

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
June 3, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

On June 3, 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
Debbie Wood
Tim Wallace
William "Billy" Counts
Susan Tiller

ABSENT: None

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 removed from the agenda. Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to approve the agenda as amended. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM #V – PUBLIC COMMENT

Donald Owens of 948 Victorian Drive, Clinchco, Virginia was given permission by Mayor Yates to speak for an extended period of five minutes before the council. Mr. Owens remarked that the Army Corp of Engineers was destroying the town. Mr. Owens brought to the council's attention that there was no where to stay within the town, and that Spearhead Trails riders wanted more places to lodge near the trailhead in Haysi. Mr. Owens stated he is acquiring tiny homes to rent out nightly. Mr. Owens said he had met with the owners of Spearhead Trails and that they approve of his tiny home solution. Mr. Owens commented that this would bring revenue back into the town, and that the tiny homes could generate eight-hundred dollars a weekend when constructed. Mr. Owens commented that he had a business partner by the name of Jacob Woodhurst, who is currently serving in the military, to help with the funding of this project. Mr. Owens commented that the property he has acquired is not within town limits, but has eleven acres, so far, and is close to the town. Mayor Yates commented that the town needs people to step up, and that he was

excited to work with Mr. Owens and Mr. Woodhurst. Mayor Yates asked that Mr. Owens email a business plan to him. Mr. Owens said that he had the amenities for the tiny homes, and would be putting up five when VDOT was able to open the road. Mr. Owens commented that the name of the business would be Humble Beginnings. Council Member Debbie Wood asked Mr. Owens to keep the town informed. Mr. Owens thanked the council for their time and support.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- May 6, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Michael Harris seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting on May 6, 2025 as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VII – FINANCIAL REPORT

Due to the absence of Clerk Amanda Perrigan there was no financial report given at this meeting. Mayor Larry D. Yates commented that the budget for the next fiscal year was almost finished. Mayor Yates also commented that the insurance rates were down ten to twelve percent. Mayor Yates commented that he would call a special meeting with a brief public hearing.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

Donation Request from E&S Grocery and the Edwards Family

Mayor Yates stated that he would like to get the town involved with the event taking place June 28, 2025. There will be fireworks, food, bounce houses, and more to celebrate Independence Day. Mayor Yates commented that he would like to see some social media and paper advertisements. Mayor Yates asked the council members for a donation of two-hundred-fifty dollars. Mayor Yates remarked that this would help service the kids at the event, and pay on the firework display that night. Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Carter Branham, to donate two-hundred-fifty dollars to the event. Let the record show the motion was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # IX – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

Police Chief James Stanley reported five calls for the month of May and six traffic stops to issue verbal warnings. Chief Stanley advised he had worked seventy-six hours and driven four-hundred-forty-two miles. Chief Stanley advised that Officer Jerry Fuller had worked thirty-two hours and driven two-hundred-sixty-five miles. Chief Stanley spoke about an issue in town involving a pig frequently getting loose and rummaging through trash. Chief Stanley stated that the problem needs to be resolved. Mayor Larry Yates

commented that the Police Department and Chief Stanley need to give a hard date for the owners to have the problem solved. Attorney Josh Evans commented that there is a livestock ordinance for the town. A general discussion was held about the issue. Mayor Yates thanked the Police Department and Chief Stanley for their hard work.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department

None.

Haysi Rescue Squad

Captain Terry Bartley reported that there had been changes to the Rescue Squad Building this month. Captain Bartley reported the boxes inside the building had been moved. Captain Bartley reported that the financial situation for the Rescue Squad was great. Captain Bartley commented that the new members were doing great and that Brent Wallace had been wonderful. Chief Bartley commented that the plans for the current Haysi Rescue Squad building were to use the building for a storage space. Chief Bartley reported 2 DOAs for the month, stating they used Narcan for one case. A general discussion was held. Captain Bartley remarked he felt like the Rescue Squad was doing well enough that he could retire in a few years. Mayor Yates commended the Haysi Rescue Squad and Captain Bartley on all that they do for the community and that people owe them their lives.

ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates met with the Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Yates met with the contractors for the new Russell Fork Trail Center. Mayor Yates commented that they have deadlines in place to get the building operational. Mayor Yates also stated that people can access the second level of the building now and get a great view of main street.

ITEM # XI - COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

ITEM # XII - ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood 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