

CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 11, 2023 – 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 JULY 11, 2023, AT 7:00 P.M.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Randy Wingfield; Town Attorney Reid Broughton; Clerk of Council/Executive Assistant Tracy Heinline; Planner II Caroline Smith; Finance Director Valerie Tweedie; Engineering Director Mike Kelley; Police Chief Mark Sisson; Fire Chief Billy Hanks

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilman Showalter.

II. ADJUSTMENT OF THE AGENDA

No adjustments to the agenda

III. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- A. Conditional Use Permit request by Burch Properties LLC, property owner, and Kevin Lagos, lessee, to allow a public billiard parlor and poolroom on the property located at 1635 N. Franklin Street (Tax Parcel 466 – ((A)) – 20C; Parcel ID 013214) zoned B-3 General Business. The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Kevin Lagos addressed Council and expressed his desire for a poolroom at the above property and noted that he felt public billiards would increase revenue in the area. Mr. Lagos added that the business would remain under the same business name.

B. Rezoning request by Summit Community Bank, Inc., property owner, to rezone the property located at 100 Akers Farm Road (Tax Parcel 466 – ((22)) – 1; Parcel ID 100283) from B-1 Limited Business (with proffers) to B-3 General Business (without proffers). The property is designated as Business/Commercial on the Future Land Use Map of the 2013 Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

Tony Harris, Vice President of Summit Community Bank, explained to Council that he was requesting a rezone at Akers Farm Road to accommodate new signage that would be increasing from 50 square feet to 75. Mr. Harris added that he had previously undergone the process of vacating a property line from vacated Town right-of-way to get close enough to build the new sign at a later date.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes of June 27, 2023 and July 6, 2023
- B. Approval of Lease Agreement between the Town of Christiansburg and T-Mobile Northeast, LLC for antennas and equipment at 1306 Buffalo Drive, NW for \$2,333 per month for 5 years with a 5.0% annual increase
- C. Resolution in Support of an Application for the Safe Streets for All (SS4A) Grant Program

Councilwoman Hicks noted that although she had been absent for the work session on July 6th, she had observed the meeting via video and felt comfortable voting.

Councilman Bishop made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Hicks. Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

No introductions or presentations

VI. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No citizen comments

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilwoman Hockett reported that the Street Committee had been presented with a request to temporarily close the entrances to Water Street and Church Street due to Atmos Energy replacing the gas lines in those areas. She added that Water Street's entrance would be closed for two weeks and Church Street's two months. Town Manager Wingfield explained that Atmos Energy would post the street closure signage and he believed would inform their customers in

those areas of the outages and that the Town would advertise as well. Mr. Wingfield explained that the residents in those areas would have access to ingress and egress. Council agreed that Atmos Energy should inform residents of both the outage and the street closures. Councilman Showalter asked Mr. Wingfield to keep Council updated on the process.

Councilwoman Hockett made a motion to approve the recommendation from the Street Committee to close both Water Street and Church Street for the replacement of a gas line, seconded by Councilman Bishop. Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

Councilwoman Hicks reported that the Central Business Committee would meet on July 25th from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

VIII. DISCUSSION AND ACTION BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL

A. Certification of Fire Officers

Chief Hanks referenced the list of line officers and engineers that were elected to represent the Fire Department during their annual business meeting. Chief Hanks asked for Council's certification for the election of the officers.

Councilman Wilson made a motion to certify the election of Fire Officers for the upcoming year, seconded by Councilwoman Hockett. Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

B. Street closure request by the Montgomery Museum of Art and History for E. Main Street (from Franklin Street to Pepper Street) on Saturday, August 19, 2023 from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for the Heritage Day Festival to be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Hockett made a motion to approve the request for E. Main Street closure for the Heritage Day Festival, seconded by Councilman Wilson. Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Abstain; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

C. School Resource Officers

Councilwoman Hicks expressed hope that in the future the County would support the Town in providing officers in the schools. Mayor Barber noted the difficulty of planning a meeting with the Board of Supervisors to discuss school resource officers and expressed the Town was willing to provide safety for the children in area schools. Councilwoman Hicks recognized Board of Supervisors Todd King for his support of the citizens of Christiansburg.

Councilman Wilson made a motion to give Police Chief Sisson the authority to place Town officers back in schools, seconded by Councilwoman Hockett. Council voted as

follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

D. Cooperative Agreement for School Resource Officers

Councilwoman Hockett expressed concern that an agreement to a meeting with the County could not be finalized and questioned if they could not discuss this matter with the Board of Supervisors then would there be other matters left undiscussed. Mrs. Hockett noted appreciation for Chief Sisson and Sheriff Partin for working together to try to solve the issue. Mayor Barber clarified this was a working agreement between the Police Chief and the County Sheriff. Councilman Showalter thanked both Chief Sisson and Sheriff Partin for working on this issue and expressed disappointment that a resolution could not be made with the County. Mr. Showalter noted that the value in the presented Cooperative Agreement was that the sheriff would agree to supplying resource officers to three schools that previously did not have officers. Councilwoman Hicks expressed hope that the County would ultimately see the value in the added officers and support the Town in the future.

Councilman Wilson made a motion to approve the Cooperative Agreement for School Resource Officers as edited from the most current work session, seconded by Councilwoman Hockett. Council voted as follows: Bishop – Aye; Hicks – Aye; Hockett – Aye; Jenkins – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Wilson – Aye.

IX. STAFF REPORTS

A. Town Manager

Mr. Wingfield requested to set a public hearing for August 22, 2023 for a conditional use permit for revisions to the approved comprehensive sign plan for the Marketplace on N. Franklin Street and Peppers Ferry Road.

B. Town Attorney – no report

C. Other Staff – no report

X. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilwoman Hicks expressed appreciation to all Town staff for their work during the July 4th fireworks and events. Mrs. Hicks reported that the front of the Police Department's building had undergone renovation and questioned if the original mural would be added back. Mr. Wingfield explained that the mural would be added back after final construction.

Mayor Barber complimented the Recreation Department for hosting the Cal Ripken 12 and Under baseball tournaments over the weekend and acknowledged the many compliments of

the Harkrader Sports Complex facility from visiting teams and parents. He noted that Christiansburg finished runner-up and would travel to Arlington later in a month and the team that was successful at the Glenn Allen World Series would be traveling to Branson, Missouri. Mayor Barber noted the well planned and attended July 4th fireworks and events downtown.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Barber adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Tracy Heinline
Tracy Heinline, Clerk of Council

D. Michael Barber
D. Michael Barber, Mayor