

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

On February 7, 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 Rocky Wood

Council Members:
Michael Harris
William "Billy" Counts
Tim Wallace

ABSENT: Carter Branham
Susan Tiller

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 Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ITEM # IV - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

At this time Mayor Yates asked for changes to the agenda as presented. Motion was made by Council Member Billy Counts seconded by Council Member 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

None.

ITEM # VI – APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- January 3, 2023 Public Hearing
- January 3, 2023 Regular Town Council Meeting

Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood and seconded by Council Member Tim Wallace to approve the minutes of the public hearing and the meeting on January 3, 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:

- January 1, 2023 through January 31, 2023 Financial Report listing: beginning balance, revenue, expenditures and ending balance.
- December 29, 2022 through January 31, 2023 itemized listing of expenditures including checks # 16614-16659 & deposits
- December 29, 2022 through January 31, 2023 Profit & Loss Report
- Current payables to date for review

Mayor Yates asked about the invoice from Boyd’s Construction. Clerk Amanda Perrigan answered that it was for the Kiwanis Grant and the funds to cover the invoice had already been received from the Cumberland Plateau. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to approve the financial report. Let the record show the motion on the floor was passed unanimously by verbal voting.

ITEM # VIII - NEW BUSINESS

Presentation from SWVA Works – Stephanie Edwards

Mayor Yates welcomed Stephanie Edwards to introduce herself and give her presentation. Ms. Edwards handed out flyers detailing the information she covered. Ms. Edwards advised that the youth and adult programs offered were individualized and different for each participant. Ms. Edwards explained that the program covered various items such as training through the local community colleges, CDLs, nursing school, paid tuition, mileage, child care expenses, necessary car repairs, uniforms and more. Ms. Edwards said that there were certain steps that had to be followed and performance-based reporting done. The youth program is for ages eighteen through twenty-four that have a barrier listed on the handout, but the adult program didn’t have any eligibility criteria. Ms. Edwards also advised that as part of the youth program; they are expected to learn accountability, responsibility and community involvement. Ms. Edwards informed everyone that the participants had been involved in the Haysi Town Wide Clean Up and parades, which teaches social skills and networking. The program pays a stipend of twelve dollars an hour for five hundred hours of work experience to learn soft skills. There are also internship opportunities and other offerings available. Mayor Yates suggested that Ms. Edwards connect with the Dickenson County Industrial Development Authority and Dickenson County Chamber of Commerce. A general discussion was held about the new Addiction Recovery Care Facility to be constructed at Red Onion.

2023 Town Event Schedule

Mayor Yates welcomed Kristine Rose to present the schedule. Ms. Rose read over the schedule of events and noted a lot of motocross events were planned to take place next year at the Thunder Mountain Motocross Track at the Haysi Kiwanis Park. There will also be monthly Cruise-Ins from April through September on Thursdays in the county, with the first Thursday assigned to Haysi. The three staple events; Haysi Trails Day, Haysi's Russell Fork Autumn Fest, and the Annual Haysi Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting were also included on the schedule. Mayor Yates advised that a large donation was given to provide funding for a new stage. The stage should be available for use at the Haysi Trails Day event in June. Mayor Yates commented about the useful impact reports provided by the Virginia Tourism Corporation and encouraged the information to be shared among the Haysi Community Leaders.

Haysi Police Department Personnel

Mayor Yates advised that the town had advertised for a Chief of Police with the Bristol Herald Courier, Richlands News & Press, Virginia Mountaineer, and Dickenson Star. Clerk Amanda Perrigan added that SWVA Works had also shared the advertisement. Mayor Yates informed everyone that the application deadline was set for end the of the month. Ms. Stephanie Edwards said that covering police academy tuition was a possibility for the programs they offer.

ITEM # IX – OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM # X – UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Inoperable Vehicle Ordinance

Mayor Yates stated that a public hearing was held last month with any comments and opened the floor for discussion. Vice Mayor Rocky Wood requested a summary of the changes and Attorney Susan Wood provided that along with a short description of the steps in the process now. Mayor Yates advised that this is an amendment to the original ordinance, which Attorney Wood said dated back to 1989. Vice Mayor Wood asked about the cost of the towing. Attorney Wood said the town would be responsible for the cost up front, but the ordinance allowed for the citizen to pay the town back for those charges. Motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky Wood seconded by Council Member Billy Counts to pass the Inoperable Vehicle Ordinance as presented. Mayor Yates asked for a roll call vote:

Vice Mayor Rocky Wood	Yes	Wm. "Billy" Brice Counts	Yes
Michael Harris	Yes	Tim Wallace	No

Let the record show the motion on the floor passed.

Police Department Monthly Report (See Attachment)

Interim Chief J.R. Stanley read the monthly report provided to the Haysi Town Council. Chief Stanley advised that he could only work twenty-nine hours a week. Mayor Yates said that the town would look to hire part time officers if they were willing to fill in other hours needed. Mayor Yates said that he got the opportunity to discuss the need for additional 599 Funds with government elected officials recently. Chief J.R. Stanley said it was reported at the Police Chiefs Conference that Haysi has the lowest amount of 599 Funds received in the state.

Haysi Volunteer Fire Department Monthly Report

Chief Rocky Wood reported eighteen calls for the beginning of the 2023 year including one vehicle fire, eight car wrecks, three brush fires, one house fire, two ATV calls, one fire alarm, and two landing zones. Chief Wood advised that the engine was “locked up” on the ATV, so he asked to use the town’s ATV for responding to calls. Interim Police Chief J.R. Stanley answered that the ATV Chief Wood was referring to utilizing belongs to Emergency Management and will be stored at Richard Thacker’s residence. Mayor Yates commented that it was broke down due to an accident recently. Mayor Yates said the town would help the fire department. Chief Wood stated that he would contact Mr. Thacker. Mayor Yates asked if the fire department’s ATV was repairable. Chief Wood replied that it was not.

ITEM # XI - MAYOR COMMENTS

Mayor Yates reported the following:

- Mayor Yates reported that he is continuing to work on the Haysi’s Riverwalk Trail project. He met today with the contractor, surveyor, and AEP representative. The stairs have been torn out and the lumber reclaimed.
- Mayor Yates stated that he met with the insurance adjustor and Hill Studio on the situation with the roof collapse at the old theater building. The plan is to move forward on the roof repair since the fallen debris has been removed.
- Mayor Yates also reported that he had attended the pre-solicitation meeting held by the Corp of Engineers at the Haysi Town Hall on January 6. The Corp was expected to open bids today and award the contract on March 1, after which the contractor will have forty-five days to begin construction on the new municipal building. The property for the new municipal building has been purchased.
- Mayor Yates said he spoke with Congressman Morgan Griffith about the police department funding and associated staffing difficulties for officers. Congressman Griffith has planned to schedule a follow up visit to that conversation.
- Mayor Yates advised that he made a trip to Richmond last week and met with legislators, funders, and other organizations on behalf of the town.

ITEM # XII - COUNCIL COMMENTS

None.

ITEM # XIII – ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to be brought before the Council, a motion was made by Vice Mayor Rocky 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