

Town of Haysi

Minutes of Special Called Town Council Meeting to address matters concerning the continued service of Mayor Larry Yates and the effect of the circumstances presently confronting the Town upon the operation and administration of Town government.

September 22, 2026 @ 7:15 p.m.

On September 22, 2026, an emergency meeting of the Haysi Town Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Haysi Town Hall Municipal Building located at 162 Backbone Ridge, Haysi, Virginia.

The following members were present:

PRESENT: Vice Mayor Debbie Wood

Council Members:

Michael Harris

Susan Tiller

Tim Wallace

Carter Branham

ABSENT: Mayor Larry D. Yates

ITEMS # I

The meeting was called to order by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood at 7:15 p.m.

ITEM # II – EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood and seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to adjourn into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711A1 for Personnel. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Upon motion made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood the Council was now reconvened in Open Session. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood and seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller that 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.

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

Michael Harris Yes

Susan Tiller Yes

Carter Branham Yes

Tim Wallace Yes

Debbie Wood Yes

Matters Discussed in Closed Session

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood and seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace to grant permission for the Town Attorney to contact Mayor Larry D. Yates legal counsel to request his voluntary resignation. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood and seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace as an alternative, if no resignation is given by Mayor Larry D. Yates, the Town Attorney and Vice Mayor will approach Mayor Yates' attorney to discuss his removal per Section 8 of the Haysi Town Charter, which states that he can be expelled by the Haysi Town Council for good cause and the Haysi Town Council is in agreement that the legal charges against him constitute good cause. Additionally, if Mayor Yates declines to resign, the town's legal counsel is authorized to prepare the documents to proceed with Section 8 expulsion. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Motion was made by Council Member Carter Branham seconded by Vice Mayor Debbie Wood to add Council Member Tim Wallace to the signature cards on the town's General Fund account in order to have sufficient signatures for check authorizations. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller seconded by Council Member Carter Branham to allow the Town Clerk to request Hillcom to reset the access for the mayor's email since town business comes to that account. Vice Mayor Wood is subsequently authorized to access the email in order to review town correspondence. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # III – ADJOURNMENT

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

Debbie Wood, Vice Mayor

Attest:

Clerk