

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF JULY 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 JULY 7, 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 Terpenny; Assistant Town Manager Barry D. Helms; Town Clerk Michele M. Stipes; Planning Director Wingfield; Town Attorney Kai Memmer. ABSENT: None.

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING

1. A rezoning request by Nancy W. Miller, Robert A. Woolwine, and James E. Woolwine for property on the eastern side of Plum Street (tax parcel 497-((A))-109) from B-3 General Business to R-2 Two-Family Residential. The property contains 0.419 acres and is scheduled as Residential in the Future Land Use Map of the Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Ms. Carol Lindstrom questioned the location of this property in relation to the Cambria Historic District. She also questioned the current zoning of surrounding neighborhoods and adjoining properties. At Council's request, Planning Director Wingfield referred to a map showing the boundary lines for this property, noting that the property is adjacent to, but outside, the Historic District. Mr. Woolwine said there is one lot across the street from this property that is zoned Residential. Ms. Meghan Dorsett, owner of the Cambria Emporium, and the Cambria Depot, said she believes this property borders the Historic District, and that the residential property adjacent to it is located in the Historic District. Ms. Dorsett warned Council that continued development is not always appropriate, stressing that once the Historic District is gone, it can not be replaced.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. 2009 Action Plan addressing sidewalk improvements along Roanoke and Park Street – Community Development Block Grant. Councilman Stipes and Councilman Vanhoozier of the Street Committee presented Council with the 2009 Action Plan required for the Community Development Block Grant application, which will be valid for five years. The Action Plan outlines sidewalk renovation and sidewalk installation along Roanoke Street, South Main Street, and Park Street, that will be undertaken during the program year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010, using Federal funds granted by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Community Development Block Grant. The Town is expected to receive approximately one hundred four thousand dollars (\$104,000), which is intended to be used primarily to benefit low-income and moderate income neighborhoods, and the Town as a whole. The Action Plan will be submitted in August, after the required thirty-day public comment period, with funds available in October. A detailed engineering study will be conducted to determine the exact locations for improvements.

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 June 16, 2009. Two minor corrections were brought to the Clerk's attention, with the minutes being approved subject to those corrections.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA – Councilwoman Carter made a motion to amend the agenda to include the following: (1) A report from Councilman Vanhoozier, Council Representative on the Aquatic Center Advisory Commission; (2) Move item III (1) to a Closed Meeting pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) for the purpose of discussion and consideration of the appointment of a Finance Director/Treasurer; and (3) to include in the Closed Meeting consultation with legal counsel regarding the Tourism Contract pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(7). Councilman Barber seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

1. Citizen Comments:

- a. Ms. Carol Lindstrom re-emphasized to Council the importance of responsible rezoning and urged Council to require proffers from developers, or set conditions with rezoning approvals, in order to maintain some control over property after it is rezoned. She suggested that the Planning Commission begin working with developers to create appropriate proffers/conditions according to the site being rezoned.
- b. Mr. Rick Palmer of Christiansburg, on behalf of his mother, Linda Palmer, informed Council that he submitted a list of complaints to the Town today that he would like addressed by Council. Manager Terpenny said he received the information and is prepared to hand it out to Council at the closing of the meeting. Council is to review the information and discuss at a future Town Council meeting.

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. COUNCILMAN VANHOOZIER, Council Representative on the Aquatic Center Advisory Commission, gave a brief update on the Commission's meeting on June 3, 2009. At that meeting, Officers were named as follows: Jeremy Williams, Chairman; Michael St. Jean, Vice-Chairman; and Steve Simmons, Secretary. Aquatic Center Director, Terry Caldwell, presented the Commission with the proposed fee schedule, along with data used in establishing the fees. The Commission will review the information and discuss at a future meeting in preparation of making a recommendation to Council. Another matter discussed was proposed payment processing systems, and research is currently being done to determine the feasibility of establishing this type of service at the aquatic center. The next Aquatic Center Advisory Commission meeting is scheduled for August 5, 2009 at 4:00 P.M.
2. CLOSED MEETING:
 - a. MAYOR BALLENGEE requested a Closed Meeting under Section 2.2-3711 A(1), *Code of Virginia*, for the discussion and consideration of the appointment of a Finance Director/Treasurer; and pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A)(7) for the purpose of consultation with legal counsel regarding the Tourism Contract. On motion by Councilwoman Carter, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier, Council voted to enter into a Closed Meeting. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade - AYE.
 - b. COUNCILMAN BARBER made a motion to come out of Closed Meeting and enter into Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier and voted upon as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.
 - c. CERTIFICATION – Councilwoman Carter moved to certify that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements, under the Freedom of Information Act, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the Town Council. Councilman Stipes seconded the certification and Town Clerk Stipes polled Council as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade - AYE.
 - d. COUNCIL ACTION ON THE MATTER - Councilman Wade made a motion to accept, with regrets, Mr. Dan Canada's resignation from the Planning Commission, effective immediately. Councilman Wade commented that Mr. Canada has been a valuable asset to the Planning Commission, and that travel responsibilities with his new job have made it difficult to attend many of the meetings. Councilman Barber seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None. Town Manager Terpenny said he will place an advertisement for this vacancy in the newspaper, as soon as possible, to run through July 31, 2009.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

MONTHLY BILLS – Councilman Barber made a motion to approve the bills, subject to clarification of the one hundred five thousand, nine hundred sixty-four dollar (\$105,964) payment to the Town of Blacksburg for Hazardous Waste Clean-up. Assistant Town Manager Helms believes this figure was typed in error and should be five thousand dollars (\$5,000). Councilman Wade seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

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

August 4, 2009

1. Amendment to Chapter 30, Zoning, *Christiansburg Town Code*, regarding flood plains.
2. Amendment to Chapter 28, Bicycle Safety Equipment Ordinance, *Christiansburg Town Code*, helmets.
3. Rezoning request, 985 Cambria Street, N.E., I-2 General Industrial District to B-3 General Business District.

On motion by Councilman Barber, seconded by Councilman Stipes, 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.

COUNCILMAN BARBER reported on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission meeting held yesterday. During that meeting, Chuck Muncy, Supervisor of Outdoor Sports Facilities and Parks, presented information on the baseball tournaments held in Christiansburg this year. Twelve of sixteen tournaments have been held, and according to a formula used by the City of Roanoke, tourism resulting from these twelve tournaments have brought to Christiansburg approximately six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) in the form of meals, lodging, and others. As discussed recently, the Parks and Recreation Department is creating a map outlining streets, hotels, restaurants, and other merchants, in relation to the Harkrader Sports Complex, that will be available to travelers visiting the area for sporting events, including the 2010 World Series to be held next year. Councilman Barber commended Mr. Muncy and his staff for an encouraging report.

MANAGER TERPENNY presented to Council a request from Warren Smith of LaPlateau Subdivision, for a three way stop at Majestic Drive and Somerset Drive, or placement of speed humps, to control traffic through this neighborhood. Manager Terpenny noted that this area has seen increased traffic over time, and the Town has received several requests for traffic control through this neighborhood. Mayor Ballengee referred this request to the Street Committee for review and recommendation.

MAYOR BALLENGEE reported that the Salem Red Sox have declared the evening of July 11th "Christiansburg Night", and invited everyone to attend. Mayor Ballengee will throw out the first ball.

MAYOR BALLENGEE reminded Council of the Town Council retreat scheduled for August 14, 15, 16, at the New River Community College in Dublin, Virginia. The purpose of the retreat is to provide Council members the opportunity to discuss long range plans for Christiansburg, and to discuss the needs of the Town in the coming years.

COUNCILMAN SHOWALTER requested a report on Historic Districts, including mapping showing the districts in Town.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 P.M.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Richard G. Ballengee, Mayor