

## **Council Minutes**

### **Special Called Meeting**

August 17, 2017

The Tazewell Town Council met in a special called meeting at 6:00 a.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

**Present:**

Mayor A. D. Buchanan Jr

Vice-Mayor Terry Mullins (via phone conference)

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Jennifer Boyd

**Absent:**

Councilmember David Fox

Councilmember Jack Murray

Staff present: Town Manager, Todd Day; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Town Attorney, Brad Pyott; Clerk-Treasurer, Leeanne Regon.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Buchanan called the meeting to order and lead the pledge of allegiance. Manager Day gave the invocation.

### **BPOL TAX DISCUSSION**

Manager Day stated that at a prior meeting the council voted to raise retail business license rate from .15% to .3%. We have sent out letters to let businesses know. This will not take effect until January 2018. Manager Day recommends .3%. This will double our rate. He anticipates that other localities will be raising their rates as well. As an example, if a business made \$100,000.00 at the current rate of .15% they would pay \$150.00. If we went to .3% they would pay \$300.00 an additional \$150.00.

In 2017 for retail businesses we brought in \$41,469.94. In 2016 we brought in \$46,415.70.

In 2015 we brought in \$50,292.36. Councilmember Catron is concerned the higher rate compared to other localities will drive potential businesses away. He stated the business will not pay the increase the customer will because businesses will increase their price. Manager Day stated that we are not raising rates because we need the revenue but when a project comes up it would be good to have. He would like to plan ahead and not wait until things need done. Attorney Pyott asked when the last time the BPOL rates were raised. Executive Assistant

Brewster said she doesn't remember them ever being raised since she has been there and that has been 26 years. Councilmember Catron made a motion to lower the earlier approved rate of .3% to .25% for Financial/Professional. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

### **FRANCHISE DISCUSSION**

Attorney Pyott stated that he received documents from Mike Tenck. Council voted at the last meeting to grant a three year franchise. Mr. Tenck sent an extension agreement to us instead of a renewal. This would remove all changes requested except the name change. If passed today it would not go into effect for 30 days. Attorney Pyott recommends to pass this. Councilmember Catron made a motion to extend agreement instead of renewing it. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Mullins asked if this meant the schools would get to keep their current package, it was answered yes they would. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilmember Catron made a motion that they go into executive session to discuss prospective business. Councilmember Brown seconded the motion. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

## RESOLUTION

Motion made by: Catron

Resolution Number: ES170817

Motion Seconded by: Brown

Meeting Date: 17 August 17

Vote: All Aye

Purpose: Prospective Business

## 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

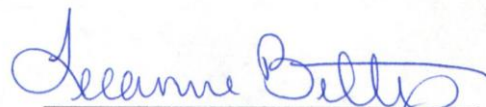
Ayes: Catron, Mullins, Brown, Boyd

Nays:

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

Absent during vote: Fox, Murray

Absent during meeting: Fox, Murray

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Leeanne Billings, Clerk

Motion was made to come out of executive session by Councilmember Brown. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Catron. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

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

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Councilmember Catron to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Brown. On vote, Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown aye; Councilmember Boyd, aye.

Mayor Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 7:30am.