

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 2010 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 20, 2010 AT 7:30 P.M.

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

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager R. Lance Terpenny; Town Clerk Michele M. Stipes; Planning Director Wingfield; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Town Attorney Kai Memmer. ABSENT: Assistant Town Manager Helms.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Moore; Mike Byrd; Ann H. Carter; Kevin Conner; Steve Huppert. ABSENT: Wayne Booth.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

MAYOR BALLENGEE introduced three additions to tonight's agenda: (1) Speed limit along Route 114 through the construction zone; (2) Circle street in front of downtown Post Office; (3) Franklin Street renovations. Councilman Barber made a motion to amend the agenda to include these items of discussion, seconded by Councilman Stipes. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

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 April 6, 2010. Councilman Barber made a motion to accept the Minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Wade. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

1. Recognition of Christiansburg High School Indoor Track Team. Mayor Ballengee introduced Christiansburg High School Indoor Track Coach, Shane Guynn, and the members of the track team. Mayor Ballengee invited Councilman Showalter to present a Resolution of Recognition to the team. A copy of the Resolution is attached herewith and made a part of these minutes. This Resolution was adopted by Council at the April 6, 2010 Town Council meeting.
2. Ms. Fran Hart to address Council. Ms. Fran Hart, Chairperson of the Reunion Committee for 2010, addressed Council regarding plans for the 2010 Christiansburg Alumni Return. Ms. Hart thanked the Town for its support of last year's first annual Alumni Return and reported on the success of that initial event that had over seven hundred participants. Much of the costs are covered by corporate sponsorships and funding from local hotels, which keeps the costs low for participants. Ms. Hart handed out a flyer advertising the event and offering an opportunity to pre-register at a reduced rate. Numerous activities are planned for the weekend. This year a silent auction is planned, with proceeds benefiting the start of a scholarship to fund education projects within Montgomery County schools. Ms. Hart requested that the Town permit the Reunion Committee to place signs and banners throughout Town advertising the event, and to place an announcement of the event on July water bills. Ms. Hart introduced Reunion Committee members Connie Turner and Clara Sowers. Councilman Barber commended the Committee members for their efforts in organizing this weekend event. Councilman Barber said he attended the event last year with his wife and had a wonderful time. He highly recommended attending this year. Mayor Ballengee echoed Councilman Barber's sentiments.
3. Glen Reynolds and Sam Lionberger, III – Aquatic Center Update. Mr. Sam Lionberger reported that much progress has been made to the outside work now that the temperatures have risen and the ground thawed. The leisure pool side of the facility is complete and the water purification process has begun. Plastering will begin on the competition pool on May 4, and a seven day water fill time is expected. Tile work is nearing completion. Mr. Reynolds reported that the final pieces of steel are needed for installation of the scoreboard, but this will not impact the pool opening. They hope to move the staff

into the upstairs portion of the building once permission is given by the building inspector, hopefully within the next week. The outside patio is ready to be poured. The surveillance system for the facility will soon be completed. The contractor is still facing delays with the bleachers, but like the scoreboard, will not impact the opening date. This is also true for the front entranceway canopy that has been delayed. Paving and sidewalk pouring continues. The expected completion date is in May, with July being available for scheduled swim events. Mayor Ballengee commented that photos of the facility can be viewed on the Town website.

4. Planning Commission's recommendation on:
 - a. An ordinance amending Chapter 3 "Advertising" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to community-based curbside recycling collection service signage. Chairperson Moore read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council approve amending Chapter 3 of the Christiansburg Town Code as requested. Planning Commission vote is as follows: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.
 - b. A Conditional Use Permit request by Economic Development Authority of Montgomery County, Virginia for property on the western side of Technology Drive (tax parcel 559 – ((1)) – 1B) for above ground diesel fuel storage in excess of 80,000 gallons in the I-2 General Industrial District. Chairperson Moore read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council issue the CUP with five conditions. A copy of the resolution and five conditions is attached herewith. Planning Commission vote is as follows: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent.
 - c. A Conditional Use Permit request by Main Street Preservation RLLLP for property at 1 First Street, S.W. (tax parcel 527 – ((A)) – 81) for an electronic messaging sign in the B-2 Central Business District. Chairperson Moore read the Planning Commission's resolution recommending Town Council issue the CUP with seven (7) conditions. A copy of the resolution and seven conditions is attached herewith. Planning Commission vote is as follows: 5 ayes; 0 nays; 1 absent

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. Council action on:
 - a. An ordinance amending Chapter 3 "Advertising" of the Christiansburg Town Code in regards to community-based curbside recycling collection service signage. Councilman Stipes made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. At Mayor Ballengee's request, Town Clerk Stipes polled Council on the motion as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade – AYE.
 - b. A Conditional Use Permit request by Economic Development Authority of Montgomery County, Virginia for property on the western side of Technology Drive (tax parcel 559 – ((1)) – 1B) for above ground diesel fuel storage in excess of 80,000 gallons in the I-2 General Industrial District. Councilman Wade made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to issue the CUP with five conditions, seconded by Councilman Barber. At Mayor Ballengee's request, Town Clerk Stipes polled Council on the motion as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade – AYE.
 - c. A Conditional Use Permit request by Main Street Preservation RLLLP for property at 1 First Street, S.W. (tax parcel 527 – ((A)) – 81) for an electronic messaging sign in the B-2 Central Business District. Councilman Barber made a motion to accept the Planning Commission's recommendation to issue the CUP with seven conditions, seconded by Councilman Stipes. Councilman Wade noted that the size of the sign requested by the applicant did not comply with *Town Code* and this is addressed in the conditions place on the CUP. At Mayor Ballengee's request, Town Clerk Stipes polled Council on the motion as follows: Barber – AYE; Carter – AYE; Showalter – AYE; Stipes – AYE; Vanhoozier – AYE; Wade – AYE.
- d. Route 114 Speed Limit through Construction Zone. Councilman Showalter said it is his understanding that upon completion of construction along Route 114, VDOT will raise the speed limit to what it was pre-construction, which is 45mph. During construction the speed limit has been reduced to 35mph, which Councilman Showalter believes is a more favorable speed for this area, especially since the road goes from two lanes to four lanes, then back to two lanes and again to four lanes near the mall. Lowering the speed limit will prevent the severity of traffic accidents seen on Route 114. Several years ago, the Town lowered the speed limit near Quin Stewart Boulevard (near the mall area) to 35mph once it was determined the area didn't qualify for a traffic light. VDOT conducts speed studies and Town Council has the authority to request one if desired. Town Manager Terpenny cautioned that if a speed study is conducted by VDOT, liability issues will be a concern if the study results aren't used by the Town. There is no cost for the speed study if performed by VDOT. Councilman Stipes explained information he gathered from a traffic impact

analysis taken by VDOT in 2009 and reviewed the various aspects of the analysis. According to the information learned in the 2009 traffic analysis, Councilman Stipes said he is confident that the Town will soon meet the criteria for a traffic light near Quin Stewart Boulevard, and the time is appropriate to begin petitioning for a traffic light. Mayor Ballengee asked Council if it wants to proceed with the VDOT speed study. The consensus of Council is to proceed with the VDOT speed study.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

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

May 18, 2010

1. Budget for fiscal year 2010-2011.
2. Rates and fee increases for fiscal year 2010-2011.

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.

TOWN MANAGER TERPENNY reported that the newly hired Public Relations Officer, Becky Hawke, is unable to attend tonight's meeting because of a conflict with a class, but she looks forward to attending the May 3rd Town Council meeting. Councilman Barber requested that she attend all Town Council meetings.

TOWN MANAGER TERPENNY reported that Comprehensive Computer Solutions (CCS) is purchasing a parcel of land from Shah Development, LLC. in the Christiansburg Industrial Park. Included with this property is a five year reversion clause and CCS is requesting the Town extend the clause by three years. Councilman Wade added that CCS is a clean industry that already owns two buildings in the industrial park. The company wants to consolidate, and this purchase from Shah Development, LLC will allow it to do so. Councilman Wade made a motion to extend the reversion clause from 2012 to the year 2015. Councilman Barber seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

TOWN MANAGER TERPENNY said he has been working with the Town Manager of Blacksburg and the County Administrator studying tourism initiatives. The County Administrator gained experience in this area during his administration in both Bedford and Georgia. Town Manager Terpenny said he has learned that forming an authority is better than a mutual agreement for various reasons including the simplicity of an authority. The County Administrator is working to draft a document for discussion. Town Manager Terpenny said that an oversight committee should be formed that should include local hoteliers and restaurant owners. Town Council agreed that it is necessary to move forward with this matter as quickly as possible, and is in favor of forming an Authority to oversee the tourism initiative.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Richard G. Ballengee, Mayor