

The Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on March 15, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pearisburg Town Hall. Present for the Meeting were: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Journell, Eaton, Harrell and Clark; Town Manager Vittum; Town Engineer Tawney; Lieutenant Gautier and Town Clerk Harless. Also present was Dianne Dinger, Consultant, Nick Clark, Pearisburg Eye Associates and TJ Atkins, Virginian Leader.

Councilman Munsey led the pledge of allegiance.

Williams made a motion to approve the February 10, 2015 Regular Council Minutes. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Officer Journell addressed Council at this time and informed them that the Town had received an award on behalf of Virginia Municipal League Insurance. Journell explained "Where the Rubber Meets the Road Campaign". This is a cost effective program for the town in lost wages. The Town started participating last year. He stated that he was the representative and designated instructor trained for the Town. Journell stated he has been training the Fire Department quarterly. We have a volunteer staff with inexperienced drivers. His job is to help improve their knowledge of driving emergency vehicles. He has also trained Town employees. The contract requires 50% participation. In 2014 we reached 90% participation in trainings. Participation in this campaign saves us money. He also stated that Town Council could participate in the training as well. The training takes a little over an hour. Journell learned that if we reach our goal our insurance premium decreases by 5%. He stated that once a year he will attend new training to keep his instructor certification. Journell presented a plaque to the Town of Pearisburg recognizing us for our training achievement.

Mayor Dickerson recognized Town Clerk Regina Harless on receiving her Certified Municipal Clerk Certificate (CMC) from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC). He read a letter from IIMC stating that they grant the CMC designation only to those municipal clerks who complete demanding education requirements; and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community and state.

Nick Clark of Pearisburg Eye Associates addressed Council about his desire to hold another 5K/10K Run-About Race Series. He plans to do a 5K/10K this year and the times will run a little longer. He does not feel there will be any major traffic issues since last year went smoothly.

Munsey made a motion to approve the Parade Permit for Pearisburg Eye Associates 5K/10K Run-About Race Series. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Dianne Dinger addressed Council and went over the Planning Project items. She stated that her goal was to revive and invigorate the Town through revitalizing the downtown. There has been organizational efforts made by meeting with downtown merchants and hospital staff involved with downtown items. There is a Merchants meeting the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. The AT Committee has been working with AT hikers. She stated that the Farmers Market will take place every third Thursday and every Saturday. There will be theme days and bands on Thursdays. There will be a food vendor as well as the market vendors and different clinics for health care. At the next meeting we will provide Council with a finalized schedule.

She stated that they were working on creating a positive image for Pearisburg with Open for Business Pearisburg Newsletters, Farm to Fork Newsletters, new Town Brochure, secured a \$100,000 grant for program activities and much more. She has been working with developing partnerships and collaborations with various organizations. She is trying to convey a more positive image of our commercial district by working on economic restructuring and striving to fill the empty commercial spaces.

Council approved the following Consent Items and Reports: Police, Finance, Recreation, Building Permit, Manager, Water and Fire for February 2015.

Harrell reported on the Public Safety Committee. She stated that the Police Department would surplus a vehicle to the Fire Department to replace the existing sedan used by that department. The Dodge cruiser in the Police Department will be repaired at no cost.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve changing the decals on the police vehicles to the design presented in the report. Munsey asked about the cost. Eaton explained that the decals would be phased in as new vehicles are purchased. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Munsey reported on the Property and Recreation Committee. He reported that asbestos removal has started at the Community Center and all the sinks at the library have been repaired. He stated that John Spaur had the winning bid of \$55.55 for the new parking meter. There were no recommendations.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee. The Committee discussed a request for reduced rent on the Community Center, reviewed a Small Business Grant and employee agreements for the Farmers Market which were all deferred action to the full Council. The Committee heard a proposal by Sherri Janney and asked the Town Manager to work with her on developing a recommendation for the Committee to review.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve a Sub-Grant of \$6,000 to the Giles Arts Council to commission four sculptures in the River Art Project using Commission for the Arts funds and work with GAC on placement of the pieces when finished. Munsey asked where the sculptures would be placed. Vittum stated that locations had not been determined yet. Eaton stated that one would be placed along the walking path in the park. Munsey stated that he was not impressed with the choices. Mayor Dickerson stated that the Arts Committee had chosen the artist. Vittum stated that he did not take part in the selection. He did see some of the other submittals. Harrell stated that it was a little difficult to recognize some of the details in the drawings and what the outcome would be. Mayor Dickerson felt that if Robert Tuckwiller was going to be one of the artist the end result would look good because he takes pride in his work. Clark asked if the trash had been gathered. Vittum informed them that the river trash had already been selected and is being stored at various locations. Eaton stated that the target date for completion and display is by Festival in June. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. Voting No: Williams and Munsey. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 2.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council authorize staff to implement a Wine Tasting Event as part of the Farmer's Market on Thursday evenings. Munsey asked if a license was required. Vittum stated that we had received a proposal from Beliveau Estates to use their license. The details have not been discussed yet. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton informed Council of a request for reduced rent on the Cafeteria for Aug 16-19 for a Church Revival. The normal fee is \$50 per day and they are asking it be reduced to \$20 per day. Williams made a motion that the rate be reduced to \$100 which is half the normal fee. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton stated that the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee would be meeting soon to look at fees for the Recreation Department to go over with the new Recreation Director.

Eaton informed Council of a request from the Smiths for a Small Business Loan. In 2013 they replaced a roof and received a grant of \$2500 from the Town. They plan to replace 6 doors and place new safety glass in the front of the building. Clark asked if they had a tenant for the space. Vittum thinks he has a tenant moving into the commercial space. He buys out of circulation and resales. Vittum stated that in this budget year Council had awarded Troy Williams \$1,000 and Grants \$5,000. He stated that under the Business Incentive Program it's capped at \$7500 per year, leaving us a balance of \$1500 under policy until July 1st. Eaton stated that we could look at each individual basis or say it's a one time thing. Vittum stated that the doors and glass would be more commercial grade. We have limited the award up to \$7500 and have already awarded \$6,000 this year leaving a fund balance of \$1500. Vittum stated that the \$2500 Grant went towards \$40,000 for a roof on the Smiths building. This assists the owner in upgrading their building in the downtown area. He stated that it's a volunteer program Council does to help businesses improve their buildings. Harrell felt it was good to do this in order to help keep the downtown businesses and this helps them out too. Williams felt that everyone should get an opportunity. Journell suggested a cap on how many years must pass before re-applying. Munsey asked what was the normal amount awarded. Vittum stated that it was based on a

case by case basis depending on the revenue they bring to the Town. Vittum stated that after installation and receipts have been provided Wilson will do an inspection and approve of the work before a check is issued. Journell asked about a time line they might do the work. Vittum stated it would be completed in the spring. Journell suggested a lesser amount on this one and then decide a total amount within a time frame of x amount of years. Eaton felt this would be kind of hard to do with some larger projects. Vittum suggested referring the criteria back to Finance Committee for review.

Eaton made a motion to approve a Business Incentive Grant for the Smiths in the amount of \$500 for safety doors and glass. Harrell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Williams made a motion to approve the two contracts for Farmers Market Manager and Farm to Fork Cooking Class Coordinator contingent upon Town Attorney approval. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Williams reported on the Public Works Committee. The water loss for January was 35.01%. Public Works should have enough salt for one more snow storm. He informed them of a tractor trailer knocking down one of the streetlights at the Virginian Leader.

The Committee made a recommendation to extend the term contract with Anderson and Associates, David Dent and Gay and Neel for another five (5) years. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Committee made a recommendation to use the SERCAP Grant of \$15,000 for additional camera work to locate Inflow/Infiltration problem areas. The original grant was for a Sewer PER. Tawney was able to complete the Sewer PER with other money. He has asked for this amendment to the Grant and is waiting on a response from Larry Wallace of SERCAP. The Committee agreed to this change contingent upon SERCAP approval. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Tawney explained to the Committee about a citizen Lennie Kelly having a pipe burst in his home having 312,000 gallons of water go through his meter. After his bill was adjusted the new amount due was \$650. Mr. Kelly is unable to pay this amount all at once. The Committee made a recommendation that Mr. Kelly pay his normal bill plus \$25 until the balance is paid in full. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Clark made a motion to appoint Nicole Price to serve on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Council with a term ending June 30, 2019. Eaton seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Williams made a motion to approve a Proclamation for Local Government Education Week. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

PROCLAMATION
APRIL 1-7, 2015 AS
LOCAL GOVERNMENT EDUCATION WEEK

WHEREAS, since the colonial period, the Commonwealth of Virginia has closely held the institutions of local government; and

WHEREAS, local governments throughout the Commonwealth provide valuable services to the citizens of the communities they serve; and

WHEREAS, citizen services such as, law enforcement, public health and safety, recreational opportunities, and educating local children, are most often delivered at the local level; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the work performed by local governments, the Virginia General Assembly, on February 29, 2012, designated the first week in April as Local Government Education Week in Virginia; and

WHEREAS, April 2, 1908 was the creation of the Council-Manager form of government in the City of Staunton thereby making the first week in April appropriate for this designation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the **Town of Pearisburg** that April 1-7, 2015 is hereby designated as Local Government Education Week; and

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED, that the **Town of Pearisburg** will strive to promote civic education and engagement in an effort to educate citizens about their local government, strengthen the sense of community, and engage the next generation of local government managers.

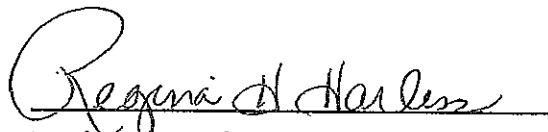
ADOPTED this 10th day of March, 2015.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Robert L. Dickerson, Mayor



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk

Council tabled any discussion on the Personnel Policy until next month to allow them more time to read the document.

Williams made a motion to approve a Parade Permit request from Becky Thomas to hold a Walk for Autism. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Munsey made a motion to approve the Pearisburg Community Market Hold Harmless Agreement contingent upon Town Attorney approval. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Munsey, Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Vittum updated Council on a memo from VML/VACo Steering Committee about contract negotiations with APCo involving general service rates and street lighting rates.

On a motion by Clark, seconded by Munsey, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council went into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(5), for discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

On a motion by Williams, seconded by Munsey, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council returned to regular session.

On a motion by Harrell, seconded the Clark, and passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council certified that the subject discussed in this Executive Session was the subject identified in the motion to go into Executive Session and only that subject, and that Council discussed no other subject while in Executive Session.

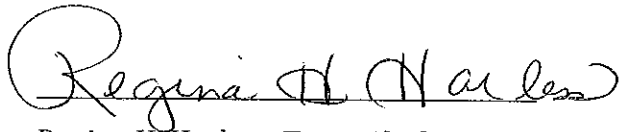
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk

