

Council Meeting Minutes
May 14, 2013

The Tazewell Town Council met at regular session at 7:15 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan, Jr.
Vice-Mayor Chris Blankenship
Councilmember Chris Brown
Councilmember Glenn Catron
Councilmember Jack Murray
Councilmember Terry Mullins

Absent:

Councilmember David Fox

Staff present were Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk, Linda S. Griffith; Town Attorney, Brad Pyott; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Chief, DeWitt Cooper and Fire Chief, Josh Roberts.

PUBLIC HEARING – FY14 BUDGET

A public hearing was held for the FY14 Budget to receive public comments.

Mayor Buchan read the first reading of the FY14 Budget.

There were no public comments.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Buchanan called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance and invocation by Audrea Wallace.

WELLNESS MOVEMENT

Councilmember Brown stated that the Wellness Movement was a great success and showed the value of our community.

RURAL WATER SENIMAR

Manager Day stated he attended the Virginia Rural Water Seminar and Billie McGinnis received the employee office worker of the year award from Virginia Rural Water region of the Virginia Commonwealth.

KES BLACKWELL – MAIN STREET MOMENTS

Kes Blackwell, Chairperson of Main Street Moments, came before Council thanking them for the past donations and asking for a donation for the upcoming Main Street Moments on July 27,

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2013. Mr. Blackwell thanked Councilmember Brown for the Spring Expo and Council for their donation to the Tazewell Chamber of Commerce.

JOHN BROWN – REAL ESTATE TAXES

John Brown, a resident from 639 West Riverside Drive, came before Council concerning receiving real estate taxes that he was told he was paid up on his real estate taxes. Mr. Brown stated he had moved to Bluefield in 2001 and never received a tax ticket and later receives a tax ticket in the mail for past due taxes for tax years 2001-2007.

SECOND CHANCE LEARNING CENTER – ERIC ROBINSON

Eric Robinson, with the Second Chance Learning Center, came before Council requesting donations for June 29, 2013 concert. Funds are used for providing tutoring for kids.

Councilmember Brown stated he was concerned about the alcohol problems and alcohol being sold at the concert.

Mr. Robinson stated selling alcohol was the only way the concert could afford the bands for the concert.

Councilmember Blankenship stated he would like to meet with Manager Day to find a building in Tazewell to reopen the Second Chance Learning Center, due Tazewell being the Hometown of Billy Wagner. Councilmember Blankenship stated he would rather give funds for the students instead of for the concert.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Catron to approve the minutes of May 14, 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the financial statements for April 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

PROJECT AND ACTIVITY REPORTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the project and activity reports of May 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye;

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Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

Councilmember Murray stated the investigation reports looked great and doing a great job. Councilmember Murray stated the May 2013 maintenance looked good on the savings of repairs to vehicles.

APPOINTMENT – AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Brown to appoint James French to the Tazewell County Airport Authority as a representative for the Town of Tazewell. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye, Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

RIVERWALK PROJECT UPDATE

Manager Day updated Council on the Riverwalk Project that was a 2007 Enhancement Grant with VDOT. The riverwalk would start at Hardees and the old Ramey Ford building at which the Town would not be able to meet buffer zone regulations of 10' of concrete or asphalt. There is only \$45,000 left in funds for this project. Manager Day stated he spoke with Tamara Pritchard at VDOT and advised the Town could stop the project and not have to pay the money back.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Brown to cancel the Riverwalk Project. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

Councilmember Mullins stated he hated to see the project cancelled, due to the project going all the way to Tennessee.

ROUTE 61 UPDATE

Manager Day advised the Route 61 Project awaiting for deeds and plats for the Barnes and Lester property.

DRY TOWN SEWER PROJECT

Manager Day stated waiting for approval of fund from the Virginia Resource Authority for the Dry Town Sewer Project.

ARCHERY SEASON UPDATE

Chief Cooper presented a time change to extend the urban archery seasons distance from dwelling with the Virginia State Code.

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Council advised Chief Cooper to research for a kill permit.

FIREARMS POLICY

Chief Cooper presented a copy of the State Code concerning discharging firearms in the Town.

Council tabled the firearms policy until the next meeting.

AMENDMENT MAINTENANCE CODE ORDINANCE – CHAPTER 5, SECTIONS 5-1 THROUGH 5-6

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Brown to amend Chapter 5, Sections 5-1 through 5-6 of the Town of Tazewell Maintenance Code. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Brown an emergency exists to take effect immediately amendment to Chapter 5, Sections 5-1 through 5-6 of the Town of Tazewell Maintenance Code effective immediately. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye. Absent Councilmember Fox

REPEAL CAPTER 13 HEALTH AND SANITATION ORDINANCE RELACED WITH CHAPTER 13A

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Murray to repeal Chapter 13 Health and Sanitation Ordinance and replace with Chapter 13A. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye. Absent Councilmember Fox

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Mullins an emergency exists to take effect immediately replace Chapter 13 Health and Sanitation Ordinance with Chapter 13A. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye. Absent Councilmember Fox.

APPOINTMENT OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR AND MAINTENANCE CODE OFFICIAL

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Catron to appoint Donald Pruitt, Jr. as Zoning Administrator and Maintenance Code Official. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

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PAYMENTUS – WATER BILLS & TAX INTERNET PAYMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Mullins to enter into a contract with Paymentus for internet payments. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

BACK OF THE DRAGON ROAD STENCILS

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Catron to approve placing Back of the Dragon stencils on streets. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

PURCHASING POLICY

Purchasing policy amendment was tabled until next meeting.

DUE TO FROM ACCOUNTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Brown to charge off \$2.5 million dollars owed from the Water Fund to General Fund listed as the due to accounts on June 30, 2013 from the general ledger. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

PUBLIC HEARING – BOND FOR DRY TOWN SEWER

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Murray to hold a Public Hearing June 11, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. for the Dry Town Sewer Bond. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

RESOLUTION – SUPPORT SVCC COLLEGE CLASSES TAZEWell HIGH SCHOOL

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, Councilmember Murray to approve a Resolution in support of SVCC College classes at Tazewell High School. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

STREET NAME – COMBS COURT

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded Councilmember Mullins to name the street Combs Court off of Fincastle to the property of Elene Combs. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

ENTRANCE SIGN

Councilmember Mullins stated it was a recommendation in the Town of Tazewell Comprehensive Plan to have Town of Tazewell welcome signs.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Murray for the Manager to proceed with obtaining bids for Welcome to Town of Tazewell signs. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

ADOPTION OF CHAPTER 5, SECTION 10-5 FINANCE AND TAXATION

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Vice-Mayor Blankenship to adopt Section 10-5, Chapter 5 Finance and Taxation for allowance of fees on delinquent tax collections. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded Vice-mayor Blankenship an emergency exists to take effective immediately Chapter 5, Section 10-5. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Betty Wallace, resident of 708 West Riverside Drive, came before Council concerning the recycling bins on East Fincastle. Mrs. Wallace also mentioned the potholes on Hurst Street, need dead end street sign for Hurst Street and dumping of wood on the street.

Paul Brewster, resident of 316 Third Street, stated he was concerned about the need trash truck for new trucks and stated the Town was doing a good job on the potholes.

BACK OF DRAGON EVENT

Mayor Buchanan reminded everyone of the “Back of the Dragon” event on Saturday, June 1 at the old Ramey Ford.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before Council, meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.