

Town of Haysi
Minutes of Regular Town Council Meeting
August 1, 2023 @ 7:00 p.m.

On August 1, 2023, 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:

William "Billy" Counts
Susan Tiller
Debbie Wood

ABSENT: Tim Wallace
Carter Branham

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. Mayor Yates welcomed Debbie Wood to her first meeting as a member of the Haysi Town Council filling the seat held by husband former Vice Mayor Rocky Wood.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked for any changes, additions, or corrections to the agenda. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Vice Mayor Michael Harris to approve the agenda as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM #V - PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Yates asked Town Clerk Amanda Perrigan to read the following Public Comment Policy out loud:

A Public Comment Period will be held during the regular Town Council monthly meetings, during Special Called meetings, and Public Hearings. The Public Comment period will be on the agenda for the meeting. The Town Council asks that speakers only comment on the items listed on the Agenda for the Town Council meeting or Special Called meeting and only comment on the specific reason for the Public Hearing. All

comments made during the Public Comment period shall be subject to the following procedures:

- 1.) Anyone who wishes to make a statement during the Public Comment period will register on a sign-up sheet available 30 minutes before the start of the meeting.
- 2.) Persons who have signed the register to speak shall be taken in the order in which they are listed.
- 3.) Persons addressing the Town Council are asked to limit their comments to 3 minutes.
- 4.) Speakers will be acknowledged by Mayor Larry Yates in the order in which their names appear on the sign-up sheet. Speakers shall stand at their seat to address the Council and not approach the Mayor or Town Council members. Speakers will start their comment by stating their name and address.
- 5.) Speakers will direct comments at the Town Council as a whole and not to individuals. Public Comment is not intended to require the Town Council to provide any answer to the speaker right away. Discussions between speakers and members of the audience will not be allowed.
- 6.) Speakers will be courteous in their language, tone, and presentation.
- 7.) Only one speaker will be acknowledged at a time. If a large number of people are present to register concerns about the same subject, it is suggested that they might be acknowledged as a unified group and a designated speaker will cover the various points.
- 8.) In the event that there are more people who wish to speak than can be accommodated in the 30 minutes set aside for public comment, the Town Council may extend the period, delay it until the rest of the agenda has been completed, or continue it to the next regular council meeting.

The first person signed up for Public Comment was Donna Fields of 377 Greenbrier, Haysi Virginia. Ms. Fields stated that the Dickenson County Fair Committee had made a donation request last month and they had returned to see what further decision had been made regarding an additional donation amount. Mayor Yates advised that he was not in attendance last meeting. Clerk Amanda Perrigan explained that their donation request was for one thousand five hundred dollars, last year's donation amount was seven hundred fifty dollars, the 2023-2024 budget amount for the Dickenson County Fair was five hundred dollars, so the Haysi Town Council approved a five-hundred-dollar donation last month and were waiting for the Mayor's return to discuss the matter further. Mayor Yates asked about the amount in the donation line item. Clerk Perrigan answered that it was reset July 1, 2023 to two thousand five hundred dollars for the year. Mayor Yates advised that money could be donated from that line item, if the Haysi Town Council wanted to use it. Council Member Debbie Wood commented on the growth of the fair and the number of visitors it brought through Haysi. Motion was made by Council Member Debbie Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to donate two hundred fifty dollars from the donation line

item to the Dickenson County Fair Committee for the 2023 Dickenson County Fair. Let the record show the motion on the floor passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- July 11, 2023 Continuation of the June Monthly Council Meeting
- July 11, 2023 Monthly Council Meeting

Motion was made by Council Member Susan Tiller and seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the minutes of both meetings on July 11, 2023 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:

- July 1, 2023 through July 31, 2023 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- July 1, 2023 through July 27, 2023 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 16824-16836 & deposits
- July 1, 2023 through July 27, 2023 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

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

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

2021-2022 Audit Report from Rodefer, Moss & Co. PLLC

Mayor Yates welcomed Tamara Greear with Rodefer, Moss, & Co to present the town's audit report. Copies of the Audit Report were given to the Haysi Town Council before the meeting began. Mrs. Greear started explaining the audit report beginning with the "Independent Auditor's Report", the town received an unmodified, clean opinion. Mrs. Greear gave a summary of page five "Statement of Net Position" and pointed out that the town's assets, ARPA funds and no debt because it had been paid off. Mrs. Greear reviewed page six "Statement of Activities," which she advised was a good tool for budgeting. Mrs. Greear reviewed page seven "Balance Sheet" and page nine "Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances." Mrs. Greear advised that although the town didn't have any leases, the standards and accounting that began this year would be required for any new town leases moving forward. Mayor Yates asked about the office telephones. Clerk Perrigan advised that she had already had that contract reviewed and it didn't qualify.

Mrs. Greear and Mayor Yates discussed the Stone Mountain Clinic and the need to have it removed from the town asset list as the time has expired for the twenty-year period lease. A general discussion was held about the Town's Grant for the Stone Mountain Clinic. Mayor Yates thanked Mrs. Greear's for her work with the town. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Susan Tiller to approve the 2021-2022 Audit Report. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

Remote Meeting Attendance

Mayor Yates asked if the remote meeting attendance policy was something that the council wanted to pursue. Council Member Billy Counts commented that it was needed. Attorney Josh Evans pointed out that the Haysi Town Council would still be required to have a physical quorum in attendance and the member requesting attend remotely would need prior permission from the Mayor or Vice Mayor, but he tried to make the policy simple. Council Member Debbie Wood stated that the meetings she missed could have been attended remotely. Attorney Evans pointed out that the policy must be in place before that can be done. Council Member Susan Tiller asked about increasing the number of meetings. Attorney Evans answered that two was the maximum allowed by Virginia code. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Michael Harris seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to approve the Electronic Meetings Policy as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Department Monthly Report (See Attachment)

Chief Bobby Edwards reported twenty-eight calls for the month of July. Chief Edwards read his report including hours worked and number of miles driven. Chief Edwards gave a brief overview of a few of the calls on the monthly report including a theft at the Dollar General, lookout for an ATV on Owens Branch, and burglary on Road Branch. Council Member Susan Tiller raised concerns over ATVs on the road near her home at unlawful hours. A general discussion was held about the laws governing ATVs in town limits. Chief Edwards will investigate the issue and address the matter.

Fire Department Monthly Report

Police Chief Bobby Edwards had the Fire Department report information for the meeting as follows: eight calls including one public assists, one motor vehicle accident, one road hazard, one wires down, and one landing zone. Police Chief Edwards said that the Haysi Volunteer Fire Department would like to request that the town declare the red ATV and enclosed trailer surplus property for sale with a reserved bid amount. Their new ATV won't fit in the trailer and they would like to sell it in order to fund the purchase of a new one to accommodate the new ATV. The plan is to advertise locally with the reserved bid, but if

the reserved amount is not met the advertisement would be made on Gov Deals. Police Chief Edwards estimated the cost to advertise on Gov Deals at around five hundred dollars. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to declare the red ATC and enclosed trailer surplus property for sale. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates explained that the old theater building; insured for one million dollars, had suffered a loss of ninety-seven thousand two hundred forty-eight dollars and twenty-five cents. The damaged section of the building would be demolished then a wall constructed. At the same time, the Corp of Engineers is looking to buy the building. The Mayor stated that he guidance from the Haysi Town Council has been to continue the project, so he wanted to know at this juncture should the town consider selling to the Corp of Engineers or continue with the project. Some things considered in discussion were the tight grant deadline, the unknown amount of the offer from the Corp of Engineers, the probability of another empty property, who the land owner would be, and other general considerations. Mayor Yates advised that Corp of Engineers were at the point of title search for the property. The guidance from the Haysi Town Council was to move forward with the grant project on the old theater building. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member Debbie Wood to approve the insurance settlement as presented. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting

ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Michael Harris asked for an update on Haysi’s Riverfront Trail. Mayor Yates answered that the town is closing on the old contract and signing a new contract with Inland Construction for the project area across from the Haysi Town Hall. The contractor has been working to gather supplies. The Mayor also mentioned that he and Clerk Amanda Perrigan attended the Nature Conservancy Grant Reception for Haysi’s Bike Repair & Charging Station and Native Pollinator Planting Grant Award last night in St. Paul.

ITEM # XIII – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Vice Mayor Michael Harris 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