

**CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF JUNE 15, 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 JUNE 15, 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; Assistant Town Manager Helms; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Public Relations Officer Becky Hawke; Town Attorney Kai Memmer.

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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 1, 2010. Councilman Showalter made a motion to include in paragraph #1 of Discussions by Mayor and Council, that all of Council noted the \$2.2M budget deficit. Councilwoman Carter seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

COUNCILMAN WADE made a motion to amend the agenda to include a discussion regarding logging trucks on College Street. Councilman Barber seconded the motion and Council voted as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None. This request was presented by Mayor Ballengee on behalf of Councilwoman Carter.

CITIZEN HEARINGS:

1. Presentation by the Parks and Recreation Department – 2010 Dixie Youth World Series. Mr. Art Price, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced and thanked his staff and volunteers for the effort they have put into organizing this event: Tammy Caldwell, Pam Peyton, Chuck Muncy, Nick Yopp (programs), Charleton McCoy (opening ceremony), Hope Creasy, Daniel Sonders, Diane Fenton (fundraising), and Kelly Showalter (mapping). Mr. Price said he is pleased with the support shown by area businesses, organizations, and restaurants, which includes donations of time and goods. Mr. Price thanked the Town Council and Town staff for its encouragement and support, and he thanked Town Public Works crews who have provided labor at the Harkrader Sports Complex. Mr. Price provided each Councilmember with a copy of the agenda for the event. Mr. Chuck Muncy reported on the expected participation and events planned for the visitors. A guest bag containing coupons and flyers for various local businesses will be given to each visitor. A guest survey will also be given to each visitor that will be used to gather data to be used in future event planning. Mayor Ballengee thanked all those involved with the planning and organizing of this event.
2. Presentation by Rebecca Hawke, Public Relations Officer – Audio and Visual Facilities in Council Chambers. Ms. Rebecca Hawke, Public Relations Officer, presented Council with an overview of audio/visual options to meet the Vision 2020 priority of providing microphone and video recording in the Council chambers. The option range included "Bare Bones", "Mid-Range", "Complete for Internet", "Fully Outfitted", and "Outside Resources". She provided Council with the pros and cons of each option, along with the initial and annual costs. Of the options, Ms. Hawke said she and her research staff recommend Council choose option 5, which is to pursue a contract with Montgomery County and purchase of a server/broadcast service for internet and television. This is an economical option with an initial cost of \$17,200 to \$18,400, and an annual cost of approximately \$7,200 to \$8,400. Also with this option, Ms. Hawke recommends that the Town evaluate the system after one year to determine whether to continue out-sourcing, or choose permanent installation. Council also expressed its desire to include audio provisions (microphones) in conjunction with the visual system. After further discussion, Councilman Barber made a motion to accept the recommendation of Ms. Hawke, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Carter, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier, Wade. NAYS: None.

3. Citizen's Comments.
 - a. Ms. Connie Turner of Alleghany Street, aware of the need to reduce expenditures in the budget, expressed her concern that the new sewer line project for Alleghany Street may be cut from the budget. Ms. Turner said she believes this project is critical for the infrastructure of the Town and requested that it remain in the budget. Mayor Ballengee replied that funding for the project continues to remain in the budget.
 - b. Mr. Wes Adkinson of Lucky Lane suggested several areas in which budget items could be cut in order to reduce the budget deficit including the Police Department's request for a Crime Prevention Officer, and the Department's need for additional firearms. Mr. Adkinson suggested that Police Officers patrol in one car to save money on gasoline and vehicle maintenance. Along with questioning various budget items, Mr. Adkinson suggested the Town consider contracting mowing and ground maintenance as an alternative to paying Public Works crews for this labor.
 - c. Ms. Joyce Bishop of Marquise Drive addressed Council with her support of the proposed 1% meals tax increase. Ms. Bishop commented that this is a sensible way to raise revenue since it does not place the entire tax burden on the residents of Christiansburg.
 - d. Lisa Gardner of Phlegar Street said the budget is unacceptable in its current form and asked Council to continue cutting expenditures.

DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS:

1. Proposed Fee and Tax Rate Increases for Fiscal Year 2010 – 2011. Mayor Ballengee announced that action will not be taken on the proposed fee and tax rate increases at this time, since Council has expressed the desire to schedule a work session for June 22, 2010 to further discuss the budget and options for raising revenue and trimming expenditures.
2. Jet Broadband Franchise Agreement. At the June 1, 2010 Regular Council meeting, Town Manager Terpenny provided each Council member with a copy of the proposed Jet Broadband Franchise Agreement, the Public Hearing for which is scheduled for July 6, 2010. Manager Terpenny offered to answer any questions Council may have regarding this agreement. Representatives of Jet Broadband will be present at the July 6 Public Hearing. It was noted that with this agreement a channel will be available for Town use with a fee.
3. Resolution for Employee Contributions to Virginia Retirement System. Mayor Ballengee reported that Virginia Retirement System (VRS) is giving the Town an opportunity to pay its member contributions to VRS, for employees hired on or after July 1, 2010, as an additional benefit not paid as salary in an amount equal to 5% of creditable compensation. Mayor Ballengee noted that this is a plan the Town has been participating in since joining VRS, and recent legislation requires that the Town commit annually to participate through an adopted Resolution. Councilman Barber made a motion to adopt the Resolution to VRS, seconded by Councilman Showalter. Town Clerk Stipes polled Council as follows: Barber – Aye; Carter – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier – Aye; Wade – Aye. A copy of the Resolution is attached herewith and made a part of these minutes.
4. Logging Trucks on College Street. Councilwoman Carter reported that she has received many complaints from citizens regarding logging trucks using College Street as a throughway from Route 8 into town. Ms. Carter commented that College Street is a narrow, unlined street inadequate to accommodate the size of the logging trucks. Ms. Carter suggested posting a weight limit for College Street that would prohibit logging trucks. According to Assistant Town Manager Helms, at one time there was a load limit posted for this street but, for reasons unknown, the limit was lifted. Councilman Barber suggested using the same signage enforcement placed on Miller Street, Alleghany Street, and Ellett Drive. Mayor Ballengee turned this matter over to the Street Committee for review and recommendation.
5. Stipes and Vanhoozier - Street Committee Report:
 - a. Sketch of revised lane markings on North Franklin Street at StellarOne. Councilman Stipes presented a sketch prepared by the Town's Engineering Department depicting improvements to the lane markings on North Franklin Street in front of StellarOne. As shown on the sketch, the center lane lines will shift east in order to divert traffic away from an abutment in the sidewalk. Councilman Vanhoozier asked about moving the stop bar at the intersection of southbound North Franklin Street and West Main Street closer to the stoplight. The stop bar is back away from the intersection enough that it impedes right-hand turns. Councilman Stipes replied that a sight analysis was done on the intersection and the stop bar was placed at a distance deemed proper for safety reasons. Once construction is completed in that area, a second sight analysis will be performed and necessary adjustments made. Councilwoman Carter asked about the

timeframe for the lane marking improvements. Mr. Wayne Nelson, Director of Engineering and Public Works, commented that, while he needs to coordinate other work with the contractor, he expects these improvements will be made within a few weeks.

TOWN MANAGER REPORTS:

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

July 20, 2010

1. Conditional Use Permit request, Main Street Baptist Church, industrialized building unit in the B-2 General Business District.
2. Conditional Use Permit, game room, 1225 C Roanoke Street.
3. Rezoning Request, Albert Lane and Sage Road, with Proffers.

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.

Mayor Ballengee gave each Councilmember a packet containing confidential personnel information for review and discussion at an upcoming meeting.

Councilman Showalter noted the various agreements between the Aquatic Center and the H2okies swim team such as facility and lane usage, and office space lease. Councilman Showalter requested that the Town Manager be responsible for signing all agreements for the Aquatic Center and bringing Aquatic Center matters to Council at his discretion.

Councilman Stipes requested that Council consider making traffic impact analysis part of site plan development review for new construction. Councilman Stipes said he will bring this request to Council for discussion at a future meeting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business to bring before Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Richard G. Ballengee, Mayor