

Council Minutes
Special Called Meeting
June 24, 2019 - 6:30 p.m. – 502 Front Street E, Coeburn, VA

Attendees:

Upon roll call, the following members of council were present: Jeff Kiser, Mike Holbrook, Sharon Still and Deventae Mooney. Mike Wright was absent. Jimmy Williams – Town Manager, Cathy Sharpe – Clerk/Treasurer and William Sturgill – Town Attorney were also present.

Call to Order:

Mayor Jeff Kiser called the meeting to order. Deventae Mooney gave the invocation. The group remained standing for the pledge of allegiance led by Mr. Jeff Kiser.

Public Expression:

There was no public comment. Public expression was closed.

Approval of the Agenda:

Jeff Kiser made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Sharon Still seconded the motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Reports:

Town Manager

Town Manager, Jimmy Williams reported that he spoke with Mr. Corey Dotson at Powell Valley National Bank about the Virginia Resource Authority bridge loan. Mr. Williams said the loan should have been paid last month but Mr. Dotson is giving the town more time because of an error on the bank's part. Mr. Williams stated that Mr. Chris Mullins and Mr. Stephen McElroy are meeting with him to do the requisition for funding for this loan. Mr. Williams advised that Mr. Dotson needed a time frame as to when the loan can be paid off or if the town needs an extension.

Mr. Jeff Kiser advised that this is a bridge loan for the upcoming water project and entering into the loan all parties involved knew that it would be paid off once the actual loan/loan forgiveness was presented to the town. Mr. Kiser said the town needs to contact Mr. Dotson and file an extension and move forward with whatever is necessary to get everything taken care of. Mr. Williams stated that he will get with VRA and determine what the timeline is to receive the funds.

Public Works

Jeff Livingston, Public Works Superintendent, reported that the Depot stage has been painted and the lights have been put on the caboose. He stated that ballasts have been replaced at town hall and ceiling tiles have been put back up. Mr. Livingston advised that a leak has been repaired in Bondtown, July 4th decorations have been put up and the Rally Shack is ready to go.

Mr. Livingston reported that the frame on his pickup is broken and he needs a truck. He also reported the treatment plant needs a truck as well. Mayor Jeff Kiser stated that he had parked beside Mr. Livingston's truck at town hall and there was a very distinct odor of gasoline. Mr. Jimmy Williams advised that he has been online looking for vehicles to replace these. He stated that it would cost around \$13,000.00 to get vehicles with less than 100,000 on them. Vice-Mayor Sharon Still advised that it would be better to go ahead and get two vehicles to replace these and later replace others that are older. This would prevent having to replace all vehicles at the same time in the future.

Mr. Mike Holbrook asked Mr. Livingston if he thinks these current vehicles should be parked now because of the dangers involved in driving them. Mr. Livingston stated that his truck is leaking gas. Ms. Still suggested that he drive the town car and Mr. Deventae Mooney agreed. Mr. Holbrook asked what could be done for the treatment plant since that vehicle is in worse condition than Mr. Livingston's. Mr. Livingston advised that they usually drive their personal vehicles. Council advised that Mr. Livingston park his vehicle and drive the town car until his is replaced.

Deventae Mooney made a motion to authorize Mr. Williams to purchase two public works vehicles at a cost up to \$30,000.00 and finance these vehicles if at all possible. Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes. Council instructed that both the public works vehicles be parked; they suggested that mileage be paid to the treatment plant employees if they use their vehicles for town business travel. Jeff Kiser asked Jimmy Williams to look into what could be done as far as an insurance claim on Mr. Livingston's vehicle; this vehicle has had several problems since it was stolen.

Ms. Still asked when the roof at the stage will be repaired. Mr. Williams stated that a metal roof would cost around \$2800.00; he would like to purchase the supplies and get the Job Corp to help on the roof which could be done cheaper. Mr. Jeff Livingston reported that the roof on the Rally Shack needs replaced as well.

Ms. Sharon Still wanted to know if the water problem at Mary's Chapel was a town or VDOT problem. Mr. Livingston said he had spoken to someone at VDOT and was told it was a town problem. He advised that he didn't know if the town or VDOT installed the manhole at that location. Mr. Livingston stated that he will check the ditch and see what needs to be done.

The Lane Group

There was no representative from The Lane Group present.

Treasurer

Cathy Sharpe, Clerk/Treasurer, reported a posted cash balance of \$191,073.88 as of June 21, 2019. She reported outstanding checks in the amount of \$34,784.46, accounts payable due in the amount of \$21,864.12 and interim accounts payable in the amount of \$48,090.21. After deducting the accounts payable due and outstanding checks, the reconciled cash balance was \$134,425.30.

Ms. Sharpe stated that the June 10, 2019 public hearing minutes and June 10, 2019 regular meeting minutes which were held on the same night would be distributed with the July 8, 2019 regular council packets.

Ms. Sharpe reported two additional deposits since reports had been presented for the meeting. Friday's deposit was \$4,972.17 and today's deposit was \$1,304.01 making the total cash availability \$140,701.48.

Mr. Jeff Kiser and Ms. Sharpe advised that going forward the Escrow refunds will be deposited into the Redi-Access account and the Treasurer's Report for each meeting will list the balances of all accounts that the town has.

Police Department

Assistant Chief, Ryan Gardner, reported that his cousin runs the Morgan McClure in Castlewood and he would be happy to give him a call in regards to the two vehicles needed for public works. Mr. Gardner stated that there were two new hires. Robert Stidham was hired as a full-time employee and James Adair was hired as a part-time employee. Mr. Adair is available for around ten days per month. Mr. Gardner advised that there is still a full-time position that hasn't been filled. He stated that it has been advertised through VML, Facebook and VEC. Mr. Williams said it was advertised in the Coalfield Progress as well. Mr. Gardner reported that there had been only one certified officer apply and the pay wasn't sufficient enough for him to consider the job.

Fire Department

There was no representative from the fire department present. No report was given.

Attorney Report

William Sturgill, Town Attorney, advised that he didn't have anything to report but would answer any questions council may have. Mr. Deventae Mooney asked about the action taken concerning the lawsuits. Mr. Sturgill advised that those have been filed and that he has requested that they be set for August. He said he would give updates during closed sessions except for general public information.

New Business:

- A. Approval of 2019-2020 Budget – Deventae Mooney made a motion to approve the 2019-2020 budget as presented. Sharon Still seconded the motion; a roll call vote resulted in all Ayes. Mayor Jeff Kiser said that he would like to thank Mr. Art Mead for everything that he has done on the 2019-2020 budget preparation. He stated that Mr. Mead has spent countless hours on this budget and that he has an interest in the Town of Coeburn and has been greatly appreciated. Mr. Kiser feels like this is one of the best budgets that the Town of Coeburn has had in a number of years. He feels like it is a solid budget with legitimate numbers. Mr. Mead spoke with Mr. Kiser and said that there is a request from The Lane Group to divide the utility portion into water and sewer. Mr. Mead advised Mr. Kiser that he has been working to do this. He has some preliminary numbers that he is working with. Mr. Kiser suggested that the same format that was used with the original budget; to have a committee do a lot of the leg work and then bring it back to council as a whole for approval.

- B. VRA – Funding Agreement for the Crab/Orchard Beech Avenue – Mr. Williams reported that the contract has been closed since June 19th and that entitles the town to submit a requisition request for funding. Mr. Williams, Chris Mullins and Stephen McElroy from The Lane Group are meeting to finalize everything to receive payment.

Old Business:

Jeff Kiser made a motion to enter into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A.1) to discuss performance of Town of Coeburn personnel specifically the Chief of Police, police department and public works. Sharon Still seconded the motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Closed Session:

Immediately following closed session, Cathy Sharpe, Clerk Treasurer, read the “Certification of Closed Meeting,” which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. A roll call vote certifying that only business matters that were identified in the motion convening were discussed or considered. The roll call vote resulted in all Ayes.

There was no action resulting from the closed session.

Council Comments and Concerns:

Mike Holbrook – Mr. Holbrook said that everyone is very pleased that Flatwoods Job Corp will remain open at least for the time being. He said the question he is asking is why it had to happen to start with. It caused a lot of disruption for not only the Town of Coeburn but across the country. He thanked all the employees and everything that gets done.

Deventae Mooney- Mr. Mooney had no comments or concerns.

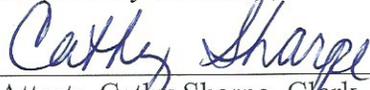
Sharon Still – Ms. Still thanked public works for all that they do that council doesn't see and all the mud they have to track through all the time and whatever else that stuff is and she told Mr. Williams that she is glad he is back from vacation and hopes his surgery goes well. She thanked Mr. Sturgill for all he does, Town Council members for all they do and she thanked the town office employees for all they do; she appreciates everybody. She hopes to see everyone at the 4th of July Celebration.

Jeff Kiser – Mr. Kiser said that he and Mr. Holbrook are thinking in the same line as far as the Flatwoods Job Corp goes and why it should have been an issue to begin with. He wants to publicly thank the people that got behind keeping that center open. Democrats, Republicans and Independents all banded together and worked for the common good of keeping Job Corp Centers open, not only Flatwoods but all those across the country. There was a huge outpouring of support from this locality in order to send letters, make calls, and help with putting a bug in the ears of the various congressman and senators as far as the closure goes, and making sure they were on board for keeping the centers open. He stated that Jack Kennedy was helpful; he reached out to a lot of people that he had contact with and he and Mr. Kiser were in constant contact back and forth in trying to achieve the goal in which the community as a whole was responsible for receiving and he is glad the Job Corp Center is still going to be there. Mr. Kiser reported that July 4th there will be two bands, inflatables, all kinds of goodies and food trucks. He thanked everyone from the town and said Happy 4th of July.

Adjournment:

Jeff Kiser made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,



Attest: Cathy Sharpe, Clerk



Jeffrey G. Kiser, Mayor