

**Council Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2013**

The Tazewell Town Council met a 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 David Fox
Councilmember Jack Murray
Councilmember Terry Mullins

Absent:

None

Staff present were Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk, Linda S. Griffith; Town Attorney, Brad Pyott; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Police Chief, DeWitt Cooper and Zoning Administrator, Donald Pruitt, Jr.

Planning Commission members present were Jerry McReynolds and Kenneth Mulkey.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Buchanan called the Public Hearing to order and read the following to allow public comments:

Pursuant to Virginia Code Section 15.2-202 (Repl. Vol. 2012), the Town of Tazewell and Planning Commission will hold a joint public hearing, at which time and place the citizens of the Town of Tazewell shall have the opportunity to be heard to determine if the citizens of the Town desire for the Town Council to request the General Assembly to amend the Town's existing Charter. A summary of the proposed Charter amendments are as follows: To amend the language of Article I. Incorporation, Sections 1-1, 1-2 and 1-3; Article II. Powers, Section 2-1, and subsection 2-420; Article III. The Council, Sections 3-2, 3-5, and 3-9, and subsection 3-401; Article IV. Administration of Justice, subsection 4-11; Article VI. Planning, Zoning and Subdivision Control, Sections 6-1, 6-11, 6-12, 6-14, 6-15, and 6-23, and subsections 6-131, 6-133, 6-231 and 6-234; Article VII. General Provisions, Section 7-6; and to repeal and/or delete and remove the following sections under Article III. The Council, Sections 3-94 and 3-95; and to repeal and/or delete and remove the entirety of Article V. Administration of Justice, Sections 5-1 through 5-31, inclusive. Final approval of this proposal would occur by action of the Tazewell Town Council to whom this proposal is being made by the Town of Tazewell Planning Commission. This public notice is made in compliance with Section 15.2-2204 of the Virginia State Code.

There were no public comments.

2013 AUDIT REPORT – BROWN EDWARDS CPA

John Aldridge, representative with Brown Edwards CPA, presented the 2013 Audit to Council to answer any questions they may have. Mr. Aldridge stated that the Town of Tazewell has made a remarkable turnaround in their finances since the 2012 audit. Mr. Aldridge thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to do the audit and for Manager Day and Town Treasurer for their help with the audit. Mr. Aldridge stated if anyone has questions after reviewing the audit, please feel free to call him.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Catron to approve the minutes of November 12, 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

PROJECT AND ACTIVITY REPORTS

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Mullins to approve the project and activity reports for November 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

DRY TOWN/COUNTY FARM/RAMEY SEWER PROJECT

Manager Day updated Council on the DryTown/County Farm/Ramey Sewer Project stating the Ramey Sewer Project is moving forward and County Farm Sewer Project is on hold until weather permitting.

ROUTE 61 PROJECT

Manager Day stated the Route 61 Project is progressing with obtaining easements for the Route 61 Project.

LINCOLNSHIRE DAM

Manager Day stated he was working on grants for the Lincolnshire Dam project.

ROUTE 61 BRIDGE PROJECT

Manager Day stated the Route 61 Bridge Project construction will be in the 2014-2015 Budget.

OLD DEPOT TRAIN STATION

Manager Day advised Council to look at the Old Depot Train Station and encouraged them to form a Committee to work on this project. Manager Day suggested touring the Roanoke station to get ideas on restoring the depot station.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Catron to nominate Councilmember Mullins to be chairman of the committee. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

Councilmember Brown stated he would serve on the Economic part of the committee.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Manager Day stated the Economic Development Committee will be meet Tuesday, December 17, 2013 to discuss dilapidated properties that could to be developed and to obtain grants for development.

REZONING REQUEST ED REYNOLDS – INDUSTRIAL PARK

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Fox to the rezone property of Ed Reynolds in the Industrial Park with one section of the property be rezoned from current classification of B-2(business) to A-1 (agricultural) and another section of the property to be rezoned from the current classification of A-1 (agricultural) to B-2 (business). On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, Councilmember Mullins, aye.

APPROVAL TO REQUEST THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO AMEND THE TOWN'S EXISTING TOWN CHARTER

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the following:

To request the General Assembly to amend the Town's existing Charter. A summary of the proposed Charter amendments are as follows: To amend the language of Article I. Incorporation, Sections 1-1, 1-2 and 1-3; Article II. Powers, Section 2-1, and subsection 2-420; Article III. The Council, Sections 3-2, 3-5, and 3-9, and subsection 3-401; Article IV. Administration of Justice, subsection 4-11; Article VI. Planning, Zoning and Subdivision Control, Sections 6-1, 6-11, 6-12, 6-14, 6-15, and 6-23, and subsections 6-131, 6-133, 6-231 and 6-234; Article VII. General Provisions, Section 7-6; and to repeal and/or delete and remove the following sections under Article III. The Council, Sections 3-94 and 3-95; and to repeal and/or delete and remove the entirety of Article V. Administration of Justice, Sections 5-1 through 5-31, inclusive.

On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye. Unanimous vote.

TAZEWELL HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT GRADUATION DONATION

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Catron to donate \$1,000 to Tazewell High School Project Graduation. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember

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

EMS OFFICERS MONTHLY PAY CHANGES

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Murray to increase the EMS Officers monthly pay beginning July 2013. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

APPOINTMENT TO TAZEWELL COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

The appointment to Tazewell County Airport Authority tabled to discussion at later date.

DEFIINTION MOBILE/MODULAR HOME

Council directed Town Attorney Pyott to draft a definition for mobile/modular home.

PUBLIC HEARING – ZONING FEES

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded Councilmember Fox to hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 14, 2013 at 7:15 p.m. for proposed charges for zoning fees. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye.

POLITICAL SIGNS

Manager Day stated that the Planning Commission needs to look at all areas of the town code for political signs before making a decision.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Council set a Budget Work Session for Saturday, January 11, 2013.

RESOLUTION – POLICE CRUISER GRANT

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Catron to approve the Resolution to apply for Rural Development Grants to purchase police cruisers. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye. Unanimous vote.

EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS DINNER

Manager Day invited Council to the Employee and their families Christmas Dinner will be held on December 19, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. at the VIP Room at behind Grants Supermarket.

RETIREEES INSURANCE

Manager Day stated he would like for Council to review a policy for retirees to be able to retire at the age of 55 and stay on the town's insurance and pay the same premium until the age of 65.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before Council, Mayor Buchanan wished everyone a Merry Christmas and adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.