

Pearisburg Town Council met in Special Session on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pearisburg Municipal Building Council Chambers. Present for the meeting was Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Ballard; Town Attorney Hartley; Town Manager Meredith; Town Clerk Harless; and Town Engineer Tawney. Also present was citizen Natalie Thwaites.

Council discussed the Virginia Tech (VT) Conceptual Design for the Recreation Department. Thwaites stated that VT would like to have comments back from Council by February 3. Eaton asked about expanding the upper field. Thwaites stated that 200-foot on the smaller fields is sufficient for ages 13 and under. She stated that when Dixie League has tournaments or plays games ages 11 to 13 they like to hold them on the 250-foot field. Thwaites was not in favor of the trees between the ballfield and parking lot around the Community Center. Williams was concerned with balls hitting windows of the parked cars. Mayor Dickerson stated that this could be resolved by using netting you raise up and down like what Calfee Park has in Pulaski.

Eaton would like to see the PATS building fixed up to provide a small venue where it could be rented for social events. It could be for indoor/outdoor use. She suggested adding ceiling fans to make it look nice and keep it cooler in the summer months. Journell asked if it was possible to place bathrooms in old concession stand. Tawney indicated that a pump would need to be installed to pump the sewer up to the main line near the walking trail. She asked about how sewer would be brought to the proposed new concession stand. Tawney stated that it could be done two different ways. He stated it could be connected to the front lawn of the Community Center or pump it up and connect to the pool.

Thwaites suggested using the area behind current concession stand and the area of the old one once its torn down for a practice football field. Clark asked for more details on Disc Golf. Staff explained how it would work and be placed around the park walking trail. Ballard asked if the access to the proposed concession stand and overlook would be through the pool area. Eaton stated that the concession stand would be open to public and the splash area would be accessed from the pool. Tawney was concerned about the sand area and it getting in the pool and recirculation pumps. Eaton would like to eliminate No. 7 Toddler Playground. Thwaites suggested placing gravel on a lot right off Elm Street towards the back of the Community Center and behind the church and build a few steps to walk down. Tawney asked if an SST could be

allowed in Town for our park area. Hartley was not sure and would need to check on that. Clark talked about the Power Grant and the possibility of getting funds from there to help with the proposed Sports Complex for Pearisburg.

Thwaites asked Council and Hartley about getting a 501(c)3 status for the Town. She has companies not wanting to donate unless we are 501(c)3. Ballard suggested finding another local entity that is already a 501(c)3 and funnel the donation funds through them. Hartley stated to Thwaites that she could state that the donations are deductible as provided by the law. Hartley stated that you can set up a public or private charities for 501(c)3. The private ones are for specific purposes. Hartley stated that you could set up your organization and apply for 501(c)3 but the Town would not be involved. Clark suggested asking United Fund about using their 501(c) 3 status for the Pearisburg Sports Complex donations. Ballard asked about the timeframe for the project. Meredith felt it would be a build as you go project when the funds from donations are available.

Eaton would like to see Volleyball Sand Pit area removed. Thwaites would like to see more shelter around the pool area. Thwaites will have a Dog Park added to the plans. Eaton suggested changing the entrance to the pool parking lot and enter to the right of the senior center near the walking trail entrance.

Council discussed placing practice fields near the Sewer Plant on Tannery Road. They felt the location was to remote and wanted to focus on the area in town and make improvements in the current park.

Journell was concerned that the parking design would use too much space on the front lawn. Tawney mentioned having only parallel parking in that area.

Thwaites stated that she would report back to the Design Team and let them know the items to change on the proposed design. She stated that what she has heard from Council on changes was to add a dog park and flag football field; keep the playground in one area; create more parking off Elm Street and behind the Community Center; make improvements to the PATS building by building a deck area and add ceiling fans inside and make minor improvements; have only one 250-foot ballfield; add picnic area/shelter around the pool; eliminate the volleyball sand pit; change the parking area in front of the Community Center; and the press box/concession stand built into the hill that has the deck on top.

Council discussed involving the Pearisburg Red Devils in the planning process for the Recreation Conceptual Plan. Journell stated that she would be more than happy as a courtesy to let the Red Devils know about the proposed plans and fundraising that will be coming up.

Meredith updated Council on the status of the Rural Development – UV/Sewer Project. He stated that Council would need to consider passing an ordinance within 60 days of signing the original documents to get the 1.375%. The original documents were signed mid-December. Staff has asked Dennis Amos with Hurt & Proffitt (formerly Anderson & Associates) to attend the February meeting and do a brief presentation and needs assessment on the sewer lines that are being proposed for replacement. He can also answer any questions. If you have any questions or something you would like addressed at the meeting, please get them to staff by Friday for Amos to have time to prepare.

Meredith stated that Amos has a video of the sewer lines and pictures of the identified areas for Pearisburg. Meredith asked Tawney if Amos studied every sewer line. Tawney stated that the process started several years ago by smoke testing, flow testing and checking manholes. Meredith asked if the areas were chosen due to problems. Tawney stated that the areas in need of replacement have common sewer overflows and back-ups.

Meredith stated that he planned to begin working on an Asset Improvement Plan. He stated that the plan would not be available for the February 14 meeting. Eaton asked if it could be incorporated into the project. Meredith stated that Amos could help us make this possible in the future; but not for this project. Ballard felt that the UV portion was very important and needed to be done. He stated that the questions we have are mainly for the sewer line replacement portion. Meredith stated that if Council chose to do one project and not the other we would still be locked in at the same interest rate. Williams asked if Council elected to do the UV only and later on decided to do the sewer line replacement how would that work. Meredith stated that the financing would be whatever the rate was at that time. Williams thinks we should do it all at one time. Ballard wanted to make sure he understood that with this interest rate we would not need to increase rates for the town. Hartley stated that we shouldn't need to increase rates unless the bids go over.

Journell asked if the County was interested in working on the project. Hartley stated that it depends on the depth and whether they are in the road. Tawney asked if there was any conflicts about using the County. Hartley stated it was federal money and we could check with

Mr. Hilt. Meredith stated that Hilt seemed to indicate it was a possibility. Hartley stated that the town could do some alternate bids. He also suggested working with engineers about the savings and feasibility of County doing the work. Tawney stated he had spoken to Mr. Hilt and he was not favorable of using a force account. Meredith stated there was some concern with completing the project within 5 years and if it took longer there would be additional paperwork involved. Hartley felt there would not be any liability issues since the county has their own Workers Compensation Policy and town has their own.

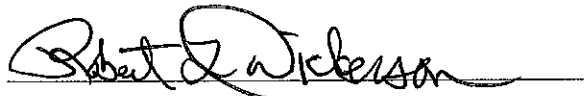
Meredith stated that no action was needed on the Goodwill Maintenance Agreement. The DEQ indicated it was an agreement between Goodwill, Giles County IDA and DEQ. Tawney stated that the retention pond was underground piping and DEQ inspects it. Goodwill would need to hire a contractor to maintain the retention pond.

Mayor Dickerson stated that on February 14th at 6:30 p.m. prior to the Council meeting we would have a brief reception for Ballard and Meredith. Everyone can invite their families to stop in during this time.

Clark encouraged Council to attend the upcoming Vision Sessions on February 8 and 9.

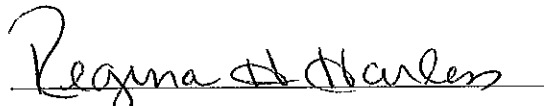
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk