

Council Minutes
Workshop Meeting
August 27, 2018 - 6:30 p.m. – Immediately following the Public Hearing Meeting
502 Front Street E, Coeburn, VA

Attendees:

Upon roll call, all members of council were present. Russell A. Mullins – Town Manager, Cathy Sharpe - Clerk/Treasurer and William Sturgill – Town Attorney were also present.

Call to Order:

Mayor Jeff Kiser called the meeting to order. Deventae Mooney gave the invocation. The group remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeff Livingston.

Public Expression:

Tyler Payne, 8649 Dr. Ralph Stanley Hwy., Coeburn VA 24230 addressed council. Mr. Payne asked what council's thoughts were on a video game studio in Coeburn. He stated that there is not a lot of technology and availability to our youths in regards to this field. The idea is to use Mountain Empire Community College or local schools to teach the kids in our area to do 3d modeling, animation, programming, all the main figure heads of gaming projects. Those kids could then be brought in, given a job and create a video game to release. He asked what kind of support the town could give for this idea, meaning could the town contribute funds?

Mike Holbrook asked Mr. Payne to explain what exactly a video gaming studio consists of. Mr. Payne advised that it could be anything from a very large group to a very small group and even an individual. He said studios mainly consists of a group of people who can animate, create 3d models, design and put together a packaged game to upload.

Mike Holbrook asked if this would be for profit in which Mr. Payne replied that there would be no profit until the game is created and released.

Mr. Jeff Kiser asked what type of support he is expecting from council. He asked for a meeting place that would include electricity and internet.

Sharon Still asked if Mr. Payne has a business plan in place. He stated that he is working on a plan but has not completed this plan. He said it was a last minute decision to pitch the idea to council tonight. The meeting was held sooner than he had hoped but he was instructed to attend.

Mr. Russell Mullins, Town Manager suggested that Mr. Payne check with EDA. He thinks they are better equipped to handle these types of projects.

Mike Holbrook asked him to leave his contact information so he could give it to the Lay's Board. This board will be meeting Thursday or Friday this week and Mr. Holbrook said he would discuss this matter with that board.

Ms. Sharon Still and Mr. Russell Mullins suggested that he check into applying for grants to help fund his project.

Mr. Jeff Kiser explained that the business plan is a crucial part of what he is trying to achieve. He advised Mr. Payne to talk to Mike Holbrook and the Lay's Foundation because they have space available; he told him to get a business plan ready and to check for funding with SBA and with People's Inc. in Abingdon.

Public expression was closed.

Approval of the Agenda:

Jeff Kiser made a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Mike Wright seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Reports:

Town Manager

Russell A. Mullins – Town Manager reported that the tennis courts are currently being resurfaced. He said that he had the netting posts replaced as well. He stated that he spoke with David Cox about the payment from the county and they are going to pay David Clapp directly and then the town will get the remaining balance of what was agreed on. He advised that he will contact those who agreed to contribute to the repairs of the tennis courts.

Ms. Sharon Still requested that she would like a total for deposits for admission, parties, and concessions for the pool. She also asked for the amount that was purchased at Food City in Coeburn, Payless in Wise, Priceless in Coeburn, and also at Sam's. Ms. Still then asked for a total of the payroll, Big Boy Pizza and chemicals used at the pool. She would like to have this for the next council meeting on September 10, 2018 if possible. These numbers would let her know if the pool actually made a profit or showed a loss.

- a. Public Works – Jeff Livingston, Public Works Superintendent reported that a leak on Wythe Road had been repaired along with leaks on High and Quillen Avenues. He advised that the roof had been sealed at the Lay's building and that it will be checked after the next heavy rain to insure there are no further issues.

Ms. Sharon Still asked if the leak in the alleyway below Gene and Linda Collins residence had been repaired between their house and the church parsonage. Mr. Livingston stated that it had been repaired. Ms. Still asked if Lamar Street had been paved and water lines replaced in that area. Mr. Livingston said it would be taken care of after the Guest River Rally is over.

Mr. Russell Mullins reported that the pagers are in and been distributed. Deventae Mooney asked how the system operates. Mr. Mullins replied that Mr. Livingston will make the determination as to who will need to be called out. Mr. Livingston will be notified by the police department first; if Mr. Livingston cannot be reached Mr. Mullins and Randall Meade will be contacted. Deventae Mooney asked if there is still a schedule as to who will be called; Mr. Mullins answered yes. Sharon Still asked if the pagers work at everyone's homes and if failure to come out still has the same write up policy to which Mr. Mullins answered yes to both.

Mike Holbrook thanked Jeff Livingston for the attention that was given to the roof at the Lay's building. He also asked if everything was okay at the water plant. Mr. Livingston stated everything is going well at the plant.

Sharon Still asked if all the meters have been replaced on Meadow Street. Mr. Livingston stated that they have not all been replaced.

Mr. Deventae Mooney asked about the street lights that are not burning. He would like to have those light burning for the larger group coming for Lead-Virginia on September 21st.

Jeff Kiser asked what has been done on the insurance where the street light was hit. Mr. Mullins reported that nothing has been done because the individual is supposed to replace it, but hasn't yet. Mr. Mullins said he sent the insurance company a quote for the street light. He hasn't heard anything from State Farm, the individual's insurance company. He advised that he would do a follow up with them.

Sharon Still stated that she thought the lights would look good if they were moved to the other side of the street. She thinks moving them would prevent them from being hit where they are now located. Mr. Mullins advised that the only issue would be running new electrical lines to the new location.

- b. The Lane Group – There was no representative from The Lane Group present. Mr. Mullins reported that the items that needed to be placed in advertisement for Star Branch Road, water meter replacement and water main replacement were advertised. He and Chris Mullins are suppose to get together this week to discuss this.

Treasurer:

Cathy Sharpe, Clerk/Treasurer, reported a posted cash balance of \$86,521.56 as of August 24, 2018. She reported outstanding checks in the amount of \$52,047.84, accounts payable due in the amount of \$24,078.74 and interim accounts payable in the amount of \$63,091.01. After deducting the accounts payable due and outstanding checks, the reconciled cash balance was \$10,394.98.

Ms. Sharpe stated that the August 13, 2018 regular meeting minutes will be distributed with September 10, 2018 regular council packets.

Ms. Sharpe reported two additional deposits since reports had been presented for the meeting. These deposits totaled \$4,899.82, making the total cash availability \$15,294.80.

Sharon Still asked if Food City amount in interim accounts payables was for the total charges for the pool. Ms. Sharpe replied that it was one check for the total amount due.

Police Department

There was no representative from the Police Department present.

Fire Department

There was no representative from the Fire Department present.

Attorney Report

William Sturgill, Town Attorney gave council copies of the police department and related ordinances that he has been updating. He stated that he had also given copies to Chief Scott Brooks and Captain Jimmy Williams to review as well. Mr. Sturgill advised that he had taken the code sections that the town currently has and replaced them with the most updated code provisions to make sure that the law we currently have on the books for ordinances is updated and current. He advised that if anyone had any questions or concerns he would answer those at the next council meeting.

Discussion:

- a. Mountain Empire Older Citizens Leigh Ann Bolinsky Memorial Park – Mr. Mullins said this letter is just for council information only. The 2nd annual Leigh Ann Bolinsky 5K run/walk will be held Saturday, September 29, 2018 in Big Stone Gap. It will start at the Visitors Center and will follow the Greenbelt Trail. This run/walk will support services for Mountain Laurel Cancer Support and Resource Center.
- b. Guest River Rally – Mr. Mullins stated that he and Jeff Livingston have been working to set up for Guest River Rally. He said town hall has been working on setting up vendors and sending out work orders. He said that painting has been done at the fountain, stage and other areas for this event. Sharon Still said that the heart on the back of the rocking chair needs to be painted. Ms. Still asked how many vendors were going to be there for this event. Jeff Kiser replied that there are 14 regular vendors, 6 food vendors, some additional food vendors along with some additional craft type vendors. He said a lot of work from the Coeburn Improvement Association has gone into the Guest River Rally. He said that there is something out there for everyone including music on Saturday. He advised that Spearhead Trails is going to be participating this year. He said they have a couple of events scheduled for Saturday, an ATV Poker Run which will have a \$1000.00 prize for first prize and then they are having a ride and shine show for jeeps, ATV's dirt bikes and antique cars. Mr. Kiser said that on Friday and Saturday Spearhead Trails has a group, Dirt Tracks, that will be filming a tv show. On Saturday afternoon they will be

filming in downtown Coeburn. He also said Elite Fitness will be doing a strong man, strong woman contest and Chandler Cole will be doing a workout demonstration for martial arts. The Coeburn Improvement Associations wants to issue a big thank you to Jim and Kathy Wampler from Celebrate, for being actively involved in stage decorations for the beauty pageant. The decorations were then replaced for the rally.

Old Business:

There was no old business to discuss.

Jeff Kiser made a motion to enter into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A.1) to discuss performance of Town of Coeburn personnel and also in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A.7) to consult with legal counsel pertaining to specific legal matters. Sharon Still seconded that motion which resulted in all Ayes.

Closed Session:

Immediately following closed session, Cathy Sharpe, Clerk/Treasurer, read the "Certification of Closed Meeting," which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. A roll call vote certifying that only business matters that were identified in the motion convening were discussed or considered. The roll call vote resulted in all Ayes.

There was no action resulting from closed session.

Council Comments and Concerns:

Mike Holbrook stated that the work being done throughout the town is obvious; the town looks good. He realizes that there are things that are unseen being done as well, and the efforts that town employees put forth are appreciated. He said he is looking forward to the Guest River Rally and hopes that the weather is good for the weekend.

Deventae Mooney thanked all the town employees for all that they do, especially public works this week, for getting the town presentable for the Labor Day festivities. He said that he himself is somewhat responsible for the Pep Rally on Thursday night at 6:30. The band, football teams, volleyball teams and cheerleaders, along with all the youth players and cheerleaders will be present.

Sharon Still thanked everyone in every department for all their hard work. She thanked the council members who do things that are not known. She stated that these unknown things eventually show up and their work shows. She is looking forward to the Guest River Rally and said she may have to help with bingo on Saturday. She said there is also a corn hole tournament on Saturday for basketball. She said she appreciates all that the Coeburn Improvement Association does to present the rally to the town. She appreciates how gorgeous the town looks every year.

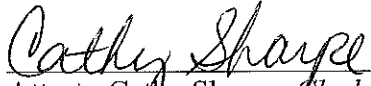
Mike Wright wants to thank the town employees for all that they have done. He thanked Jeff Livingston for all the hard work he has done since he became Public Works Superintendent.

Jeff Kiser invited everyone to come out and enjoy the festivities at the rally; there will be something to do for everyone. He thanked Jeff Livingston for the work that was done to prepare for the rally.

Adjournment:

Jeff Kiser made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,


Attest: Cathy Sharpe, Clerk


Jeffrey G. Kiser, Mayor