

**Town of Bluefield  
Town Council  
Minutes  
December 12, 2017**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 12, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

**PRESENT**

Don Harris, Mayor  
Jimmy Jones, Councilmember  
Ron Holt, Councilmember  
Chuck Presley, Councilmember

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mike Watson, Town Manager  
Matt Freedman, Town Attorney  
Billie Roberts, Comm. Dev. Coordinator  
Lesley Catron, Town Clerk  
Kim Hernandez, Executive Assistant  
James Hampton, Treasurer/Transit Director  
3 Members of Public

**ABSENT**

Steve Danko, Councilmember  
Lee Riffe, Vice-Mayor  
Shane Gunter, Police Chief

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Councilmember Jones led the Invocation. Mayor Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Harris removed the Audit Report from Citizen Requests & Special Presentation and added the Corte Deed of Gift to the Attorney Report.

Councilmember Holt made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilmember Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**CITIZEN REQUESTS & SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

***Special Presentation: Tazewell Area Chamber Consolidation – Pam Meade***

Jennifer stated that Pam was unable to attend and asked her to fill in for her. She stated that there had been a series of meetings and that presentations had been done at all surrounding Towns and also at the Board of Supervisors. She stated that they hoped to announce the merger of one Tazewell County Chamber at the first of April. She stated that they had been working on doing this for the past 3 years.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS & REPORTS**

***GHS Wrestling Request, VOTE – Mike Watson***

Mr. Watson stated that the wrestling request was for the 2017-2018 season.

Mr. Presley asked if they would be voting on \$1k.

Mr. Watson stated that this was an additional \$650.

Mr. Holt made a motion to approve the GHS Wrestling Request. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

Mayor Harris asked for a Roll Call Vote.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

Vice-Mayor Riffe:	Absent
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Holt:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Yes
Councilmember Jones:	Yes
Councilmember Danko:	Absent

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Woodward thanked council and the Town and stated that on the 22<sup>nd</sup> they would be hosting a tournament with 6 teams to help raise money as well.

### **NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS**

None.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

### **TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

#### ***Sedgewood Recreational Association Request, VOTE***

Mr. Watson stated that he was contacted by a representative of the Sedgewood Association several months ago to take over property. He stated that they had received a tax ticket from the Town in the amount of \$183 and the association had not been in operation and was their intent for the Town to acquire the property. He stated for those reasons, the Association asked that the Town consider waiving the taxes but due to legal restrictions, a waiver was not feasible given the present circumstances. He suggested donating \$183 to this organization to take the property. He stated that staff had sent out 20 letters to see if it was something the citizens wanted to do.

Mayor Harris suggested they wait to receive responses before voting to take it.

Mr. Watson stated that it was whatever council wanted to do. He stated that comments were due by January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Harris asked that it be brought back up at the second meeting in January.

#### ***Police Vehicle Donation, VOTE***

Mr. Watson stated that several years ago, the Police Department donated a surplus vehicle to Bluefield College. He stated that the vehicle was worn out and unable to pass inspection and that Bluefield College had asked for another vehicle to be donated if possible. He stated that the Police Department has a 2010 Ford Crown Vic through surplus that could be donated to Bluefield College if council approved. He stated that they would be required to remove the striping, etc. before using it.

Mr. Presley made a motion to approve donating the 2010 Ford Crown Vic to Bluefield College. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

### ***Congressman Griffith's Office Schedule***

Mr. Watson stated that a representative from Congressman Griffith's office set up in the Council Chambers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. He stated that a copy of the schedule was in council's packet.

### ***Volunteer Christmas Dinner***

Mr. Watson stated that the Volunteer Christmas Dinner would be held on Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Bluefield College. He stated in the past that council had brought 3 gifts each to be given away.

### ***Employee Christmas Dinner***

Mr. Watson stated that the Employee Christmas Dinner would be held on Tuesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. at Bluefield College. He stated that there would also be a luncheon at 11:30 a.m. at La Fiesta for those employees who could not make it to the dinner.

### ***Town Offices Closed***

Mr. Watson stated that Town Offices would be closed on Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, December 26<sup>th</sup> for the Christmas Holiday and Monday, January 1<sup>st</sup> and Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup> for the New Year's Holiday. He stated that Monday's trash on both holidays would be picked up on the Friday before and that Tuesday's recycling days would not be picked up. He thanked council for the extra days off.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Eddie Pauley thanked everyone for the fantastic job that they did. He stated that the girls did an excellent job on the parade.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. Presley stated that the parade was cool and that he ran out of candy quick.

Mr. Holt stated that he appreciated everything that had been done with the events and had heard nothing but positive comments about the parade. He stated that the Point of View breakfast was good.

Mr. Jones stated that he agreed about the Point of View breakfast and had heard a lot of good comments about the parade. He stated that GHS and THS combined their bands in the parade and would be doing that more.

Mayor Harris thanked everyone for all of their work they did all year long.

**ATTORNEY REPORT**

***Corte Deed of Gift, VOTE (deed attached at the end)***

Mr. Freedman stated that this deed of gift by Catherine Corte and First Community Bank was a piece of property conveyed to the Town from the Corte Trust. He stated that it was Lot 22 which contained a pretty big sinkhole.

Mr. Presley made a motion to approve the Corte Deed of Gift. Mr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Presley asked if the Dominion presentation would be the same format as they had in Tazewell.

Mayor Harris stated that he thought so and there would also be finger foods.

Mr. Holt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:13 p.m. Mr. Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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Don Harris, Mayor

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Lesley Catron, Town Clerk

BK 2017 PG 18834

3539

\*THIS DEED WAS PREPARED WITHOUT THE BENEFIT OF A TITLE EXAMINATION\*

THIS INSTRUMENT PREPARED BY:  
MATTHEW CHASE FREEDMAN (VSB #78496)  
TOWN ATTORNEY  
TOWN OF BLUEFIELD  
112 HUFFARD DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 1026  
BLUEFIELD, VA 24605

TAX MAP ID NO. 024B215 0022A

CONSIDERATION: N/A  
TAX ASSESSED VALUE: \$5,000.00

RETURN TO ADDRESS OF GRANTEE AFTER RECORDATION:

TOWN OF BLUEFIELD  
112 HUFFARD DRIVE  
BLUEFIELD, VA 24605

THIS DEED IS EXEMPT FROM GRANTEE AND GRANTOR RECORDATION TAXES PURSUANT TO SECTION 58.1-811(D) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950) AS AMENDED.

THIS DEED OF GIFT is made and entered the 6th day of December, in the year 2017, by and between CATHERINE ANN CORTE PAYNE, SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996 and FIRST COMMUNITY BANK, A VIRGINIA BANKING CORPORATION, SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996; the GRANTORS, and the TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, a Virginia Municipal Corporation; the GRANTEE

WHEREAS, The Betty T. Corte Revocable Living Trust Agreement Dated April 3, 1996 was amended on March 3, 2000, October 21, 2005, and May 11, 2009; and

WHEREAS, as evidenced by the aforesaid amendment on May 11, 2009, Betty T. Corte appointed herself as the initial Trustee of the aforesaid trust, and in the event of her death or incapacity, appointed First Community Bank, N.A. and Catherine Ann Corte Payne as Successor Co-Trustees; and

WHEREAS, First Community Bank, N.A., subsequent to the execution and modification of the aforesaid trust, reorganized and/or merged into a state chartered banking corporation known as First Community Bank, a Virginia Banking Corporation; and

WHEREAS, Betty T. Corte deceased and passed from this life on April 20, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the said Grantors are duly authorized and empowered to sell and convey any property, real or personal, as shown under the provisions of the aforesaid trust and any amendments thereto, at the time such property constitutes a portion of such trust.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WITNESSETH:**

That for and in consideration of the covenants contained herein and without monetary consideration, the said Grantors do hereby give, grant, and convey unto the said Grantee, with COVENANTS OF SPECIAL WARRANTY OF TITLE, all that certain real estate identified as SOUTHEAST PART LOT 22, containing approximately 0.263 acres in the Doe Meadow Subdivision in the Town of Bluefield, Tazewell County, Virginia, as shown upon a map entitled "MAP SHOWING DIVISION OF LOT 22 DOE MEADOW SUBD. FAWN CR. BLUEFIELD, TAZEWELL COUNTY, VA." with a scale of 1" = 20', dated 2-6-99, as prepared by Appalachian Engineering & Surveying, Inc. The said map having been previously recorded in the land records of the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court in Tazewell County, Virginia in Plat Book 42 at Page 32. A copy of the aforesaid map is attached to this deed as Exhibit A.

It should be noted for the record 1) the property conveyed by this deed is a portion of the property conveyed to Stelio J. Corte and Betty J. Corte, his wife, as tenants by the entirety with full and complete rights of survivorship by a certain deed dated August 22, 1991, and recorded in the land records of the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 624 at Page 532; 2) Stelio J. Corte deceased and passed from this life on July 31, 2003, and was survived by his wife Betty T. Corte; and 3) the property conveyed by this deed was devised by Betty T. Corte to the aforesaid trust through her Last Will & Testament dated October 21, 2005, as shown in the records of the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Will Book 2013 at Page 2667.

This conveyance is made subject to the Declaration of Easements, Covenants, Conditions, & Restrictions of Doe Meadow Subdivision recorded in the land records of the aforesaid Clerk's Office in Deed Book 651 at Page 303. This conveyance is further made subject to all other rights, privileges, easements, reservations, and restrictions found of record in the aforesaid Clerk's Office to the extent the same may lawfully affect the property herein conveyed, and subject to such matters as would be revealed by a careful inspection of the premises.

The said Grantors herein expressly disclose to the said Grantee that the property conveyed by this deed contains a sinkhole. The said sinkhole being illustrated on the aforesaid map.

The said Grantee, by an affirmative majority vote of the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia on December 12, 2017, and by joining in this deed through signature of its authorized representative, accepts this deed and the interest in real estate conveyed by this deed pursuant to section 15.2-1803 of the Code of Virginia (1950) as amended.

(REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)

WITNESS the following signatures and seals

Catherine Corte Payne (SEAL)  
CATHERINE ANN CORTE PAYNE, AS SUCCESSOR  
CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE  
LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996.

STATE/Commonwealth of West Virginia  
CITY/COUNTY OF Bluefield/Mercer, to wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me on this 8 day of  
December, in the year 2017, by CATHERINE ANN  
CORTE PAYNE, AS SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE  
LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996.

TMK

NOTARY PUBLIC  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 6/27/2021  
REGISTRATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFIX NOTARY SEAL:



(REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)  
(ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES)

FIRST COMMUNITY BANK, A VIRGINIA BANKING CORPORATION, AS SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996.

BY: [Signature] (SEAL)

ITS: SVP + Senior Trust Officer

STATE/Commonwealth of West Virginia  
CITY/COUNTY OF Mercer, to wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me on behalf of FIRST COMMUNITY BANK, A VIRGINIA BANKING CORPORATION, by Sam Hill, its Senior Trust Officer, on this 11th day of December, in the year 2017. THE SAID BANK BEING AND ACTING AS SUCCESSOR CO-TRUSTEE OF THE BETTY T. CORTE REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST AGREEMENT DATED APRIL 3, 1996.

[Signature]  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES \_\_\_\_\_  
REGISTRATION NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

AFFIX NOTARY SEAL:



(REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK)  
(ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES SHOWN ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES)

TOWN OF BLUEFIELD  
A VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION

BY: Donald R. Harris (SEAL)  
DONALD R. HARRIS

ITS: MAYOR

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF TAZEWELL, to wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by Donald R. Harris, the Mayor of the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year 2017.

Brittanie C. Hubbard  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES 01/31/2019  
REGISTRATION NUMBER: 7658697



ATTEST:  
Lesley Catron  
LESLEY CATRON, TOWN CLERK

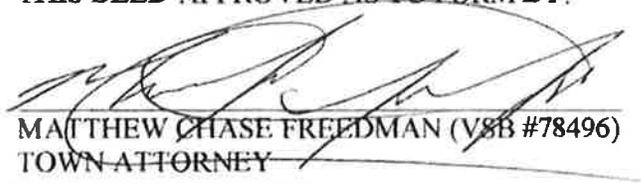
COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF TAZEWELL, to wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by Lesley Catron, the Town Clerk of the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year 2017.

Brittanie C. Hubbard  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: 01/31/2019  
REGISTRATION NUMBER: 7658697



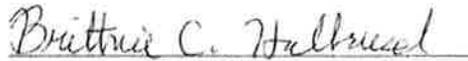
THIS DEED APPROVED AS TO FORM BY:



MATTHEW CHASE FREEDMAN (VSB #78496)  
TOWN ATTORNEY  
TOWN OF BLUEFIELD  
112 HUFFARD DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 1026  
BLUEFIELD, VA 24605

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
COUNTY OF TAZEWELL, to wit:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by Matthew Chase Freedman, the Town Attorney of the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, on this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December, in the year 2017.



NOTARY PUBLIC

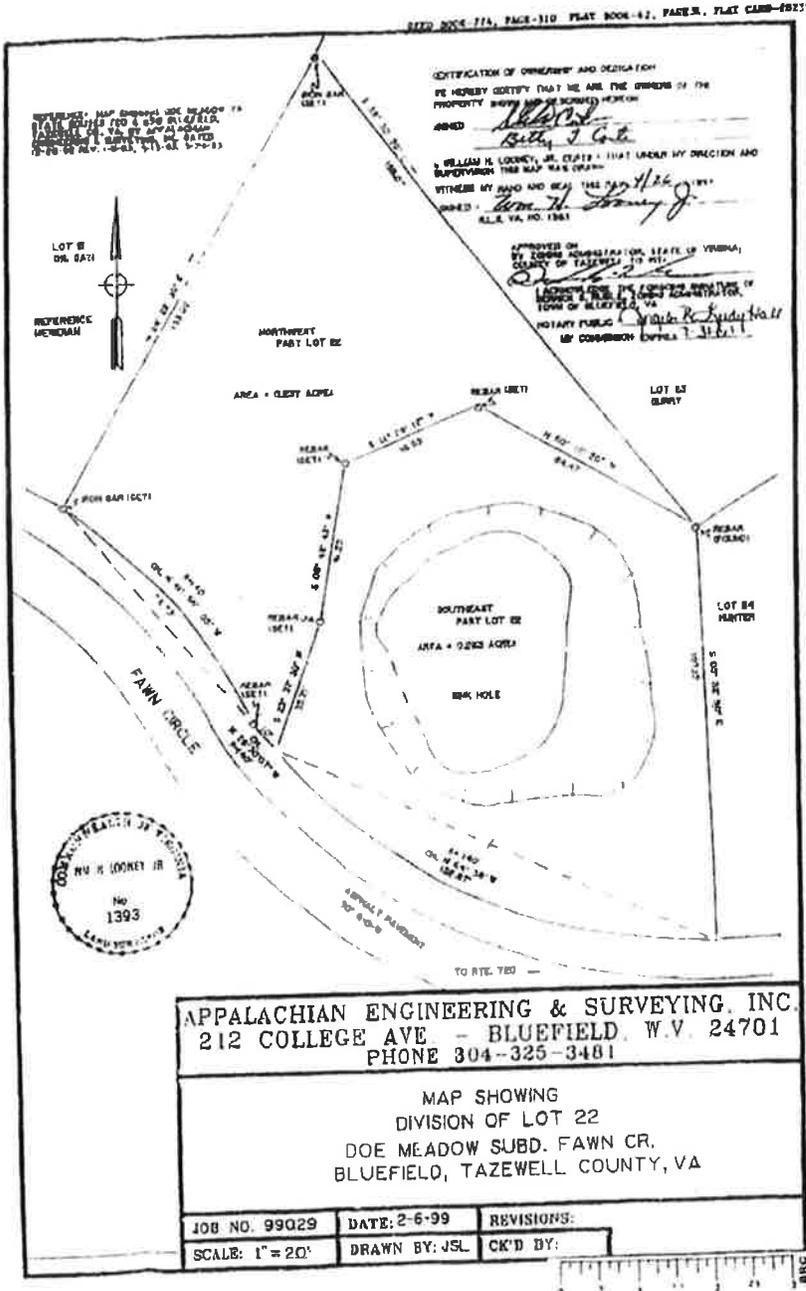
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

REGISTRATION NUMBER:

01/31/2019  
7658697



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Pat. Card 8237

INSTRUMENT 170003539  
RECORDED IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF  
TAZEWELL COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT ON  
December 13, 2017 AT 10:02 AM  
TAMMY B. ALLISON, CLERK  
RECORDED BY: SXW

*Sabra Wilson*