

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 14, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,  
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

Present: Mayor Greg Eanes, Council Members Aaron Reed, Steve Sisk, Anne Stinson, Robbie Knight, Billy Abel & Phil Miskovic

Absent: Council Member Bill Faas

Also Present: Town Manager Wade Walker & Attorney Tessie Bacon

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Eanes.

Moment of silent prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

*Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn into executive session consistent with Virginia State Code 2.2-3711, paragraph 1, Personnel. Motion passed.*

*Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Miskovic, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to certify the executive session. Mayor Eanes ordered a roll call:*

*Council Member Miskovic – Yes*

*Council Member Abel - Yes*

*Council Member Knight - Yes*

*Council Member Stinson – Yes*

*Council Member Sisk - Yes*

*Council Member Reed – Yes*

*6-0 Motion passed.*

*Motion by Council Member Abel; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to write a letter of reprimand and place the unnamed employee on a 3 year probation. Mayor Eanes ordered a roll call:*

*Council Member Miskovic – Yes*

*Council Member Abel - Yes*

*Council Member Knight - Yes*

*Council Member Stinson – Yes*

*Council Member Sisk - Yes*

*Council Member Reed – Yes*

*6-0 Motion passed.*

**DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

*Motion by Council Member Stinson; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with the bill sheet and additions totaling \$104,235.04. Motion passed.*

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**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Town Manager Walker reported that the town sewer project was complete and the final payments had been made to contractors. The project is officially concluded and we can now anticipate the Consent Order which expires December 31, 2016 will be satisfied. Walker stated that we have had some significant rain events and it appears the improvements made have been successful. Focus now needs to shift to sewer lines in the West End of town where we will be deploying flow monitors in an effort to locate lines in need of replacement or lining. Hopefully we can accomplish the same results and absorb the costs of repairs in our annual budget.

Walker state the rehabilitation of the Piedmont water tank has been completed and town water plant operators have begun re-filling the tank. Town employees are working 24/7 for the next three days, filling the tank at night so normal operations are not disrupted during the day. Once the tank reaches capacity of 600,000 gallons, samples will be taken and sent to the lab to confirm the water passes all safety requirements after which the tank will be put back in service. Mr. Walker commended the town employees for their efforts going "above and beyond" to assist with the filling of a tank that the town does not own. He stated their number one concern was the safety of citizens of Piedmont and the overall quality of the water, particularly the elderly patients at the hospital.

Mr. Walker advised Council that the Town credit card had been "hacked" and fraudulent charges occurred in the amount of \$178.66. Town Clerk Tiffany Sisk discovered the error and quickly reported it to the bank who immediately closed the account. The fraudulent charges will be reimbursed.

Walker then made Council aware that Mrs. Sisk had been in touch with PayChex who is offering a direct deposit service for our employees at a cost to the town of \$57.89 per month. Walker stated he wanted to do a little more research but wanted Council to be thinking about possibly acquiring this service.

**TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Bacon requested permission from Council to draft a general ordinance that would allow for annual bonuses for employees, as opposed to having to do a public hearing every year. Discussion followed.

***Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Abel, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to allow Attorney Bacon to draft a general ordinance that would serve as a permanent ordinance allowing annual employee bonuses. Motion passed.***

Attorney Bacon closed her report stating she is finalizing the legal aspects of the sewer project.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Eanes reported on the Workforce Investment Meeting that was held on November 7<sup>th</sup>, he stated himself, several citizens, Ms. Debra Crowder of the Southern Virginia Workforce and Mr. Eric Bowen the Area Extension Agent met and discussed skills training opportunities and funding. He noted that information had been included in the Council Member's packets.

Mayor Eanes also reported the AmeriCorps presence is moving forward as they are working to establish a 501C3 and incorporating.

Mayor Eanes stated he and Officer Sawyer attended the installation service of Reverend Damion Batts at Mount Nebo Baptist Church and it was a very nice service.

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**Mayor's Report Cont'd**

Mayor Eanes closed his report reminding Council and those in attendance there will be a Service of Remembrance on the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of World War II on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Crewe United Methodist Church.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Infrastructure:**

Council Member Sisk reported he would begin putting the lights up at the Railroad Museum Tuesday, November 15, 2016. He stated the Chamber and its volunteers have almost completed decorating the park.

Council Member Sisk inquired on the status of the 911 house numbers.

*Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Sisk, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to enact the 911 address ordinance mirroring that of Blackstone, Virginias. Motion passed.*

Council Member Sisk closed his report stating the Chamber would be at the park again on Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> starting at 9 a.m. to finish decorating, volunteers welcome. He also informed Council all of the electrical, to include the panel box has been upgraded and a huge thanks to those that made that possible.

**Finance:**

Council Member Knight had no report.

**Personnel:**

Vice Mayor Stinson extended a thank you to the Town employees that have worked so hard on the PGH water tank project and other duties.

**Volunteer Services:**

Council Member Faas absent.

**Economic Development:**

Council Member Miskovic had no report.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

Council Member Miskovic asked for an update on the status of the old building on 460. Manager Walker reported the owner had been contacted and steps to improve safety are in place.

Council Member Miskovic asked Council Member Abel for an update on the community service workers. Council Member Abel stated he had a couple available if needed.

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**Continuing Business**

Council Member Miskovic asked for an update on the Animal Control proposal he presented. Mayor Eanes stated there is an individual in Town that is Animal Control certified and currently works elsewhere. If the Town moves forward with hiring another police officer, this individual would only require 4 additional weeks of training to be fully certified as a police officer.

Council Member Miskovic also asked about the DMV partnership and the motion sensor light at the airport. Manager Walker reported the office is moving forward with the DMV partnership and he would have someone check the lights at the airport to evaluate the current lighting situation.

Council Member Miskovic asked Attorney Bacon if a business has their office out of Town and their water meter in Town are they considered in Town or out of Town. Discussion followed. Attorney Bacon agreed to look into the issue.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Council Member Miskovic informed Council that Virginia Tech has several MPA's (Masters of Public Administration) that require internships. He provided Council with an informational packet on the MPA's for their review. Discussion followed. Council agreed to review and discuss/decide at the December 2016 meeting.

Vice Mayor Stinson stated she believed it was the general consensus of the Town Council to not do a float in this year's Christmas Parade. She suggested possibly riding in the back of a pick up or on a trailer and give out small toys to children in attendance. Discussion followed. Council agreed to find a pick up, possibly from a local car dealer and trailer for use in the parade.

**POINTS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE**

Council Member Miskovic publicly thanked the Chief for the professionalism he has shown. Miskovic also stated he believes we have a great thing going for us.

Mayor Eanes reported to Council that Chief Dixon had requested Officers be allowed to take their cars home if they live within a 30 mile radius. Mayor Eanes stated because the Town's pay does not meet a lot of the higher localities this will provide a bit on ease on the personal wallets of the officers. Discussion followed. Council agreed to allow Manager Walker to make the authorization.

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

None

***Motion by Council Member Stinson; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.***

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Greg Eanes Mayor

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W. Wade Walker Town Manager

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