

Town of Haysi  
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting  
May 6, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

On May 6, 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**

None.

**ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- April 1, 2025 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Tim Wallace seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to approve the minutes of the regular town council meeting on April 1, 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 everything was being taken care of financially.

#### **ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS**

##### Donation Request from the Haysi Community Library

Sarah Rose with the Haysi Community Library presented flyers about the Summer Reading Program at the library. Mrs. Rose said they were requesting a donation. Mayor Yates commented on how well the library programs do throughout the year. Mrs. Rose commented about how well Summer Reading went over last year, and that they were expecting a higher turn-out this year with about eighty to one-hundred children attending the program. Mrs. Rose commented that the theme for the program would be Color Our World, with arts and crafts being the center of the activities. Mrs. Rose also commented that the donation would go towards prizes, so that every child was given something for their participation. A general discussion was held about the library program. Mayor Yates thanked the Haysi Community Library for all their hard work. Motion was made by Council Member Carter Branham seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the two-hundred-fifty-dollar donation request from the Haysi Community Library. Let the record show that the motion on the floor was passed by verbal voting with Council Members Debbie Wood, Carter Branham, Billy Counts, and Vice Mayor Michael Harris voting aye and Council Member Susan Tiller abstained.

#### **ITEM # IX – UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

##### Line of Credit Renewal

Mayor Larry D. Yates discussed renewing the line of credit with New People's Bank. Mayor Yates commented that New Peoples Bank has agreed to renew the credit at 4.6% initially. Mayor Yates added that this line of credit is mostly used for contracting purposes. Mayor Yates commented that the account was comprised mostly of CDs, and was used as more of a rainy-day fund. Motion was made by Council Member Carter Branham seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to renew the credit line and authorize Mayor Larry D. Yates to execute the necessary documents. Let the record show the motion was passed by unanimous verbal voting.

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

Police Chief James Stanley reported eleven calls for the month of April and three traffic stops to issue verbal warnings. Chief Stanley advised he had worked one-hundred-fourteen hours, and driven one-thousand-fifty-five miles. Chief Stanley spoke about assisting Haysi

Rescue Squad with a call. Mayor Larry Yates commented that the Police Department and Chief Stanley do well for our town.

#### Haysi Volunteer Fire Department

Mayor Yates spoke with the fire department about seeking to do a county audit instead of a town audit. Mayor Yates commented that he was unimpressed with the department's record keeping. Mayor Yates also commented that this would be easier on the town for future audits. A general discussion was held about the fire department.

#### Haysi Rescue Squad

Captain Terry Bartley reported two-hundred-twenty-one calls for the year so far. Captain Bartley reported there were three uses of Narcan in the last month. Council Member Carter Branham commended the rescue squad on cleaning up the department building. Captain Bartley asked the town for help with moving the side-by-side to the rescue squad building. Mayor Yates commented that the side-by-side belonged to the county, and that the rescue squad was welcome to borrow the town's ATV if needed. A general discussion was held about the use of an ATV. Captain Bartley reported five new members on the squad, with one in the process of completing an EMT course, and another interested in doing so. A general discussion was held about new squad members. Captain Bartley commended the county for help with fixing a lost wheel bearing. Mayor Yates commended the Haysi Rescue Squad on their progress thus far.

#### **ITEM # X - MAYOR COMMENTS**

Mayor Yates mentioned the previous Haysi High School site being an engineering opportunity. Mayor Yates commented that he had spoken to Matthew Owens with Black Diamond Gym, who was looking for spot for a future gym. Mayor Yates commented that Mr. Owens was also looking to potentially open up multiple businesses on the property, including a potential restaurant. Mayor Yates commented that he was happy to see new dining options in the town, with the progress being made on the Vier's restaurant. A general discussion was held about the new dining options in town. Mayor Yates commented that the original plans for the high school project had been scrapped.

Mayor Yates brought to the council's attention the annual E&S Grocery and Edwards' family firework event. Mayor Yates commented that the hosts were looking to partner with volunteers and financial supporters for this year's event. Mayor Yates commented that the event would take place on June 28, 2025. Mayor Yates mentioned Haysi Supply would be donating to the event, and that there would likely be a donation from the county. A general discussion was held about what the event would have to offer. A motion was made by Vice Mayor Michael Harris seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to allow the town to be involved in the event. Let the record show the motion passed unanimously by verbal voting.

Council Member Debbie Wood asked about the new town hall progression. Mayor Yates reported that it was going well, and excess stones were being hauled away, saving locals

money from having to do it themselves. Mayor Yates also commented that the foundation was looking well. Council Member Billy Counts asked about the new waterline for the structure. Mayor Yates reported that it had been paid for by the Corp of Engineers.

Mayor Yates commented that the townwide clean-up had less participation this year. Council Member Susan Tiller commented that the rainy weather could have been the cause.

Mayor Yates commented that the community leaders were still meeting monthly.

**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 Tim Wallace to adjourn the meeting. Let the record show the motion was passed unanimously by verbal voting and the meeting was adjourned.

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Larry D. Yates, Mayor

Attest:

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Clerk