

**Town of Bluefield  
Town Council  
Minutes  
June 9, 2020**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

**PRESENT**

Anglis Trigg Jr., Vice-Mayor  
Jarrod Bailey, Councilmember  
Chuck Presley, Councilmember  
Ron Holt, Councilmember

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mike Watson, Town Manager  
Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk  
Alan McGraw, Interim Town Attorney  
Billie Roberts, Comm. Dev. Coordinator  
Rachel Looney, Administrative Asst.  
3 Members of Public

**ABSENT**

Don Harris, Mayor  
Jimmy Jones, Councilmember  
Shane Gunter, Police Chief

**CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-Mayor Trigg called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Rick Holman led the Invocation. Vice-Mayor Trigg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice-Mayor Trigg removed the Ordinance to vacate a 30' Portion of Walton Street from the Town Manager's Report and changed the Executive Session #6 to Executive Session #29.

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

Vice-Mayor Trigg:	Yes
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Bailey:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Absent

Councilmember Jones: Absent  
Councilmember Holt: Yes

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

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

**CITIZEN REQUESTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

None.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS & REPORTS**

***Budget Amendment, ROLL CALL VOTE – Kim Hernandez***

Mrs. Hernandez read the following Budget Amendment:

**PURPOSE:** Grant Money Received

<b>Revenue</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Line Item</b>				
3501-0511	Fincastle Grants	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>
		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		<b>Original Budget</b>	<b>Amended Budget</b>	<b>Change</b>
<b>Line Item</b>				
1230-8204	C-PROP Grant	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>
		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>	<u>\$28,689.27</u>

She stated that she would need a motion and a Roll Call Vote to approve.

Mr. Holt made a motion to approve the Budget Amendment. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS**

***Resolution in Support of Town of Bluefield Businesses Reopening, Motion to Approve, ROLL CALL VOTE – Kim Hernandez***

Mrs. Hernandez stated that included in council's packet was a Resolution in Support of Town of Bluefield Businesses Reopening and asked if council would still like to proceed with it.

Mr. Holt stated yes.

Mrs. Hernandez read the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TOWN OF BLUEFIELD BUSINESSES TO REOPEN**

WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia seeks to support a diverse economy characterized by the presence of entrepreneurs, small businesses, and large employers; and

WHEREAS, the 2020 COVID-19 Global Pandemic created an international public health crisis that generated an unprecedented period social and economic uncertainty; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bluefield, Virginia citizens and businesses continue to experience ongoing financial loss attributable to a disruption of operations and services; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bluefield, Virginia strives to be business friendly and would like to open businesses in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that Donald R. Harris, Mayor of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia shall execute this resolution on behalf of said council and Kim Hernandez, the Town Clerk of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia shall attest the same.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Town Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia encourages all businesses to follow the applicable guidelines and be responsible and safe when reopening.

IT IS SO RESOLVED on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2020.

She asked for a motion to approve the Resolution and a Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Presley made a motion to approve the Resolution in Support of Town of Bluefield Businesses Reopening. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

***2020/2021 Budget Ordinance, 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading (by title only), Motion to Approve, ROLL CALL VOTE – Kim Hernandez***

Mrs. Hernandez stated that this would be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading by title only and included the changes for the BVLL Lighting. She stated that the total revenue was now \$7,916,319 and the total expenditures were \$7,916,319. She asked for a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading by title only and a Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Holt made a motion to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading (by title only) of the 2020/2021 Budget Ordinance. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Mrs. Hernandez read:

AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE 2020/2021 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, A VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, INCLUDING THE INCREASES IN WATER RATES, WAGES, AND SALARIES THEREIN.

***2020/2021 Budget Ordinance, Motion to Adopt, ROLL CALL VOTE – Kim Hernandez***

Mrs. Hernandez stated that she would need a motion to adopt the 2020/2021 Budget Ordinance and a Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Presley made a motion to adopt the 2020/2021 Budget Ordinance. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

***Farmers Market***

Mr. Watson stated that the Farmers Market Shelter was now open on Fridays.

***Evening Shade***

Mr. Watson stated that Evening Shade sponsored by the Kiwanis would kick off this Friday.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. Presley gave a shout out to staff, Fire and Police Department and stated that only 3 had signed up to run for council so it looked like they would all be back.

Mr. Bailey asked about the Fincastle roof.

Mr. Watson stated that we did not advertise since it was under the procurement. He stated that staff was sending out quotes to companies.

Mr. Holt asked if the parks had been opened back up.

Mr. Watson stated that he let staff know on Monday so yes they should be open and we were reserving shelters once again.

Mr. Trigg stated that he seen where they were cutting grass around the basketball goals. He stated that all was looking good in the Town and once the Sexton Hill House was cleaned up that it would look really good.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

None.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Vice-Mayor Trigg asked Mrs. Hernandez to read the Executive Session.

### **MOTION FOR CLOSED MEETING**

It is hereby moved that the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia enter into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1, 29) of the Code of Virginia as amended, The specific purpose for this motion is to discuss the following matter(s):

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

Discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body with such closed meeting being confined to the following subjects: discussion of fire contract, regarding prospective candidates for Town Attorney and discussion and consideration of concerns regarding the performance of a specific public officer.

Councilmember Holt made a motion to enter into Executive Session as described above. Councilmember Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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

Mr. Holt made a motion to enter back into regular session. Mr. Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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

### **CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia convened a closed meeting on June 9, 2020, pursuant to a duly adopted motion, attached hereto, and such closed meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia returned to its open meeting held on June 9, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA HEREBY CERTIFIES that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the closed meeting held on June 9, 2020, to which this certification applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening such closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia in such closed meeting.

### **ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Holt made a motion to recess the meeting at 9:25 pm. until Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. Mr. Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Vice-Mayor Trigg: Yes  
Councilmember Presley: Yes  
Councilmember Bailey: Yes  
Mayor Harris: Absent

Councilmember Jones: Absent  
Councilmember Holt: Yes

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Don Harris, Mayor

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Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk

**Town of Bluefield  
Town Council  
Reconvened Minutes  
June 11, 2020**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council reconvened the June 9, 2020 Town Council Meeting on Thursday, June 11, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

**PRESENT**

Don Harris, Mayor  
Jarrod Bailey, Councilmember  
Chuck Presley, Councilmember  
Ron Holt, Councilmember  
Anglis Trigg Jr., Vice-Mayor

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mike Watson, Town Manager  
Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk  
Alan McGraw, Interim Town Attorney  
Billie Roberts, Comm. Dev. Coordinator  
Rachel Looney, Administrative Asst.  
2 Members of Public

**ABSENT**

Jimmy Jones, Councilmember  
Shane Gunter, Police Chief

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Harris reconvened the June 9, 2020 Council Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Harris asked Mrs. Hernandez to read the Executive Session.

### **MOTION FOR CLOSED MEETING**

It is hereby moved that the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia enter into a closed meeting pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (1) of the Code of Virginia as amended, The specific purpose for this motion is to discuss the following matter(s):

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 with such closed meeting being confined to the following subjects: regarding prospective candidates for Town Attorney and discussion and consideration of concerns regarding the performance of a specific public officer.

Councilmember Trigg made a motion to enter into Executive Session as described above. Councilmember Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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

Mr. Presley made a motion to enter back into regular session. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

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

### **CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia convened a closed meeting on June 11, 2020, pursuant to a duly adopted motion, attached hereto, and such closed meeting was convened in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia returned to its open meeting held on June 11, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA HEREBY CERTIFIES that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of

Information Act were discussed in the closed meeting held on June 11, 2020, to which this certification applies and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening such closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia in such closed meeting.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**REGULAR SESSION**

Mr. Holt stated that for a while now they have had a fellow councilmember who had been very ill. He stated that not only was there concern from the board but from the community as well concerning his decline in health over the past year. He stated that Mr. Jones had tried to be at the meetings and the board along with staff had tried to work with him but that they had reached a point where the board was all in agreement that the Town's business had to be considered. He stated with that in mind that he would like to make a motion to send a letter to Councilmember Jones to respectfully request that he resign his position on the board to allow for a member to be elected at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> election to fulfill the obligations that they all had as councilmembers.

Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Trigg made a motion to adjourn the meeting 5:37 pm. Mr. Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Vice-Mayor Trigg:	Yes
Councilmember Presley:	Yes

Councilmember Bailey:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Yes
Councilmember Jones:	Absent
Councilmember Holt:	Yes

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Don Harris, Mayor

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Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk

