

## Council Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2016

The Tazewell Town Council met in a work session at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Mayor A. D. Buchanan Jr

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jack Murray

Councilmember Jerry McReynolds

Absent:

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember David Fox

Staff present were: Town Attorney Brad Pyott; Town Manager, Todd Day; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Town Clerk, Leeanne Billings; Public Work Director, Donny Pruitt; Zoning & Property Management Official Chris Hurley; Recreation Director, Travis Barbee.

Manager Day discussed the recreation department and the soccer program. He then turned to Recreation Director, Travis Barbee for an update. He stated that he would like to see the soccer program come back to the Town instead of being run by the YMCA. He has spoken with many people in the community about this issue and with his training and experience he feels that he would be more qualified to oversee the soccer program. Currently, the soccer schedules are done by our office, it is held at our park/fields, and the involvement has dramatically dropped in recent years. Manager Day stated that parents want to see their children challenged and taught. Councilmember Brown stated that he is a board member of the YMCA and his children were a part of the soccer program when it was held by the Town and now they have become part of the soccer leagues in Richlands and Bluefield. He does feel very strong about the YMCA and stated that our town needs the YMCA and their programs. He would like to see us be able to work with the YMCA and he is glad that Travis is here and is knowledgeable in these areas and hopes that he can help guide and teach the coaches at the YMCA so they can in turn teach their teams. Councilmember McReynolds stated that the soccer program is a great program for kids and parents to be involved in. Councilmember Catron stated that there used to be a great number of teams but it has dwindled in the last few years. Manager Day asked council if they would be in a position to make a decision whether the Town should take over soccer or not. Councilmember Brown stated that he would like to have another month and give Travis an opportunity to meet with the new YMCA director. Recreation Director Barbee stated that they have already started signing up for the upcoming season however we could look at spring soccer for next year. Councilmember Catron stated that if the YMCA is going to run it this season it would be good if our recreation director could help them organize it and work with the YMCA on fall soccer.

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

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jack Murray

Councilmember Jerry McReynolds

**Absent:**

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember David Fox

Staff present were: Town Attorney Brad Pyott; Town Manager, Todd Day; Treasurer, Sharon Davis, Police Lt., David Mills; Fire Chief, Josh Roberts, Rescue Squad Administrator, Syndee Saleem, Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Town Clerk, LEEANNE BILLINGS; Public Work Director, Donny Pruitt; Zoning & Property Management Official Chris Hurley; Recreation Director, Travis Barbee.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Buchanan called the meeting to order. He stated that we need to remember the events that have been happening recently and remember the fallen officers and their families. He then opened with the pledge of allegiance. Invocation was given by Anthony Gills, pastor of Main Street Methodist Church.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

**UPDATE ON TRAIN STATION**

Mr. Barry Rakes gave an update on the North Tazewell Train Depot. He stated that they have updated the schedule several times and they are still on schedule to complete near the original complete date. There is now a tenant for the building. The tenant will be the Tazewell County Tourism office. They have redone the plans for the building to better fit them and their needs. The building has been submitted to the historic data registry. He stated that Tazewell will hopefully have the best looking station this side of Richmond once it is complete. There are a few issues with parking that they are addressing and stated that he would leave the plans for the Depot with Manager Day. Mayor Buchanan thanked him for all his hard work.

**LUMOS FRANCHISE PRESENTATION**

Mark Munsey came before council to inform them of Lumos' desire to come to the Town of Tazewell. Lumos is a fiber optic based internet provider. They serve businesses, municipalities, and cell towers. They would like to have a franchise agreement with the Town of Tazewell. Council will have to hold a public hearing and vote for them to be able to have a franchise agreement with the Town. They currently have a franchise in Bluefield and Richlands. Councilmember Murray asked if the Town would be able to utilize Lumos and get a lower rate

for internet because he has been concerned over the price we pay for internet for several years. Manager Day stated yes, he thinks we could. Attorney Pyott encouraged council if they have questions or concerns over this issue to bring them to him and he would start the process and keep in contact with Mr. Munsey.

### **HEART OF APPALACHIA PRESENTATION**

Kitty Barker with the Heart of Appalachia came before council to explain to them what their business is about. They are an organization that tries to promote areas to help increase tourism, meals tax, and lodging tax. They do a lot of advertisement for motorcycles and promote Back of the Dragon. She stated that by using their service everyone could work together and bring in more revenue for our area. They will advertise us in their brochures for one solid price, not a pay as you go type service. They have three websites and three brochures that they maintain. This year they have focused on ATV's and motorcycles because they seem to mainly travel in groups and that will increase the number of visitors, number of beds sold, and number of meals bought. They currently serve 628 businesses. If interested we would be able to choose the price vs. the number of ads we would like. Manager Day stated that he would get council's feedback and be in contact with her as two of our council members were not able to attend this meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion was made by Councilmember Catron, and seconded by Councilmember Murray to approve the minutes of June 14, 2016. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

### **APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray and seconded by Councilmember McReynolds, to approve the financial statements for June 2016. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

### **APPROVAL OF PROJECT REPORTS**

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray and seconded by Councilmember Brown to approve the project reports for June 2016. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

### **ROUTE 61 UPDATE**

Manager Day stated the report he has gotten shows we are ahead of schedule.

## **TAZEWELL LITTLE LEAGUE**

Manager Day stated that the Little League wanted to let Council know they appreciated the donation, thank you for their support. It cost \$169.00 a night for rooms.

## **LINCOLNSHIRE DAM**

Manager Day discussed the Lincolnshire Dam. He stated that Schnabel Engineering had completed studies regarding rainwater tables. The studies show we are in compliance with VCR and this will be a savings of \$400,000.00.

## **PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE**

Councilmember Murray stated there was no meeting due to the date falling on July 4<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting will be held in August.

## **TRAIN DEPOT COMMITTEE**

Barry Rakes gave an update at the beginning of the meeting.

## **AIRPORT AUTHORITY**

Councilmember McReynolds gave an update on the Airport. He stated the west end drainage project should be complete by the end of the month and they are preparing for a project next year to widen the turn spaces.

## **SESQUICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE**

Susan Reeves gave an update on the Sesquicentennial Committee. They have held several events such as, Main Street Mile, Sesquicentennial Ball, 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration, etc. They have expenses of \$17,500.00. Revenues of \$4,300.00. Which leaves them with a balance of \$13,200.00 in expenses. They still have merchandise to sell that will help offset the expenses some. Mayor Buchanan thanked her for all the work she has done.

## **IDA RECOMMENDATION**

Manager Day stated that council needed to make a recommendation for an IDA member. Mayor Buchanan recommended Joey Pruett. Manager Day will call him and see if he is interested. Motion was made by Councilmember Catron to appoint Joey Pruett to the IDA. Motion was seconded by Councilmember McReynolds. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Attorney Pyott stated that each year the Virginia General Assembly makes law changes and that we must readopt changes that have been made to the Virginia State Code. He then read the codes that needed to be readopted to stay in compliance with the Virginia State Code. Motion to pass and adopt was made by Councilmember Murray. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Catron. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

Motion was made by Councilmember Murray to pass as an emergency ordinance. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **LUMOS FRANCHISE**

Attorney Pyott stated that he needed direction from council on how to proceed. Councilmember Murray asked if we could get information from Bluefield and Richlands on Lumos. Motion was made by Councilmember Murray to request information from Bluefield and Richlands and discuss it at the next meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Catron. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **RECYCLING BINS**

Councilmember Brown asked if there was an update on the recycling bins. Manager Day stated he has been talking with some property owners and may have found a place to put them.

## **RESCUE SQUAD**

Councilmember Brown asked if there was any update on the rescue squad. Manager Day stated that we have gotten some revenue in and it will be on next month's financials. Councilmember Murray is concerned about the expense vs. revenue. Rescue Squad Administrator, Syndee Saleem, stated that last week they received \$4,800.00 and the payments should start coming in now. Manager Day stated that they are having issues with the billing company and she will be traveling to South Carolina to discuss these issues.

## **TAZEWELL COUNTY FAIR SPONSORSHIP REQUEST**

Manager Day stated that we have a \$2,500.00 donation request for sponsorship of the Tazewell County Fair. Motion was made by Councilmember Catron to approve the donation request. Motion was seconded by Councilmember McReynolds. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **CELEBRATION OF THE ARTS DONATION REQUEST**

Manager Day stated that we have a donation request from the Celebration of the Arts. Historically we have given \$500.00. The event will be held on Main Street. Councilmember Brown made a motion to approve the donation request. Councilmember Murray seconded the motion. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **PRIMARY EXTENSION AWARD**

Manager Day stated that we applied for the primary extension grant which is 100% free money and have been awarded that grant. This will allow us to pave West Riverside Drive. Paving will be done next spring.

## **BACK OF THE DRAGON COMMITTEE MEMBER**

Manager Day stated that Mike Hymes has been very supportive of the Back of the Dragon. It was proposed to the Board of Supervisors to match the Town's contribution of \$30,000.00 to go to building up the Back of the Dragon event each year. They approved to give a total of \$30,000.00 to match the Town. There will be a committee created to work on this event. Chief Cooper, David Woodard, and Mike Hymes will be on the committee and they would like to have a town official representative. Councilmember Murray made a motion to recommend Councilmember Catron to be on the committee. Councilmember McReynolds seconded the recommendation. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Manager Day stated that with the new meters that have been installed we now have a 72% water accountability for the month.

Mayor Buchanan stated that Mr. Roy Rector has passed away. He stated that he was a town employee for a number of years. His services will be held at Perry and St Clair. Tazewell will definitely miss him. He was 96 years old.

Mayor Buchanan commented on the trees, baskets, flowers, and benches on Main Street. He said it looks great.

Councilmember Brown would like to thank the town and town workers for helping load trailers, etc. for the flood victims in West Virginia.

Mayor Buchanan also reminded everyone of the swim association meet that will be held this weekend at Lincolnshire Park.

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Brown made a motion that they go into executive session to discuss prospective business and legal counsel. Councilmember Murray seconded the motion. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

## RESOLUTION

Motion made by: Brown

Resolution Number: ES120716

Motion Seconded by: Murray

Meeting Date: 12 July 16

Vote: All voted Aye

Purpose: Prospective business  
Legal counsel

## 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, 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

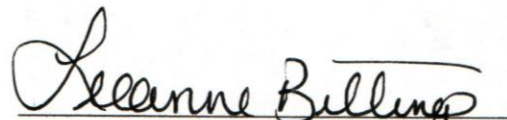
Ayes: Catron, Brown, Murray, McReynolds

Nays:

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

Absent during vote: Mullins, Fox

Absent during meeting: Mullins, Fox

  
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Leeanne Billings, Clerk

Motion was made to come out of executive session by Councilmember Brown. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Murray. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

Mayor Buchanan stated the reason they went into executive session was to discuss prospective business and legal counsel. He then read the resolution for Certification of Executive Session. On a roll call vote to confirm, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown. On vote, Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Murray, aye; Councilmember McReynolds, aye.

Mayor Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 9:24 pm.