that other localities use a response system that is more centralized. Ms. Edney talked about branding for the Town and showed examples of how customers associate colors and logos with businesses. Ms. Edney showed Council the different logos and colors for the Town's departments and talked about developing subsidiary brands for those departments.

B. Downtown Christiansburg, Inc. President Elli Travis to present regarding Downtown Christiansburg Inc. programs and operations

Elli Travis presented to Council regarding Downtown Christiansburg, Inc.'s vision for the future and the programs and operations that had taken place in the last year. Mrs. Travis spoke about the mission of DCI and promoting downtown Christiansburg to achieve the area's full potential. She explained that DCI is a 501c3 nonprofit and is led and supported by volunteers. Mrs. Travis talked about the accomplishments for 2021 and focused on the Great Little Park on Main design and build. She spoke about the successful community fundraising Party in the Park that took place as well as the volunteer Planting Day that helped with the cosmetic design for phase 1 of the park. Mrs. Travis talked about the inclusion of downtown videos that focused on the charm and potential of downtown. She explained that DCI had relaunched their website and noted that anyone could register on the downtown site and share community events, etc. Mrs. Travis talked about upcoming projects in the next year and an event called Vision Night that was held for downtown Christiansburg business owners to discuss community engagement and to bring people together for a vision for downtown. She also spoke about DCI's ideas for phase two of the Great Little Park on Main and creative ways to add seating as well as a design for a park logo. Mrs. Travis talked about the Chow Down Downtown Food Truck Rodeo that would take place tentatively in October 2022 and the Food Truck Rodeo Committee that has combined downtown business owners and volunteers together to plan and recruit vendors. Mrs. Travis touched on the Economic Vitality Committee that would help expand downtown's economic base and create a strong entrepreneurial ecosystem in downtown. Mrs. Travis concluded that DCI worked collaboratively with several different businesses and programs such as the United Way Trick or Treating program, the Christiansburg High School Adopt a Senior program, and the Town of Christiansburg Rockin' Main Street event.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Chris Waltz, 1370 Rigby Street, recommended that Town funds be applied to Public Relations outreach more so than the Montgomery County Tourism Development Council. Mr. Waltz expressed that Public Relations excelled at public outreach and marketing.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Bishop reported that on April 6th, the Aquatic Center Advisory Board discussed the Aquatic Center Day Pass membership fee increasing by \$1. Mr. Bishop explained that if this increase was approved by Council, it would only be the second increase since the Aquatic Center opened.

Councilman Showalter reported that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board discussed the naming of the new park as well as the Farmers Market location remaining at the Recreation Center at their last meeting. Mr. Showalter also reported that the Rockin' Main events would be coming up this summer and again in the fall. He also noted that the bathrooms at the Recreation Center were still under renovation. Parks and Recreation Director Brad Epperley explained that the renovation should be completed by early June.

Councilwoman Hockett reported that the Bikeway Walkway Committee had met April 1st and explained the bikes had undergone maintenance and that 47 bikes would be returned to the station in time for nice weather.

Mayor Barber announced that the Spring Festival event was a success and thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for their efforts.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

(Please note the Adjustment to the Agenda – no action taken on the following items)

- A. Conditional Use Permit request by Jacqueline Marshall, owner, and Shaun Chuyka, lessee, to allow a contractor's equipment storage yard in the General Business District (B-3) on property located at 301 Depot Street, NW, Tax Parcel 526 – ((23)) – (BK1) – 12, Parcel ID 007535. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. The Public Hearing was held on March 22, 2022.
- B. Rezoning request by John D. and Arnedia V. Elmore, owners, and Garard Hopkins III, contract purchaser, from Agricultural District A to General Business District B-3 for a portion of the property located at 710 Peppers Ferry Rd., Tax Parcel 435 – ((A)) – 23; Parcel ID 021274. The property is designated as Residential on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan. The Public Hearing was held March 22, 2022.
- C. Discussion of potential signature park names
- D. Budget Resolution for Amendment #9
- E. Budget Appropriation for Amendment #9
- F. COLA of 5% and targeted increases effective April 25, 2022
- G. Approval to post current draft of budget and proposed water increase for Public Hearings to be held May 10, 2022
- H. Discussion of potential meeting with Montgomery County Board of Supervisors and potential topics

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Town Manager

Mr. Wingfield reported that the upcoming Rockin' Main events for this year would be held May 14th and June 11th.

B. Town Attorney

No report.

C. Other Staff

No report.

Councilman Showalter inquired about the Closed Meeting and asked if there was concern of an outside party outbidding for the College Street project. Mr. Wingfield did not feel there was a danger of anyone bidding to pursue the project on College Street but did express there was a possibility someone could purchase the properties.

X. COUNCIL REPORTS

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Closed Meeting:

1. Councilman Showalter made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting under Code of Virginia § 2.2-3711(A)(3), for the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. The Closed Meeting was held for discussion of potential acquisition of property in the College Street area for a stormwater management area. Councilwoman Hockett seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye.
2. Reconvene in Open Meeting.
3. Certification.

Councilman Showalter made a motion 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 Bishop and Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye.

4. Council action on the matters.

No action on the matter.

Mayor Barber inquired if Town Council could delay the Discussion and Action items and Mr. Wingfield expressed that this was at Council's discretion.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 8:18 p.m.

Tracy Heinline
Tracy Heinline, Clerk of Council

D. Michael Barber
D. Michael Barber, Mayor