

Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on September 8, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pearisburg Municipal Building Council Chambers. Present for the meeting was Mayor Robert L. Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Member Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton; Town Attorney Hartley; Town Manager Vittum; Town Engineer Tawney; Police Chief Martin; and Town Clerk Harless. Also present was Hope Harrell, Kim Woodyard, Anthony Woodyard and Kevin Belcher (County) citizens and TJ Atkins, Virginian Leader.

Williams made a motion that the Regular August 11, 2015 Minutes be approved. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. Abstaining: Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0.

Anthony Woodyard with the American Cancer Society serving as Relay for Life Manager for 2015 and 2016 addressed Council at this time. He wanted to thank the Town of Pearisburg for their support over the years. Woodyard presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Town Council for their dedicated support. He also presented Mayor Dickerson a Certificate of Appreciation for his personal efforts on serving as key note speaker and performing opening ceremonies.

Kevin Belcher addressed Council at this time to provide an update on the recent water loss finding in Ingram Village area. The County and the Town worked together to find the problem. He stated that he had been watching the water levels for awhile and noticed that the levels were dropping at night in Ingram Village. He did some calculations and estimated that we were losing 41 gallons per minute. Eaton asked if that was something the town could do. Tawney stated that he did not have the same equipment. Hartley asked why the town could not do better. Tawney stated that he would need training on the equipment. Hartley asked what area we planned to look at next. Tawney stated that he has been working with Anderson and Associates on 4 to 5 other areas. Belcher stated that the town has a way to check if there are any issues in the Bluff City and Riverbend areas. Eaton asked if the water loss would go down significantly. Tawney stated that it should drop. Belcher had noticed that after the repair was made in Ingram Village the numbers came back up and found out it was due to a fire hydrant being left open. Hartley asked how long you would leave a hydrant open and what the loss there would be.

Tawney estimated around 140,000 gallons went thru the hydrant. Hartley asked Belcher how many hours he had put in on finding the leak. Belcher stated that he was not sure he just wanted to help and make a difference. Eaton stated that we have been talking about water loss for years. Belcher stated that it was not something that just happened. Council thanked Belcher for his power point presentation and report.

Harrell reported on the Public Safety Committee. The Committee discussed Parking Wrong Way Ordinance. They asked Vittum to draft an ordinance for October. Committee discussed ordering tickets for the Police Department. The estimated cost is \$547.00. They discussed issues involving the Fire Department's needs for additional training. A draft Training Operation Procedure was reviewed. The Fire Department has one firefighter without a driver's license. Chief Stump will be providing a list with the type of training the fireman has presently. There were no recommendations.

Munsey reported on the Property and Recreation Committee. The Committee was informed that the murals are complete and have been placed on the PATS building. The painting on the inside should start soon. Munsey reported that Tawney would like to build a shed that would hold salt and temporary asphalt. Eaton asked if there was somewhere else to store the salt. Tawney stated that he really did not have any other options. The proposed structure would be a quonset hut. The Committee discussed the recent vandalism at the Community Center. Clark asked how they entered the building. Martin stated that the door to the cafeteria and the east side main door were unlocked. Munsey asked if the locks had been changed. Mayor stated that Wilson said the contractor started on one lock and had to leave. He only got one lock changed while he was here. Tawney mentioned that some security camera's might be a good idea. Clark asked what is the protocol for locking the building and who is responsible. Vittum stated that with the existing lock system it's hard to know who came and went and left the doors open after staff had locked them. Clark stated that we should put a policy in place once the locks are changed.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee. Committee reviewed the Farmer's Market Grant expenditures and revenues to date. Staff will be doing a major draw request early September for grant re-imbusement. They discussed a fireman's glasses that were

broken while on duty and not covered by insurance. Staff will be getting requests for bids on exterminator services at the Library.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve the publication of the names of all unpaid Real and Personal Property tax payers on September 16<sup>th</sup>. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council authorize payment of \$102.00 to repair glasses broken by a fire fighter while performing his duties. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Munsey reported on the Public Works Committee. The Committee discussed staff efforts in looking for leaks in the system. They also talked about the leak at Ingram Village that was found and replacement of the valve. There were no recommendations.

Vittum updated Council on the Community Center. He reported that staff is waiting on final quotes for bathroom fixtures. Munsey stated that he had attended the Pearisburg Red Devils Reunion and discussed the reunion making a donation on the flooring for the cafeteria. The Reunion Class would like to have the Community Center exclusively for their reunions in the future. Mayor Dickerson stated that arrangements are already in place that in the future the Farmers Market will not be held during the weekend of the Red Devils Reunion. Munsey stated that he was informed that the reunion went well and everything turned out good.

Vittum briefed Council on Dianne Dingers Report and asked if Council had any questions. Clark asked how much the grants were that she is proposing be written. Vittum asked if Council wanted to continue to use funds for River Sculpture using the Arts Grant each year. He stated that he had talked to Mrs. Dinger about doing a better job of getting a one-page synopsis for the grants. Journell stated that the first grant deadline mentioned was Sept 24<sup>th</sup>. Vittum suggested we wait until the next round in 2016. Munsey asked Council how they felt about continuing the Arts Grant and doing the river sculptures.

Eaton asked if the Market had grown over the summer. She normally has seen around five or six vendors. Vittum stated that we are looking at the market sustaining itself and having a director and a board they answer to. The board would consist of stakeholders

and vendors. Eaton asked if the Market would be run by the Town after the grant is fulfilled. She thinks we can do it without the music and wine garden. Journell stated that the lawn was used by so many people she thinks that scheduling is a problem. We are going to have to look at it and get some type of agreement.

Clark stated that Council needs to think about how they feel about Mrs. Dinger writing the grants and benefiting from them. She feels that all of Council needed to be alright with it. Journell stated that before any decision making we need to actually see the grant and how the money will be spent. She also stated that we need to know if it's funded as "in-kind" or a "matching" grant and what our responsibility would be. She feels that the more information available the better Council can make a decision on the grant. Mayor Dickerson stated that the last grant was broken down with details and future grants should be done this way prior to submitting. Clark had questions about the consultant and grant writer benefiting from the grant. She asked if all of Council was comfortable with this process. She feels that Council needs to discuss it and see if it's something they want to do in the future.

Hartley stated that in the past consultants such as engineers have applied for grants. He stated that this was a well-known practice. Clark asked if this was the pattern we want going forward. Vittum stated that for example if Anderson and Associates offered to write a grant for the Town they realize there is no guarantee they will be hired as the consultant. The contract would go before Council for approval. Clark asked if the person doing the social media and advertising design was put out to bid. Vittum suggested getting a few council members together to meet with Dinger. Journell and Clark volunteered to serve on a Grants Subcommittee to meet with Dinger and go over items.

Vittum updated Council on the boat landings for Bluff City and Whitt-Riverbend Park. The construction is moving along good. The ramp has been put in at Riverbend and they have paved at Bluff City.

Vittum briefed Council on the upcoming dinner dedication with the Giles Arts Council on the murals for the PATS Building and the River Sculpture Art Walking Trail to be held in September.

Hartley had some concerns with the parade permit applications submitted. There are two that are not complete. He stated that we may need to enforce this ordinance. He

stated that the applicant should come in and amend the form with details for the record. Clark asked if anyone was going to hold up signs with disturbing images with the church. Hartley stated that it was freedom of speech. He stated that if a group was walking and moving it should be considered a parade permit. He stated that Council could approve them now based on what was submitted and get staff to get the proper forms filled out and missing information filled in for Riverview Baptist Church and Giles High School Homecoming.

Clark made a motion to approve the Parade Permits submitted for the Fireman and Fall Festival as submitted and Riverview Baptist Church and Giles High School Homecoming with amendments to their application. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Council discussed holding a Public Hearing on the water rate increase October 13, 2015. The hearing will be advertised in the September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup> issues of the Virginian Leader.

Eaton asked Vittum if he had done any calculations on water rate increases. Vittum stated that he had prepared some spreadsheets on an increase in overage. Harrell stated that Council had voted on an increase of \$3.75 on the minimum and not to increase overage. Eaton wanted to know what Council thought on whether to keep it as straight across the board or do we want to take time to look at increasing overage. Vittum stated that if we come down a quarter we will have to go up on the overage. Eaton asked Vittum if he had prepared some type of memo for staff to understand the reason for the increase. Vittum stated that he understood Council was going to let staff know how they want us to approach it. Harrell wants to make sure they get the correct answer.

Council took a brief recess.

Vittum briefly went over what amount would be needed if Council wished to do an increase on the average. At this time Council plans to leave the increase on the overage as is.

Clark made a motion that Council hold a Public Hearing on the water rate increase October 13, 2015. The hearing will be advertised in the September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 7<sup>th</sup> issues of the Virginian Leader. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson;

Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Hartley stated that a good talking point would be that if Council did not go ahead with the rate increase then the PSA would proceed with River Withdrawal and the rate would have been much higher.

Vittum updated Council on the Plat submitted by Davis and DePlazes. The plat is for an 8.8-acre parcel being subdivided from the Giles Country Club property. The regional planning office had indicated that due to the amount of land in the residual property showing it in the insert was appropriate. He stated that Planning Commission recommends that it be approved subject to all required signatures being affixed and payment of the required fee.

Munsey made a motion that Council approve the Davis and DePlazes plat for an 8.8-acre parcel being subdivided from the Giles Country Club property contingent upon all required signatures being affixed and payment of the required fee. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Council was in agreement to send the Town Newsletter out in an electronic version with a limited number of copies available at Town Hall, Library and Chamber for the September newsletter due to no longer being able to get copies made at the Virginian Leader. Staff will create a mailing list upon request and send it electronically using Constant Contact for future newsletters. Harless stated that notice of this change would go in the Virginian Leader, Town Facebook and Website.

On a motion by Munsey, seconded by Williams, 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) (1), for discussion, consideration or interviews of candidates employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the Town of Pearisburg.

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 Williams, seconded by Munsey, 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.

Council asked that staff send a letter to Giles County Public Service Authority expressing appreciation on the assistance provided from them in locating leaks at Ingram Village.

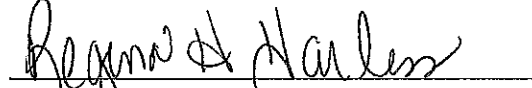
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:



Regina M. Harless, Town Clerk