

CHRISTIANSBURG TOWN COUNCIL
CHRISTIANSBURG, MONTGOMERY CO., VA.
MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2013 AT 7:30 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, VA, ON MAY 21, 2013 AT 7:30 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Richard G. Ballengee; Vice-Mayor Steve Huppert; D. Michael Barber; R. Cord Hall; Henry D. Showalter; Bradford J. Stipes; James W. Vanhoozier. ABSENT: None.

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT: Town Manager Barry Helms; Assistant Town Manager Randy Wingfield, Town Clerk Michele Stipes; Town Attorney Theresa Fontana; Assistant to the Town Manager Adam Carpenetti; Planning Director Nichole Hair; Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie; Police Chief Mark Sisson; Aquatic Center Director Terry Caldwell; Public Works Director Ricky Bourne; Assistant Public Works Superintendant James Lancianese.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC HEARING

1. A Conditional Use Permit request by David L. Reno (agent for property owner Shan Carroll) for a towing service at 820 Park Street (tax parcels 498 – ((6)) – 1-3) in the I-2 General Industrial District. Mr. David Reno was present and offered to answer questions of Council. He explained his intent to begin a towing company and to utilize the inside of the existing building for storage of repossessions up to ten vehicles.. Vehicle towing will be by appointment only during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. After hours operation would only be in the event of a vehicle wreck requiring towing. Mr. Reno clarified that service is for towing only and not repairs. Repossessions would be stored at the facility for up to forty-eight hours, and wrecked vehicles up to thirty days. Access to and from the property is adequate and green shade fencing will be used to buffer visibility of the property. The Planning Commission set forth in the recommended Conditional Use Permit that the CUP would be issued for Mr. Reno and not the property location. Council will vote on this matter at the next regular Council meeting.
2. Proposed tax increases for the FY 2013-2014 as follows: Real estate tax from \$0.1126 to \$0.13; Business Professional and Occupational License fee for retail business from \$0.15 per \$100 to \$0.175 per \$100; consumption utility tax for gas and electric consumption rate is unchanged but maximum is increased from \$2.00 to \$2.50 for both gas and electric. Mr. Larry Martin of 2850 Roanoke Street thanked Council for the opportunity to speak and explained that each of the proposed increases will directly impact him as a contractor and resident of Christiansburg. He questioned the tax increases in light of the Town's recent purchase of property for a park. Mr. Martin spoke to the lack of Town sewer utilities in his neighborhood of approximately seventy-five homes off Roanoke Street, which was annexed in 1988.
3. Proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Copies of the proposed budget were provided to Council and to the public for review. There was no one to speak for or against the proposed budget.

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER:

MAYOR BALLENGEE called the regular meeting of Council to order and asked if there were any additions or corrections to the regular meeting minutes of May 7, 2013. Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

II. CITIZEN'S HEARING:

1. PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED PUBLIC SAFETY MEMORIAL BY MR. ROBERT HALL OF THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. Mr. Robert Hall provided Council with a copy of Montgomery County's proposal to construct a permanent public safety monument to memorialize and honor local law enforcement officers, firefighters and rescue workers who've lost their lives in the line of duty. The monument would be placed on Montgomery County Courthouse property located at the corner of East Main Street and South Franklin Street, which is the future location of the Montgomery County Public Safety Building. Funds to cover the cost of constructing the monument have been raised through fundraisers. Mr. Hall asked for support from Council for this endeavor and Council offered to provide a resolution of support from Christiansburg. Each locality in Montgomery County will be asked to provide details on its fallen public safety officers.
2. MR. TERRY DULANEY TO BRIEF COUNCIL ON THE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN. Mr. Dulaney provided Council with a copy of the Emergency Operations Plan, updated every four years, and explained the minor changes included in the document. Mr. Delaney offered to answer questions of Council that may arise as they review the plan.
3. CEMETERY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT FOR INTRODUCTION TO COUNCIL. Councilman Huppert introduced to Council the appointed members of the Cemetery Advisory Committee: Pamela Hale, Ann Carter, Alice Jones, Rex Germany, Kevin Poff, Spencer Hall, and Eddie Trump. The Cemetery Advisory Committee will meet June 20, 2013 at 2:00 p.m.
4. CITIZEN COMMENTS.
 - a. No citizen comments.

III. DISCUSSIONS BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

1. TOWN COUNCIL ACTION ON:
 - a. Water, sewer and garbage fee increases for Fiscal Year 2013-2014. The Public Hearing was held May 7, 2013. Councilman Barber made a motion to approve the fee increases as proposed, seconded by Councilman Stipes. Council was polled on the motion as follows: Barber Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier - Aye.
2. PROPOSED EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN. Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve the Emergency Operations Plan as proposed, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.
3. PROPOSED JOINT MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF RADFORD. Councilman Barber made a motion to approve the Joint Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Radford as proposed, seconded by Councilman Hall. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.
4. PROPOSED DRAFT POLICY FOR EMS REVENUE RECOVERY PROGRAM FOR AMBULANCE TRANSPORT. Mayor Ballengee noted that the draft policy before Council is for clarification purposes for Christiansburg use only. Council will review the document and discuss at the next regular Council meeting.
5. PROJECT ESTIMATES FOR HAZARDOUS WASTE REMOVAL AND ADDITIONAL GRADING FOR CHRISTIANSBURG INSTITUTE. Town Manager Helms reported that the estimated cost to remove and dispose of the existing building is approximately thirty to forty thousand dollars. He is still waiting on a second estimate from a different company, which is expected tomorrow. Once both estimates are received, Town Manager Helms will meet with representatives of CI to discuss. The Town originally anticipated a cost of seven thousand dollars, which would have been for the county's tipping fee. In addition, the Town anticipates a cost of approximately twenty-five thousand dollars to grade the property for a soccer field. The Town was originally anticipating a cost of five to six thousand dollars to fully grade the property. It was the consensus of Council to fulfill its original plan to grade the property and fill in holes for recreational use at a cost of approximately five to six thousand dollars, and to discuss removal of the hazardous waste material from the building once the second estimate has been received and the Town has met with CI representatives to discuss. Town Manager Helms will report to Council any other unanticipated costs that may arise.

6. MR. STIPES AND MR. VANHOOZIER – STREET COMMITTEE REPORT/RECOMMENDATION ON:
 - a. Plat of Survey Showing the Subdivision of Oak Tree, Phases XI, XII, XIII; creating 200 lots; located at Providence Blvd, N.W. Councilman Stipes reported that the Street Committee has reviewed this request and found it to be consistent with the subdivision ordinance, with some aspects of the subdivision grandfathered before 2007. The Street Committee recommends approval, and Councilman Stipes made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Vanhoozier. Council was polled as follows: Barber Aye; Hall – Aye; Huppert – Aye; Showalter – Aye; Stipes – Aye; Vanhoozier - Aye.
 - b. Councilman Stipes reported that the Street Committee will provide a recommendation on speed limit changes on Roanoke Street at the next regular Council meeting. The Street Committee will provide data on the speed limit change on Chrisman Mill Road at a future meeting.
 - c. The Engineering Department is working to develop a concept for cost estimate for the Chrisman Mill Crossing, and will present at the next regular Council meeting, along with data from traffic and speed studies.

IV. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORTS:

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

June 4, 2013

1. Community Development Block Grant – Annual Action Plan.

On motion by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Barber, Council voted to set the Public Hearing for June 4, 2013. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

August 6, 2013

1. Christiansburg Comprehensive Plan.

On motion by Councilman Hall, seconded by Councilman Barber, Council voted to set the Public Hearing for August 6, 2013. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.

2. PROGRESS REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Council was presented with loan offers from Carter Bank and PNC Bank for refinancing of the Christiansburg Aquatic Center ten million dollar loan. Town Manager Helms and Finance Director/Treasurer Val Tweedie have been working through the VML/Vaco Finance Program and recommend Council accept the offer from PNC Bank. Councilman Vanhoozier made a motion to accept the offer from PNC Bank as recommended, seconded by Councilman Barber. Council voted on the motion as follows: AYES: Barber, Hall, Huppert, Showalter, Stipes, Vanhoozier. NAYS: None.
- The National Guard Armory wants to reestablish an Armory Control Board, which requires participation of one member of council and the town manager. The state must approve Christiansburg as a member of the board. Councilman Barber volunteered to serve in this capacity once Christiansburg is approved.
- A Proclamation recognizing Relay for Life and declaring the week of May 27 through May 31, 2013 be set aside as community-wide preparation for the event and that May 30, 2013 be designated a “Day of Hope” in finding a cure for cancer.
- Councilman Hall said he has received emails regarding drainage concerns along Ellett Road. Town Manager Helms reported that due to the topography of the area near Orchard Street, culverts tend to backup during heavy rains, which results in flooding to the individual's property and washing away gravel from his driveway. The Town cleans the culvert out approximately once per year and has offered to pave a portion of the individual's driveway to prevent wash out. The individual said the Town's offer would not resolve the issue and instead wants the Town to construct a retaining wall and ditch. This has been an ongoing matter; the Town will

continue to clean the culvert as necessary.

- This week is recognized as National Public Works Week; Mayor Ballengee commended Public Works Director Ricky Bourne and Assistant Public Works Superintendent James Lancianese for their diligence in managing the Public Works Department.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Michele M. Stipes, Clerk of Council

Richard G. Ballengee, Mayor