

**Council Minutes**  
**Workshop Meeting**  
**July 27, 2015 – 8:30 p.m. – 502 Front Street E, Coeburn, VA**

**Attendees:** Upon a roll call vote council members Veronica Buchanan, Deventae Mooney, Jeff Kiser, Jess Powers, and Sharon Still were present. Scott Brooks – Chief of Police, Christy McCoy – Clerk/Treasurer, and William Sturgill – Town Attorney were also present.

**Call to Order:** Mayor Jeff Kiser called the meeting to order.

Councilman Deventae Mooney gave the invocation. The group remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Expression:**

Charles Kiser, 501 King Ave. SE asked Council to repeat the code sections that were referred to during the special called meeting in regards to salary increases and special called meetings.

There being no further public comment, public expression was closed.

**Approval of Agenda:**

The town manager asked that items a., b, and c. under new business be moved to the town manager report. He also requested item a. under old business be moved to the report section b. Jeff Kiser made a motion to remove items a., b., and c. from new business and to remove item b. from old business and add them to the town manager's report. Veronica Buchanan seconded the motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Jess Powers pointed out that the agenda states that the meeting is a regular called meeting. He made a motion to change the agenda heading to reflect that it was a workshop meeting. Sharon Still seconded the motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Jeff called for a vote for the agenda items as amended which resulted in all Ayes.

**Reports:**

Town Manager

Town Manager Mullins reported that he was busy dealing with unexpected flooding due to heavy rains. He thanked the police department and fire department for the help with the flash flooding. There was roof damage to the Library, M.E.O.C building, and the

police department spending so much time on the four lane. She stated that with all the speeding on Meadow Street resources could be used there. The Chief reported that there was no place for police to hide to radar. He realizes that there is a problem on Meadow Street and they are writing tickets to try to reduce speeding. The department is required to radar and report so many hours of patrolling for speed.

#### Volunteer Fire Department

There was no report was given by the fire department. Deventae Mooney asked for a report showing how many times someone from the fire department attended a meeting.

#### Attorney Report

The attorney reported that he will give an update at appropriate times. He reported that in regards to the speeding issue, there was no doubt that the Coeburn Police Department takes speeding seriously. He reported that on court days there were many cases for speeding offenses.

#### Farmers Market

Ms. Shirley Cassidy reported that there was a very good turnout this year. She reported 6 vendors at the last farmers market. She asked if the town could do something about the pigeons. Public works will be trying to put some netting up to try to keep the pigeons away.

#### **New Business**

- d. Christmas Ornament Contest – The town manager sent the email back confirming that the Town of Coeburn would be participating in the contest. Ms. Buchanan clarified that the contest was for adults. Andrea Hicks took it upon herself if she could head up the project. Mr. Mullins provided Ms. Hicks with the information necessary for the project. There are requirements that have to be met in order to enter an ornament. Ms. Still informed Council that Ms. Hicks was supposed to make a flyer. Council would like to have an update on the contest.

#### **Old Business**

- a. Public Works Study – Jess Powers asked the status of the public works study that Council approved. The town manager contacted Art Mead with the Weldon Cooper Center and he informed him that the study was not started yet. Council asked Mr. Mullins to contact Mr. Mead and request that he attend a future meeting.

regarding fine workers. He asked that all safety workers wear vests when working. Ms. Still asked that there be extra vests on hand in case someone forgets one. The mayor asked if there were limitations on what fine workers can or can't do. Mr. Jordan said they pick up trash, weed eat and mow. He confirmed that he was aware of the limitations or restrictions that the fine workers prior to working for the town. Mr. Jordan confirmed that he was aware if the worker's had any physical limitations. Jess Powers asked if he was aware that the VA court system has changed the liability coverage of the workers. Mr. Powers stated that Russell County had to withdraw the fine workers due to new liability restrictions. Previously the state covered liability for workers and now the county or municipality is responsible. He stated that it was a Virginia Court ruling. Mr. Powers will provide the attorney with the ruling. The attorney will evaluate the ruling and report back to Council.

### The Lane Group

No representative for the Lane Group was present.

### Treasurer

Clerk/Treasurer, Christy McCoy presented Council with minutes from July 13, 2015. She presented the accounts payable due in the amount of \$85,755.07. Ms. McCoy reported that after the outstanding checks and the accounts payable were taken into consideration, there was a negative cash balance in the amount of \$(36,956.07). There was also a payroll due on July 30, 2015 in the amount of approximately \$32,000. She reported that CNW is behind and currently owed one month. She reported that all employee related expenses were paid prior to vendors. She reported the coal severance tax received for the prior quarters. Deventae Mooney asked about the mileage expenses that are reported on the accounts payable report. The town manager reported that anytime anyone uses their personal vehicle for town business they are reimbursed mileage. Ms. McCoy stated that all mileage reimbursements should have attached documentation. She stated that she did not see documentation for public works mileage reports. All that has been reported in the past was the date and number of miles. Mayor Kiser said there was no problem with paying mileage as long as the proper documentation was provided. Ms. McCoy will email CNW and let them know that the town will be late on the payment. She explained that the vendors that provide chemicals and operating supplies were behind and needed to be paid in order to keep supplies on hand.

### Police Report

Police Chief, Scott Brooks reviewed the activity report. He reported 751 total events during the month of June. Chief Brooks thanked the Treasurer for all the work that she has done for the town. Ms. Still ask Chief Brooks about the police department using the radar on the bypass to catch speeding vehicles. She has had complaints about the

Lays Hardware building. There are a few options, one would be to totally replace both roofs, metal cap the brick on the roof that is decaying or spot repairs. The contractors could guarantee that there would be no further leaks with the first two options. However, he could not make any guarantees if the town chooses to spot repair the roofs. The highest quote was \$12,000 and the lowest quote was \$3,000. Sharon Still asked if this was the storm damage from the winter or new damage. He stated that there was an issue with MEOC and the library prior to the new damage. She questioned why the contractor repaired the interior damage from the winter storm but didn't repair the leaking roof. Mr. Mullins stated that the roof was not part of the claim. VML evaluated the damage from the winter storm and determined that the only compensable amount was the interior damage. VML determined that the roof damage was preexisting and wouldn't be paid for. Veronica Buchanan stated that she remembered the town putting the membrane on the buildings not too long ago. She thought that there may be some kind of warranty. The town manager will check on the warranty for the roofing. The town manager also reported that town hall has a leak as well. He will have more information during the August regular meeting. The town manager also informed Council that there are storm water issues. Center Street was a problem during the recent storms. Mr. Mullins and the public works director will schedule a meeting to discuss a priority list for storm water drainage and street paving. He also reported that he was working on the underdeveloped alleyways with the attorney. He stated that it will be a lengthy process but they will continue to work on it. Deventae Mooney asked if any progress was being made on the Mike Strong complaint regarding weed removal of adjacent property. Mr. Mullins stated that he did send a letter regarding the property. He said that he will more than likely have to contract the work out and bill the property owner. Mr. Mooney also asked about a pool party that was supposed to occur on July 14. The party showed up for their pool party and no one was there. Mr. Mullins stated that it had stormed from 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. He stated that the lifeguards were also late. Mr. Mooney asked the town manager to make a courtesy call in the future.

### Public Works

Danny Jordan, Public Works Director reported that the public works department has had a standard operations month handling leak repairs and ground maintenance. There was a large leak in the Flatwoods section that was repaired. Public works assisted VDOT with paving. The flash flood kept public works busy for a few days. Center Street was blocked off for clean-up. There was also a tree that fell in the creek during the storm. The tree had to be cut due to merchant concerns. Mayor Kiser inquired about the drains that were running slow and causing flooding. He asked if there were drains that had been evaluated or cleaned out. The mayor inquired about the drains on Main Street. He asked Mr. Jordan to pinpoint those drains for the future use. Snow causes the drains to clog and it would be useful to know where the drains are located. Mr. Jordan stated that litter and grass clippings could be responsible for drain clogs. Mayor Kiser also asked if fine workers were working for the town. Safety was a concern

**Council Comments and Concerns:**

Veronica Buchanan wanted more information on the Christmas ornament contest. Ms. Buchanan reported that the Ringley Park Extension auction was finalized. The auction raised \$605 and has been turned in to town hall.

Jess Powers stated that if Council was going to start a new method of calling meetings, such as home delivery then there should be a signature verifying that the meeting material was received.

Sharon Still asked that the item for Council packet confirmations be added to the next regular meeting agenda. The town manager asked if the officer could give a written confirmation of delivery.

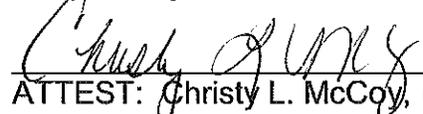
Jeff Kiser addressed Mr. Power's concern by stating that the Special called meeting met all code requirements.

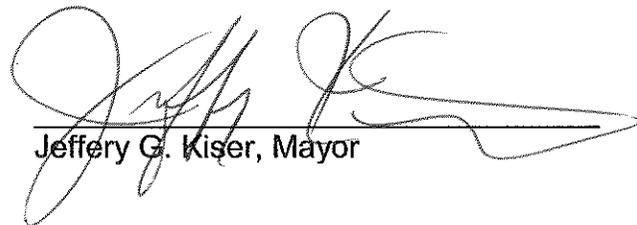
There was no Council comments or concerns.

**Adjournment:**

Jeff Kiser made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deventae Mooney seconded the motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
ATTEST: Christy L. McCoy, Clerk

  
Jeffery G. Kiser, Mayor