

**Town of Bluefield
Town Council
Minutes
May 10, 2016**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

PRESENT

Don Harris, Mayor
Anglis Trigg, Councilmember
Donnie Linkous, Councilmember
Jimmy Jones, Vice Mayor
Lee Riffe, Councilmember
Steve Danko, Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT

Mike Watson, Town Manager
Matt Freedman, Town Attorney
Kim Hernandez, Executive Assistant
Lesley Catron, Town Clerk
Kris Williams, Zoning Administrator
Billie Roberts, Comm. Dev. Coordinator
James Hampton, Treasurer & Transit Dir.
1 Member of Public

ABSENT

Shane Gunter, Police Chief

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Bill Lykins, Memorial Baptist Church led the Invocation. Mayor Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Harris added the 116 High Street (Roaten) Deed to the agenda under Town Manager.

Vice-Mayor Jones made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilmember Danko seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Trigg made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Linkous seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

CITIZEN REQUESTS & SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Autumn Jamboree Committee Update – James Hampton

Mr. Hampton stated that the committee met and started discussing the Autumn Jamboree for this year. He went over a list of events:

Sept. 9

- 5k walk/run at Graham Rec Park, registration starting at 5:30 p.m. / 5k beginning at 6 p.m.

Sept. 10:

- 9 a.m. – Opening Ceremonies at the VFW Memorial
- 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. – Family Feud
- 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. – Mechanical Bull and Bumper Cars
- 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. – Beach Nite Band
- 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. – Santa Cruz Band
- 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. – Virginia Tech/Tennessee Game broadcasted
- Immediately following game – fireworks

Mr. Linkous asked who would be paying for the game.

Mr. Hampton stated that Mrs. Catron had checked on it and if it were on regular programming TV then there would not be a charge.

Mr. Riffe asked if there would be anything else such as a beer garden because of the football game being the same night.

Mr. Hampton stated no, that the Autumn Jamboree was considered family related.

Mr. Riffe asked about the stage.

Mr. Hampton stated that we would use our stage and that the Santa Cruz Band would be doing the sound. He stated that there were some things that needed to be done to our stage.

Mr. Watson stated that they had already fixed some of the issues and would finish the rest by the Autumn Jamboree.

NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS

Graham Transit Zero Tolerance Policy, VOTE – James Hampton

Mr. Hampton stated that the Graham Transit Zero Tolerance Policy needed to be voted on due to the updated drug & alcohol testing policy.

Mr. Trigg made a motion to approve the Graham Transit Zero Tolerance Policy. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS & REPORTS

Rezoning of Properties at Bluefield College, VOTE – Kris Williams

Mr. Williams stated that the Planning Commission had voted to approve the rezoning of 3 properties at Bluefield College to E-1. He stated that based upon their recommendation that it would be his recommendation to approve it.

Mr. Trigg made a motion to approve the Rezoning of Properties at Bluefield College. Mr. Linkous seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS

Resolution: VDOT Programmatic Project Admin. Agreement, VOTE – Billie Roberts

Mrs. Roberts stated that the VDOT Programmatic Project Admin. Agreement was set to expire on June 30th. She stated that the Resolution needed to be approved to extend it for 3 years to June 30, 2019.



TOWN OF BLUEFIELD

RESOLUTION

VDOT Programmatic Project Administration Agreement / Revenue Sharing

WHEREAS, the Town of Bluefield currently has in place a Programmatic Project Administration Agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation dated the 25th day of September 2013, to cover Revenue Sharing projects which are solely funded with Revenue Sharing funds; and

WHEREAS, said Programmatic Project Administration Agreement is set to expire on June 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia concurs with the execution of an Extension Addendum in order to keep said existing Programmatic Project Administration Agreement active through June 30, 2019.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia that said Extension Addendum be executed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia hereby commits to fund its local share of preliminary engineering, right-of-way and construction (as applicable) of the project(s) under agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation in accordance with the project financial document(s); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager of Bluefield, Virginia is authorized to execute all agreements and/or addendums for any approved projects with the Virginia Department of Transportation.

Adopted this 10th day of May 2016.

Donald R. Harris, Mayor

Lesley L. Catron, Town Clerk

Mayor Harris asked if she was ok with it.

Mrs. Roberts stated yes.

Mr. Linkous made a motion to approve the VDOT Programmatic Project Admin. Agreement. Mr. Riffe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

116 High Street (Roaten) Deed, VOTE

Mr. Watson stated that the Town would be purchasing 116 High Street in order to move forward with the High Street Project and that a retaining wall would be built on this property. He stated that the purchase price was \$14k and asked that the Town vote to accept the deed and purchase.

Mr. Trigg made a motion to accept the property and pay \$14k. Mr. Jones seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilmember Riffe:	Yes
Councilmember Linkous:	Yes
Councilmember Trigg:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Yes
Vice Mayor Jones:	Yes
Councilmember Danko:	Yes

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Linkous made a motion authorizing the mayor to sign the deed. Mr. Riffe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

VML Conference

Mr. Watson stated that the VML Conference would be held October 9th – 11th in Virginia Beach. He stated that there were a couple of hotel choices in council's packet and asked which one they would like to stay at.

Mr. Trigg asked if they were all the same price.

Mrs. Catron stated that it was about a \$20 difference and all had a shuttle to get to the conference.

Mr. Linkous stated Hilton Head VA Beach Oceanfront.

Council agreed.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Mr. Watson stated that the American Red Cross would be holding a Blood Drive on Thursday, May 26th from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Memorial Day

Mr. Watson stated that Town Offices would be closed on Monday, May 30th for Memorial Day. Trash regularly picked up on Monday will be collected on Friday, May 27th.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Danko stated that the county was running short on money and suggested that they all sit down and talk about it. He stated that unemployment was a problem and everyone was leaving to find work.

Mayor Harris stated that the Bluestone Workforce Training Center had all kinds of equipment and technical training.

Mr. Danko stated that was good but asked who they were going to work for.

Mayor Harris asked him to give it some thought and make some suggestions.

Mr. Jones had none.

Mr. Trigg had none.

Mr. Linkous asked that the Town send flowers or something to Mayor Cole for the death of his mother.

Mayor Harris stated that something had already been sent.

Mr. Linkous stated that there was a hole coming off of 460 as you go to Town Hall and asked that it be paved to keep the gravel from being washed out. He asked if there was going to be a beer garden at the Thursday night event that was going to be downtown.

Mrs. Roberts stated yes.

Mr. Linkous stated that there was a bear problem and that it almost got into one of his neighbors house. He stated that he was concerned and that they needed to be able to do something besides tell the citizens to call Game & Fishery.

Mr. Watson stated that there was more than 1 bear and that it may be a legislative thing that they could have someone trap and relocate them. He stated that he would research it more.

Mr. Riffe stated that he was out every day for his job and there were jobs out there if people would work.

Mayor Harris stated at the last council meeting a Sam's Club representative was scheduled to be there but did not come. He stated that he had received a phone call the next morning from the manager apologizing who said that his wife had been extremely ill. He asked Mrs. Roberts to tell council what she was told.

Mrs. Roberts stated that she had talked to him and he told her that his wife had been on breathing treatments. She invited him to the council meeting but he said he would be out of town for training and that he was frustrated with the rumors. She stated that he called his market manager and was assured that nothing was in the works for closure and that they were #22 out of 362 stores.

Mayor Harris stated that he had also extended an invitation to them to come and suggested that we notify the press when they were on the agenda to diffuse all of the rumors. He stated that Mrs. Catron had passed out a paper from VML where he had been re-appointed as Vice-Chair. He told council if there was anything they would like to see changed to let him know so he could bring it up during their meetings and would also bring up the bear situation. He stated that the Sheriff's Department had invited them to tour the 911 Headquarters between May 16th – 18th.

Mr. Linkous suggested that they go as a group one evening.

Mayor Harris stated that as he was leaving a GHS Soccer game, he was asked if there was any truth that Applebee's was closing. He stated that he told them that it was news to him and thought they were doing good.

ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Riffe made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to *Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711-A-1.3 and 2.2-3711-A-1.7* and Mrs. Catron read:

Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members of consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

Councilmember Linkous seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Council entered into Executive Session at 8:09 p.m.

Councilmember Linkous made a motion to enter out of Executive Session. Vice-Mayor Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Councilmember Danko made a motion to adopt the following resolution certifying the Executive Session and Mrs. Catron read:

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712-D of The Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia that such session was conducted in conformity with Virginia law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia hereby certifies that, to the best of each members knowledge, (I) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Town Council.

Adopted this 10th day of May.

Councilmember Linkous seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilmember Riffe:	Yes
Councilmember Linkous:	Yes
Councilmember Trigg:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Yes
Vice Mayor Jones:	Yes
Councilmember Danko:	Yes

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

ADJOURN

Mr. Linkous made a motion to recess the meeting at 9:48 p.m. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Don Harris, Mayor

Lesley Catron, Town Clerk