

**Town of Bluefield
Town Council
Minutes
February 13, 2018**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 7:30 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
Anglis Trigg Jr., Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT

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

ABSENT

Lee Riffe, Vice-Mayor

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Rev. Dr. Jay Ferguson, First United Methodist Church led the Invocation. Mayor Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATHS OF OFFICE

Tammy Allison, Clerk of the Circuit Court, Tazewell County, VA administered the oath of office to the following individuals:

Anglis Trigg, Jr. – Councilmember Appointment
Greg DeGray – IDA Member Reappointment
Lisa Watkins – IDA Member Reappointment

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Harris removed In God We Trust Discussion and the Term Limits Discussion from the agenda.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

CITIZEN REQUESTS & SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS & REPORTS

Warhawk Park Sign Update – Lesley Catron

Mrs. Catron stated that she and Mr. Watson had met with Susie Green and some other North Side Community members who asked to change the sign and have 2 different signs. She stated that the first sign would be named Warhawk Field, blue and white in color with a Native American hair dress and would be mounted to the fence. She stated that the other one would be a historical marker located at Graham Manor acknowledging the school history and Katherine Johnson. She stated that the building was owned by the Cumberland Plateau Housing Authority and staff would talk to them about it being placed there.

NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS

Budget Amendments, VOTE – Lesley Catron

Mrs. Catron went over the following budget amendments:

PURPOSE: Reimbursement to Police Department for Vehicle Equipment Replacement Warranty Repair

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. Law	\$44,367.92	\$44,647.92	\$280.00
	Enforcement	\$44,367.92	\$44,647.92	\$280.00

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-6009	Vehicle / Other	\$2,000.00	\$2,280.00	\$280.00
	Equip. Parts, etc.	\$2,000.00	\$2,280.00	\$280.00

PURPOSE: Canopy, Table Cover, Display Banners for Presentations for Police Dept.

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. Law	\$44,647.92	\$47,250.92	\$2,603.00
	Enforcement	\$44,647.92	\$47,250.92	\$2,603.00

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-8106	Grants	\$11,928.39	\$14,531.39	\$2,603.00
		\$11,928.39	\$14,531.39	\$2,603.00

PURPOSE: Reimbursement of Overtime for security services at Walmart & Highlands Fellowship

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. Law	\$47,250.92	\$48,209.42	\$958.50
	Enforcement	\$47,250.92	\$48,209.42	\$958.50

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-1200	Sal. Overtime	\$11,668.50	\$12,627.00	\$958.50
		\$11,668.50	\$12,627.00	\$958.50

PURPOSE: Server Upgrade, Storage Upgrade, & Backup for Body Cam Implementation

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. Law	\$48,209.42	\$87,156.97	\$38,947.55
	Enforcement	\$48,209.42	\$87,156.97	\$38,947.55

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-6050	Commonwealth	\$0	\$38,947.55	\$38,947.55
	Attorney Grant	\$0	\$38,947.55	\$38,947.55

PURPOSE: In Car Video Camera Purchased from DMV Grant

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. Law	\$87,156.97	\$93,497.97	\$6,341.00
	Enforcement	\$87,156.97	\$93,497.97	\$6,341.00

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-8106	Grants	\$14,531.39	\$20,872.39	\$6,341.00
		\$14,531.39	\$20,872.39	\$6,341.00

PURPOSE: Purchase of Playground Equipment

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0100-0509	Prior Year	\$170,830.39	\$210,830.39	\$40,000.00
	Reserves	\$170,830.39	\$210,830.39	\$40,000.00

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
7130-8201	Equipment			
	Purchases	\$4,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$40,000.00
		\$4,000.00	\$44,000.00	\$40,000.00

PURPOSE: Grant from Corte Foundation to Recreation Dept. for Movies & Events

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3108-9901	Miscellaneous	\$325,000.00	\$330,000.00	\$5,000.00
		\$325,000.00	\$330,000.00	\$5,000.00

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
7130-6014	Other Operating	\$9,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$5,000.00
	Supplies	\$9,000.00	\$14,000.00	\$5,000.00

PURPOSE: Purchase of Crash Truck for Fire Dept.

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0100-0509	Prior Year	\$210,830.39	\$270,830.39	\$60,000.00

Reserves	<u>\$210,830.39</u>	<u>\$270,830.39</u>	<u>\$60,000.00</u>
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Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3220-6009	Vehicle / Other	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$60,500.00</u>	<u>\$60,000.00</u>
	Equip. Parts, etc.	<u>\$500.00</u>	<u>\$60,500.00</u>	<u>\$60,000.00</u>

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Kyle Cruvey stated that he had been elected for a 2 year term for the Tazewell County Republican Party. He stated that he would like to reach out and be more active in Bluefield.

Mayor Harris stated that the Democratic Representative would be here at a later date to introduce themselves. He asked Mr. Cruvey if he was aware of the publicizing of local elections.

Mr. Cruvey stated that he knew they had tried to do it in the past and it failed in both houses. He stated that he was not sure what would happen this year but he was not a fan of it.

Mayor Harris stated that it was the desire of council for it to not be publicized and stated that the Governor vetoed it after it passed last year.

David Wohlford, Fairway Street stated that after the last national election there were some questions as of eligibility of voters. He stated that nothing had taken place to determine if there were legitimate voters in the Town limits for the upcoming elections and that it needed to be addressed. He stated that another issue was handicap parking spaces. He stated that he only used his if needed and that every time he went to the Treasurer's Office that the handicap space was taken. He stated that council needed to look at moving the Treasurer's Office to Town Hall in the Building Inspectors Department which was built to include the Treasurer's Office. He stated that parking at the Treasurer's Office was horrible. He stated that the next issue was vehicles being parked in the fire lane. He stated that he had went to the Italian restaurant and saw 4 vehicles unattended parked in the fire lane. He stated that he also observed a police officer go by and not do anything about it. He stated that it needed to be looked into.

Mr. Holt stated that on the police side of things that the officers received calls all of the time asking for more patrol in their neighborhoods. He stated that almost always they were answering calls.

Mr. Wohlford stated that this particular issue seemed to be in abundance.

Mr. Watson stated that they had a procedure they had been following and the Police Department tried to work with the citizens the best they could. He stated that the

most violations written were for handicap parking spaces and if the citizen came in and showed the placard, that we would try to work with them.

Mr. Wohlford stated that unattended running cars in the fire lanes happened a lot.

Mayor Harris asked Mr. Hampton how many years he had worked at the Treasurer's Office downtown.

Mr. Hampton stated 27 years.

Mayor Harris asked if he had received a lot of complaints about parking.

Mr. Hampton stated that he had received a few but most everyone liked the drive thru.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Red Cross Blood Drive

Mr. Watson stated that the Red Cross Blood Drive would be set up in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, March 7th and encouraged everyone to give blood.

Town Vehicle Decals Update, VOTE

Mr. Watson stated that the Town Decal Stickers had been discussed during the Work Session and asked for a vote to go away from decals. He stated that staff would bring back the procedure to change it at a later time. He asked council to allow staff to go through the process to do away with Town Decals.

Mr. Holt made a motion to allow staff to go through the process to do away with Town Decals. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

Mr. Watson stated that the intent was to allow staff to not charge in the meantime.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Trigg thanked council for bringing him back to finish Mr. Danko's term. He stated that he hoped to do a good job.

Mr. Presley thanked the Police Department for their hard work and also Mr. Watson for fixing the potholes that he had text him about.

Mr. Holt welcomed Mr. Trigg back and stated that it was an easy vote because he was a good man. He thanked Mr. Cruet for coming and stated that he was a good person and would do a good job.

Mr. Jones stated that there had been some work across from his house and the gravel needed to be leveled up.

Mayor Harris welcomed Mr. Trigg back.

ATTORNEY REPORT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Holt made a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to *Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711-A-1.1, Section 2.2-3711-A-1.3 and Section 2.2-3711-A-1.7* and Mrs. Catron read:

Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body; and evaluation of performance of departments.

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 or 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 Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Council entered into Executive Session at 8:04 p.m.

Councilmember Holt made a motion to enter out of Executive Session. Councilmember Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Councilmember Holt 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 13th day of February.

Councilmember Presley seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Sanitary Board Member Discussion, VOTE

Mr. Holt made a motion to appoint Rick Holman to the vacant Sanitary Board Member position. Mr. Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

ADJOURN

Mr. Presley made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:16 p.m. Mr. Holt seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Don Harris, Mayor

Lesley Catron, Town Clerk