

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
March 4, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

On March 4, 2025, the regular meeting of the Haysi Town Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Haysi Town Hall Municipal Building located at 322 Main Street, Haysi, Virginia.

The following members were present:

PRESENT: Mayor Larry D. Yates
Vice Mayor Michael Harris

Council Members:
Carter Branham
William "Billy" Counts
Susan Tiller
Tim Wallace

ABSENT: Debbie Wood

ITEMS # I, II, & III

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry D. Yates at 7:00 p.m., and the Invocation was held by Attorney Josh Evans and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates requested that Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A3 for the Acquisition/Discussion of Real Property be added to the agenda after Unfinished Business.

COUNCIL MEMBER DEBBIE WOOD ENTERED THE MEETING.

Motion was made by Council Member Carter Branham seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the agenda with the requested amendment. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM #V – PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Prior to the meeting council had received for consideration of approval a copy of the following prepared minutes:

- February 4, 2025

Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting on February 4, 2025 as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VII – FINANCIAL REPORT

At this time the council was presented for approval the following:

- February 1, 2025 through February 28, 2025 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- January 30, 2025 through February 26, 2025 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 17556-17568 & deposits
- January 31, 2025 through February 28, 2025 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the financial report. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

Donation Request from the Dickenson County Fair Association

This item was tabled to next month's regular meeting because no one was available to present the request.

Donation Request from Kids Fishing Day

Mayor Yates welcomed Ainsley Deel, who introduced herself as a first grade teacher from Ridgeview Elementary School to present the donation request. Mrs. Deel said they had eight-thousand-seven-hundred dollars in donations last year and that went toward six-thousand-one dollar in expenses for food, prizes, bait, and the cost of the fish. She said they gave away two-hundred fifteen fishing poles and two lifetime fishing licenses as prizes. Mrs. Deel said this year's sponsors are the Haysi Kiwanis and the Corp of Engineers. She said they were requesting a five-hundred dollar donation from the town as they were not sure about other donations due to the recent flooding, but were appreciative of anything the town could give. A general discussion was held about the history and past Kids Fishing Day event. Motion was made by Council Member Carter Branham seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to approve the \$500 donation request to Kids Fishing Day. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # IX – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Department Monthly Report - Chief James Stanley (See Attachment)

Intern Elijah Stallard reported thirteen calls for the month of February and advised hours worked and miles driven for Chief James Stanley. Mayor Yates asked if the hit and run had been solved. Chief Stanley answered that it had not, he was still looking for the vehicle. Mayor Yates expressed his gratitude for Chief Stanley's hard work during the flood and supply distribution.

Electric Bill from Haysi Rescue Squad

Captain Terry Bartley advised that he had started a grant application for a new truck and if they got a gasoline engine, the county already approved to pay the difference. Captain Bartley said that a recent ambulance repair for two hours of labor was almost five-thousand dollars and it was determined that it needed seven-thousand dollars more in work done. Captain Bartley said the electric bill was a little less than last month. He stated that they had one-hundred calls in January and February, but cash flow had slowed down because they switched billing companies. Captain Bartley explained that he had let two or three employees "go" and one EMT will work on Friday to help him get time off. Mayor Yates asked about their meetings. Captain Bartley answered that they held one this past Sunday and although they don't have a set date he can notify the Mayor for the next meeting, which usually takes place on Sunday evening. Council Member Debbie Wood asked if the Haysi Rescue Squad was partially able to fund the electric bill. Captain Bartley answered that it would not put them "in a bind." Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve a \$500 donation toward the Haysi Rescue Squad's electric bill. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # X – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts and seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A3. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Upon motion made by Council Member Billy Counts and seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood the Council was now convened in Open Session. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter, 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 public body.

Mayor Yates asked for a roll call vote to certify the statement:

Wm. "Billy" Brice Counts	Yes	Michael Harris	Yes
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Susan Tiller	Yes	Carter Branham	Yes
Debbie Wood	Yes	Tim Wallace	Yes

The Mayor said that Executive Session would be added the agendas moving forward.

ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- February 5, was the Haysi's Russell Fork Trail Center Interim Compliance Review.
- February 11, was the Haysi's Russell Fork Trail Center Management Team Meeting.
- February 10, the Mayor along with County Administrator Larry Barton, Sandlick District Supervisor Richard Thacker, and Willis District Supervisor Chris Hall looked for future potential housing sites. The town will work with the county on potential housing projects.
- February 19, Clerk Amanda Perrigan had Records Management Training.
- February 24, the Dickenson County Vetting Committee met and will meet again next Tuesday about the old Haysi High School property.

Council Member Debbie Wood asked about flood damage to Haysi's Russell Fork Trail Center. Mayor Yates answered that neither it nor the town hall were damaged, but the water did get up into Haysi's Riverfront Park. Mayor Yates advised that the playground will need new mulch.

Council Member Susan Tiller asked why the Dickenson County Fair Committee was asking for another donation. Clerk Amanda Perrigan explained that it was for the 2025 Dickenson County Fair, so if the council approved a request it could be included in the 2025-2026 Budget and paid after July 1, 2025. Mayor Yates commented that the town didn't want to lose the fair. Council Member Billy Counts commented that he hoped the Russell Fork Rendezvous would return.

Council Member Susan Tiller asked about the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Yates said there was damage to their main engine. Mayor Yates advised that he was working on meeting with Captain Phillip Cook because the fire department had expressed interest in separating from the town and operating under their own federal identification number. Council Member Tim Wallace asked for the reason. Mayor Yates answered he thought it was in regard to town oversight. A general discussion was held about the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department and they will be added back to the April agenda.

ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Member Billy Counts said that he had met with the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy on February 26, 2025. Council Member Counts advised that they had located eighteen potential sites consisting of thirteen portals and five gob piles

and they would work to map them out. Council Member Counts said they told him to work with Matthew Powers to develop a trail.

Mayor Yates stated that the council chambers had been full of flood relief items and that Clerk Amanda Perrigan and her husband worked hard along with the Health Wagon giving tetanus shots to help the community after the flood.

ITEM # XIII – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to adjourn the meeting. Let the record show the motion was passed unanimously by verbal voting and the meeting was adjourned.

Larry D. Yates, Mayor

Attest:

Clerk