

The Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on March 10, 2020 at 7:30 pm at the Pearisburg Municipal Building. Present for the meeting was Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell; Town Attorney Hartley; Town Manager Meredith; Town Clerk Harless; Police Chief Martin; Public Works Director Wilson; and Town Treasurer Harrell. Also present was Pastor Brian Burch, citizen; and Amelia Whittaker, Virginian Leader.

Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular February 11, 2020 meeting as written. Ballard seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Journell reported on the Public Safety Committee. Williams commended the Police Department on the recent Drug Interdiction. Meredith requested that the Public Safety Notes be amended to reflect that Town Clerk Harless' help was appreciated on working with the Chief Martin on the COPS Grant application and submittal.

Ballard reported on the Property and Recreation Committee. Eaton asked if there had been any fundraising for the Parks and Rec Revitalization Project. Ballard stated that Amanda Tickle was still taking orders for T-shirts. Eaton suggested selling t-shirts at ballgames and maybe doing a change jar for donations.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee. Cora Gnegy discussed Giles Jumpstart Project and ways the Town could participate in awarding prizes. Eaton stated that Gnegy was interested in the Town doing a new mural on the former Ingram Furniture building. The Committee discussed the COPS Hiring Program and application submittal process.

The Committee recommends that Council approve an award from the Town in the total amount of \$500.00 to the highest ranking participant of the "New Business" category of the Jumpstart Giles Grant whose business is located within the corporate limits of Pearisburg; and, award \$500.00 to the highest ranking participant of the "Existing Business" category of the Jumpstart Giles Grant whose business is located within the corporate limits of Pearisburg. In each category, the award will go to the second highest ranking business located within the corporate limits of Pearisburg should the winner also be located within the corporate limits of Pearisburg. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Committee recommended that the Council approve a Business Incentives Grant award in the amount of \$2,139.00 to Eartha Developers, LLC for the purpose of improving the Ingram Furniture Building by replacing the commercial Main Street level door locking system, repair the large masonry cracks on the exterior walls of the building, and installation of commercial guttering for the entire building. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Committee recommended that the Council approve a Business Incentives Grant award in the amount of \$5711.00 to the Christian Mission for the installation of a new metal roof on its Main Building and 518 Building. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Pastor Brian Burch attended the meeting on behalf of the Christian Mission and wanted to thank Town Staff for working with the Christian Mission.

Meredith briefed Council on the COPS Grant. He stated that the grant has a 75/25 split for salary and fringe benefits for a 3-year period. The Town could be awarded up to 75%. The towns portion increases on year 2 and 3. On year 4 the Town will need to budget approximately \$70,000 for the additional officer's salary and benefits. This would not cover uniforms and gear. The consensus of Council was that the grant would be the best way to move forward on adding an additional officer to the Police Department.

Eaton reported on the Public Works Committee. She stated that the Public Works staff had repaired 5 leaks in the last week. That department has put forth a lot of effort on locating leaks and making repairs to help reduce water loss.

Clark asked if staff had discussed the practice field with the Recreation Director. Meredith stated that the biggest issue was to get all home games scheduled at the end of the season. This will allow time to finish the field before hosting games. Clark stated that her understanding was that providing a practice area behind the snack bar was part of the project. Ballard answered that he understood the practice field was discussed and part of the Parks and Recreation Revitalization Project. The Town is utilizing Town funds and not those raised from fundraising to make needed repairs to the small ballfield. He stated that the back-up plan for practice was at the Sewer Plant. He stated that Director Collins is getting a plan together with

the other recreation directors to schedule games and look at locations. Clark thought Collins wanted the area behind snack building, she thought that since we had the equipment to grade and get that area ready. Meredith stated that he would need to communicate with County Staff to see if the work could be added. He stated that he understands that they have other projects they need to address. Meredith stated that he would need to get a cost estimate as well.

Williams stated that citizens had approached him about a Dog Park. Ballard and Journell mentioned that Clerk Harless is also interested in getting a Dog Park. Harless briefly spoke with Council and stated that she is working with Director Collins and a citizen in Town to gather data and build a budget for the Dog Park. They will present it to Council for appropriation in the FY2022 budget.

Meredith updated Council on the RD/UV Sewer Project. The Town is developing options to repair the service lateral on Main Street. Rural Development is requiring a contractor to do the work. The Town or County staff will not be able to do the work and still utilize Rural Development financing. Completing the project utilizing Town and County staff members could greatly reduce the cost of the realignment. He stated that he will gather more data for presentation to Council.

Williams made a motion to approve members for the Town of Pearisburg Beautification Advisory Committee Members as follows: Beth Tanner, Barbara Hollie, Teresa Fletcher, Rhonda Calveccio, Dora Williams and Mark Fenstermaker. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Clark made a motion to appoint Vice-Mayor Eaton to chair the Town of Pearisburg Beautification Advisory Committee. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Journell made a motion to appoint Assistant Town Clerk Williams to serve as Town Staff point of contact on the Town of Pearisburg Beautification Advisory Committee. Harrell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Ballard made a motion to request a public hearing regarding the proposed lease of office space for its Probation and Parole District # 16 sub-office at 1701 Wenonah Avenue,

Pearisburg. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Harrell made a motion that Council approve the Town Manager to sign the contract for Fun Time Amusements. Eaton seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Harrell made a motion that Council approve the Library Proposal/Contract for Copy Machine with Wytheville Office Supply pending Hartley's approval. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith updated Council on the King Heights Tank Interior Renovation project. He stated that when the PSA and Town put the tank offline and used other tanks, they experienced several leaks during that time period. He and the PSA Director are not comfortable moving forward until we have a better understanding of the cause of the problems in the Town's water system. He stated that it could be due to a valve not opening and closing properly. He stated that the tank will not be taken out of operation next week as planned. Staff will continue to work to identify the cause of the problem.

Journell made a motion that Council approve the Audit for Fiscal Year 2019. Eaton seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith recognized Treasurer Harrell for all her hard work and receiving a good audit review.

On a motion by Williams, seconded by Ballard, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Ballard, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; and Harrell, yes; Council went into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (1), for discussion, consideration or interviews of candidates for 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 Ballard, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Ballard, absent; Journell, yes; Clark yes; and Harrell, yes; Council returned to regular session.

On a motion by Harrell seconded by Ballard, and passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Ballard, absent; Journell, yes; Clark yes; and Harrell, 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.

Ballard made a motion that Council amend the Town of Pearisburg Code for all regular monthly Council Meetings to begin at 6:30 pm on the second Tuesday of the month. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

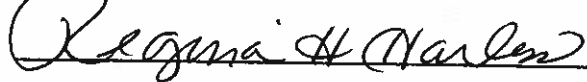
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk