

**Council Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2014**

The Tazewell Town Council met in regular session at 7:30 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 Terry Mullins  
Councilmember Jack Murray

Absent:  
None

Staff present were Town Manager, Todd Day; Clerk, Linda S. Griffith; Attorney, Brad Pyott; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Public Works Director, Donny Pruitt; Fire Chief, Josh Roberts; and Emergency Service, Jason Kinser.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Buchanan called the meeting to order with pledge of allegiance and invocation by Linda S. Griffith.

**MARGIE DOUGLASS – SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER SVCC**

Margie Douglass, Small Business Manager with Southwest Community College, came before Council advising them of the programs available with the Small Business Development Center. Mrs. Douglass stated that SVCC provides free counseling, job programs and other resources for loans for small business.

Vice-Mayor Blankenship stated that local business in the Town of Tazewell could benefit from the Small Business Development Program.

**RANDY CORDLE – THS ALL DISTRICT CHOIR**

Randy Cordle, with THS Choir, came before Council requesting donations for the THS Choir to attend All District Choir competition. Mr. Cordle stated the Tazewell County Board didn't appropriate or make provisions for students to travel.

Vice-Mayor Blankenship stated he was in favor of supporting THS programs, but Mr. Cordle should go to Supervisor Mike Hymes for donations.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Mullins to donate \$500 to the THS Choir for district competition. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye;

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

Councilmember Fox stated that Council should support our hometown students with uniforms, etc.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the minutes of September 9, 2014. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

### **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Fox to approve financial statements for September 2014. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

Vice-Mayor Blankenship questioned third party billing revenue.

Clerk Griffith stated she would look up the revenue and get it to Mr. Blankenship.

### **PROJECT AND ACTIVITY REPORTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Mullins, seconded by Councilmember Fox to approve the project and activity reports for September 2014. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

### **DRY TOWN SEWER PROJECT**

Manager Day updated Council on the Dry Town Sewer Project stating the project should be completed in November 2014. Manager Day stated letters are being sent to residents at Dry Town concerning their sewer tap fees.

### **ROUTE 61 PROJECT**

Manager Day advised the Route 61 Project advertising for bids will begin December 2015.

Attorney Pyott stated the Lester Development Property will be a quick take for the Route 61 project.

## **CRUISE-IN**

Mayor Buchanan advised that the last cruise-in event will held on October 18, 2014.

## **TRAIN DEPOT (MAP-21)**

Councilmember Mullins stated that 20 members of the Train Depot Committee met at the American Legion looking at photos. Councilmember Mullins stated there was a lot of enthusiasm and exploring grants and ideas for the train depot.

Manager Day stated a Public Hearing was scheduled for the Train Depot (Map 21) but wasn't able to get in the paper in time by Council meeting.

## **LINCOLNSHIRE DAM**

Manager Day advised the town received one of five grants for Lincolnshire Dam repairs of \$8,500 each grant.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Councilmember Murray stated the Planning Commission was still working on rezoning and looking at reviewing mobile home ordinance.

## **TAZEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCREDITATION**

Officer Darren Jessee came before Council stating that the Tazewell Police Department had been approved again for their accreditation and being the smallest accredited department in the state of Virginia.

Council commended the Police Department for their hard work.

Officer Jessee introduced the new Officer, Deon Davis, to the Tazewell Police Department.

## **ENTERPRISE ZONE**

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Fox to authorize Manager Day to do the proper procedures to make the change enterprise zone to include Main Street into the enterprise zone. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **IDA**

Manager Day stated he had sent letters out and had only two to confirm they were interested in being on the IDA.

## **NOTICE TO REMOVE, REPAIR OR SECURE BUILDING WALL OR OTHER STRUCTURE**

Attorney Pyott stated the Town has followed the procedures to remove, repair or secure eight properties. Three properties are underway at the present time.

## **PREMATURITY AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION**

Motion was made by Councilmember Catron, seconded by Councilmember Fox to proclaim Premature Birth Awareness month. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION**

Attorney Pyott advised Town Council that another Planning Commission member needed to be appointed to comply with the Town Code.

## **NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING CHANGE**

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray, seconded by Councilmember Mullins to change the November 11, 2014 to October 28, 2014 to hold a public hearing for the Train Depot Map - 21. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

Motion was made by Vice-Mayor Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Catron to hold a public hearing at 7:15 p.m. for Train Depot Map-21. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY**

Mayor Buchanan asked that Council consider donating one of the condemnation property to the Habitat for Humanity.

Vice-Mayor Blankenship stated Council could donate one of the properties when the property becomes available to Habitat for Humanity.

Council agreed to bring back at a later date.

## **PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT**

Manager Day asked for approval to not purchase a new garbage truck, but requested purchasing a snow plow truck, sewer jet, and excavator for the budgeted \$150,000.

Motion was made by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Brown to purchase a snow plow truck, sewer jet and excavator with the \$150,000. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **LOW BID – PHASE I WATER DISTRIBUTION CONTRACT**

Manager Day stated he recommended to Council the low bidder, T&L, for the Phase I water distribution contract.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown, seconded by Councilmember Fox to approve T&L as the low bidder for the Phase I water distribution contract. On vote, Vice-Mayor Blankenship, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Mullins, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION MADE BY:** Councilmember Brown  
**MOTION SECONDED BY:** Vice-Mayor Blankenship

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** ES10142014  
**MEETING DATE:** October 14, 2014

**VOTE:** All voted aye.

**PURPOSE:** Personnel and Legal

## **CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, the Tazewell Town Council has convened an executive session on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, §2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Council that such executive session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Tazewell Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive session to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive session were heard, discussed or considered by the Tazewell Town Council.

## **VOTE**

**AYES:** Councilmember Blankenship, Brown, Catron, Fox Mullins, Murray

**NAYS:** None

(For each nay vote, the substance of the departure from the requirements of the Act should be described.)

**ABSENT DURING VOTE:** None

**ABSENT DURING MEETING:** None

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**Linda S. Griffith, Clerk of Council**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before Council, meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.