

Council Meeting Minutes

June 14, 2022

The Tazewell Town Council met for an executive session at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Absent:

Mayor Michael Hoops

Vice Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember Emily Davis

Councilmember Joe Beasley

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember David Fox

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made to go into executive session by Councilmember Catron. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Beasley. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

RESOLUTION

Motion made by: Catron

Resolution Number: ES220614

Motion Seconded by: Beasley

Meeting Date: 22 June 14

Vote: All voted Aye

Purpose: Consultation With Legal
Counsel Regarding Specific Legal
Matters and Personnel Matters

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

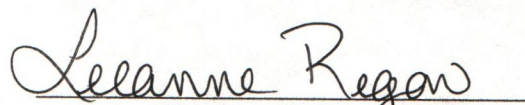
Ayes: Catron, Brown, Davis, Mullins, Beasley, Fox

Nays: none

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

Absent during vote:

Absent during meeting:



Leeanne Regon, Clerk

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

It was stated that they needed to add an additional matter to the agenda for executive session. They also needed to add other personnel matters for the police department to the agenda.

Mayor Hoops stated the reason they went into executive session was for Consultation with Legal Counsel Regarding Specific Legal Matters and Personnel Matters. He then read the resolution for Certification of Executive Session. On a roll call vote Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

The Tazewell Town Council met in regular session at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

Present:

Absent:

Mayor Michael Hoops

Vice Mayor Terry Mullins

Councilmember Emily Davis

Councilmember Joe Beasley

Councilmember Glenn Catron

Councilmember Chris Brown

Councilmember David Fox

Staff present were: Town Manager, Todd Day; Executive Assistant, Robin Brewster; Town Attorney, Brad Pyott; Clerk/Treasurer, Leanne Regon; Police Chief, David Mills; Assistant Fire Chief, Jason Kinser; EMS Administrator, Syndee Saleem; Zoning & Property Maintenance Official, Chris Hurley; Public Works Director, Donny Pruitt.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hoops called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance. Invocation by Manager Day.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION/REQUESTS

DONATION REQUEST BY THS BAND BOOSTERS

Macie Alford, Drum Major for THS Marching Band, along with members of the band came before council. Ms. Alford stated that she was the drum major for the THS Marching Band and they have about 70 members. They will be attending band camp at the campus of Emory &

Henry College. She discussed various activities the band performs at such as homecoming parades, Christmas parades, football games, etc. They have submitted a letter requesting a donation to help cover band camp expenses. Motion was made by Councilmember Fox to approve a donation of \$400.00. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Beasley. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

YMCA UPDATE

Shawn Durham with the YMCA came before council to give an update. He stated that he hasn't been able to come out and do this over the past couple years like he likes to because of Covid. He stated that they have just finished spring soccer and he hasn't heard one complaint over it this year. He also stated that Park Director, Richard Smith has been awesome to work with and also Mayor Hoops has given his time to help with it. He stated that Councilmember Catron and Councilmember Beasley were outstanding board members for the YMCA. He thanked the Town for their continued support and stated they could not sustain as they do without the Town. He thanks the Town and is proud of our Town.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Rick Chitwood of Thompson and Litton came before council with project updates. He handed out information packets regarding the Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade and the Rt. 460 Water Project. He stated when the Town hired them to do the preliminary report, the original cost of the project in June 2018 was \$10,656,046. The Town was set to receive a grant toward the project of \$3,196,813 and then the balance would be financed at zero percent interest for 25 years. They had anticipated 30%-35% increase with what they had presented but it was 11 million more than what they thought. He stated that at the bid opening there were two bidders. One was disqualified because their bid was higher than their bond capacity. The other company's bid was \$16 million.

He then discussed the Route 460 water line project. He stated when they first began working on this project 12 inch PVC pipe was \$19.00 a foot. It is currently quoted by Core & Main at \$69.00 a foot. It would take 14 weeks to get the pipe and 30 weeks to get the valves. He believes construction prices are overly inflated right now. He stated that DEQ and VRA will honor our qualification for a year. We can put the project on hold, reject the bids and redo them in a year. These are projects that need to be done but he cannot recommend moving forward and raising rates even more for this project. He has letters in the packet that we could submit and ask them to hold off for a year.

NEW BUSINESS RECOGNITION

Mayor Hoops stated that with us tonight D & A Country Variety. It is owned by Larry and Donna Owens. She stated that they are located where R & S Graphics use to be, right across the street from Hardees. They have a variety of items such as cell phone accessories, household items and primitive items. Mayor Hoops stated he was glad to see them in our Town and presented them with small gifts from the Town and welcomed to our Town.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion was made by Councilmember Fox, seconded by Councilmember Beasley to approve the minutes of May 10, 2022 and June 7, 2022. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion was made by Councilmember Brown and seconded by Councilmember Catron to approve the financial statements for May 2022. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

PLANNING COMMISSION COMMITTEE

Councilmember Davis stated that the Planning Commission met and discussed a business that is wanting to expand and have an outdoor patio. They discussed what would need to be submitted and reviewed for them to move forward.

2ND READING & APPROVAL OF 2022/2023 BUDGET

Manager Day read the proposed overall budget for each fund. He stated that all revenues matched expenditures. Motion to approve the 2022/2023 budget was made by Councilmember Catron. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Fox. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

TOWN EQUIPMENT/VEHICLE FOR AUCTION

Manager Day stated that the Town had put some vehicles and equipment in the auction held a few weeks ago and the proceeds from that auction were \$31,635.00.

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SMART SCALE

Manager Day stated that there was a resolution in the council packet for their review. This would be for the area of Bulldog Lane and Steeles Lane for a turn lane to be installed. Mayor Hoops read the resolution. Motion to approve was made by Councilmember Fox. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Davis. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR ANNUAL RENEWAL OF CAFETERIA PLAN

Executive Assistant Brewster stated that each year we must pass this resolution for the cafeteria plan. She stated that this is the pretax on insurance and retirement. Councilmember Davis made a motion to waive the reading. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Beasley. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

Motion to approve resolution was made by Councilmember Beasley. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Fox. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH EASTERN SPORTS MANAGEMENT

Manager Day read the resolution. He stated this does not obligate council to do anything. It helps for funding purposes. Motion to approve the resolution was made by Councilmember Brown. Motion was seconded by Councilmember Beasley. Attorney Pyott stated this approves the concept of entering into an agreement. It allows Manager Day to negotiate. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

APPROVE BUDGET AMENDMENTS

Treasurer Regon stated that in the council packet were several budget amendments she would like to have approved. She stated that this was to clean up the budget where line items had gone over budget. Motion was made Councilmember Catron. Motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Mullins. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

FOIA TRAINING

Manager Day stated that Richmond has mandated FIOA training. He stated that we will set up a training between IEDA and Council.

BUDGETARILY UPDATE

Manager Day had asked Public Works Director Donny Pruitt to write down a list of problems that he is facing for day-to-day operations. He stated that when it came to Public Works Directors the Donny was one of the best.

Public Works Director Pruitt stated that the price of fuel has been a real issue. He stated that he is over budget with fuel and he feels certain that all or most of the departments are. He stated that the price of parts has went through the roof and they are hard to get once you order them. He gave examples of past work and costs compared to the current prices. He stated that he can't find

people to work. He usually has 12 employees for weed-eating and he started off with five. He has had some employees retire and some have come back to work part time and that has really helped out. Councilmember Brown stated that Lincolnshire looks good and commended him for that with having fewer employees than usual. Director Pruitt stated that he has five full time positions open right now also. He is trying to keep up with all the work and asked the council to bear with him. He stated that he has water parts that are on order and has been waiting on them since December and he still hasn't gotten them. He tries to keep supplies stocked up in case he has breaks and needs them. Snow removal was also another area that prices increased. Prices went up \$30.00 a ton last year. He stated that they are going to try and finish Maplewood sidewalk. The price of concrete is \$191.00 a yard and they pour eight yards a day. That is today's price. Companies are now giving quotes for "today." The price may change the very next day.

Councilmember Fox asked about tall grass around town, on private property. Property Maintenance Official, Chris Hurley stated that he has been writing letters for grass height violations.

SMOKE TEST SET FOR JUNE 21ST

Manager Day stated that we have been awarded grant funds of \$75,000 and \$25,000 to perform a smoke test. He stated that to do a smoke test, smoke will be shot into a man hole and if a person is tapped into the Town's sewer system and it is not for sewer it will show smoke. Such as if someone had their gutters ties into the sewer system, the smoke test would make smoke show at their gutters. This is set for June 21st.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Fox stated that a resident said they had brush to be picked up and it did not get picked up for clean up month. Manager Day asked where was this located. He stated on Fincastle. Public Work Director Pruitt stated that he has spoken to this resident already. The Town took the wood chipper to the residence and chipped a truck and a half load from trees he cut down. He was told to contact the Town when he was ready for it again and there would be a charge for it next time. Councilmember Fox feels that it should be done for free because he called during spring clean-up month. Public Works Director Pruitt stated that he tries to be fair to everyone in town. The customer had multiple trees cut trying to clear his yard. He stated that he could spend a whole day working there and he is trying to make sure that other jobs are taken care of all around the Town. That is why he told the customer there would have to be a fee next time. Because we have to try and do the same for everyone. Manager Day stated that we will take care of it.

Councilmember Beasley stated that he appreciates the department heads for what they do here and for keeping things running as good as they have.

Councilmember Fox stated that the police department and public works department are doing a good job.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Catron and seconded by Councilmember Brown. On vote, Councilmember Catron, aye; Councilmember Brown, aye; Vice Mayor Mullins, aye; Councilmember Davis, aye; Councilmember Fox, aye; Councilmember Beasley, aye.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.