

**Town of Bluefield  
Town Council  
Minutes  
June 25, 2019**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a regularly scheduled Town Council Meeting on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

**PRESENT**

Don Harris, Mayor  
Ron Holt, Councilmember  
Chuck Presley, Councilmember  
Jarrod Bailey, Councilmember

**ALSO PRESENT**

Mike Watson, Town Manager  
Lesley Catron, Town Clerk  
Matt Freedman, Town Attorney  
Billie Roberts, Comm. Dev. Coordinator  
Shane Gunter, Police Chief  
11 Members of Public

**ABSENT**

Jimmy Jones, Councilmember  
Anglis Trigg Jr., Vice-Mayor

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Harris called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE**

Steve Branch, Destiny Outreach Ministries led the Invocation. Mayor Harris led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

Member of the audience stated that Graham Christian Church would be having their District Men's Fellowship on Thursday at 7 p.m. and invited council to attend.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

***FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance, ROLL CALL VOTE – (To Accept Amendments to Ordinance and Proposed Budget), ROLL CALL VOTE – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading (attached at end of minutes), ROLL CALL VOTE – (To Adopt)***

Mr. Watson stated that he needed a motion to Accept Amendments to Ordinance and Proposed Budget. He read the FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance in its entirety. He asked for a Roll Call Vote to accept the Amendments to the Ordinance and Proposed Budget.

Mayor Harris made a motion to Accept Amendments to the Ordinance and Proposed Budget. Mr. Holt seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Watson asked for a Roll Call Vote to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Presley made a motion to accept the 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance as read in its entirety. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

Mr. Watson asked for a Roll Call Vote to adopt the FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Bailey made a motion to adopt the FY 2019/2020 Budget Ordinance. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

***Reappointment of Town Clerk, ROLL CALL VOTE***

Mr. Watson stated that there was a memo in council's packet and it would be his recommendation to reappoint Lesley Clemons as Town Clerk.

Mr. Freedman stated that it would be under Catron still.

Mr. Holt made a motion to reappoint Mrs. Catron to Town Clerk. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**

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

The motion passed unanimously by Roll Call Vote.

***Town Offices Closed***

Mr. Watson stated that Town Offices would be closed on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> for Independence Day. He stated that Thursday's trash would be picked up on Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

***Community Clean-up & Cookout***

Mr. Watson stated that the Community Clean-up Day and Cookout had been tentatively rescheduled due to weather for Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. at Pinehill Park.

### ***VML Conference***

Mr. Watson stated that this year's VML Conference would be held on October 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> in Roanoke, VA. He stated that we had already reserved rooms but that the Hotel Roanoke was full. He stated that it was another hotel within walking distance. He stated that we had not registered for the conference yet because once you register it was almost impossible to cancel. He asked council to let staff know if they planned to attend.

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Mr. Presley stated that Jason with Dominion Power was optimistic about the project. He stated that he had run into Tommy Cole and he was going to close down Cole Auto Outlet and open it up for free tailgating for the Graham-Beaver game. He stated that Mr. Cole said he would work with the ABC to see what needed to be done.

Mr. Watson stated that he had come in on Friday and talked about having an event at Cole Auto Outlet. He stated that staff would contact him and make sure he got his application in and the requirements were met. He stated that it would be before the game and not during it.

Mr. Presley stated that Jimmy was doing well and he had talked to him for about an hour and the rehab was helping him. He stated that he was talking good and was up walking. He stated that he had talked to his daughter earlier today and she told him that he may be able to go to Health South in a couple of weeks if there was an opening.

Mr. Bailey had no comments.

Mr. Holt stated that he appreciated Mr. Williams and all of his efforts with all of the violations that council had been keeping him busy with. He stated that if they continued on with the path of more violations that they may need to look at seasonal help to stay ahead of the problem.

### **ATTORNEY REPORT**

None.

### **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) and (3) 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 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, with such closed meeting being confined to the following subjects: Economic Development purposes for recreational property and the discussion regarding personnel.

Councilmember Bailey made a motion to enter into Executive Session as described above. Councilmember Presley seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Mr. Presley made a motion to enter back into regular session. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion.

### **CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of Bluefield, Virginia convened a closed meeting on June 25, 2019, 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 25, 2019.

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 25, 2019, 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:	Absent
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Bailey:	Yes
Mayor Harris:	Yes
Councilmember Jones:	Absent
Councilmember Holt:	Yes

**ADJOURN**

Mr. Holt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 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

VIRGINIA: AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE TOWN HALL IN BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA ON THE 25TH DAY OF JUNE, 2019.

**AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, A VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, INCLUDING THE INCREASES IN WATER RATES AND SALARIES THEREIN**

WHEREAS, a public hearing concerning the approval and adoption of the proposed 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET for the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, was held before the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia on the 11th day of June, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., after notice of the said public hearing was duly published on the 3rd day of June, 2019, in the Bluefield Daily Telegraph, a newspaper having general circulation in Bluefield, Virginia; and

WHEREAS, a summary of the said proposed 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET and a summary of an increase in water rates were included in the aforesaid notice; and

WHEREAS, the said proposed 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET was amended prior to the aforesaid public hearing, and such amendments were publicly announced prior to the said public hearing being opened for comment. Such amendments are summarized as follows:

<u>GENERAL FUND (REVENUE) - REVENUE FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT:</u>	<u>\$0 TO \$600,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUE: \$8,534,219 TO \$9,134,219	
<u>GENERAL FUND (EXPENDITURES) - FEMA &amp; CAPITAL PROJECTS:</u>	<u>\$0 TO \$600,000</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES → \$8,534,219 TO \$9,134,219	
<u>WATER FUND (REVENUE):</u>	<u>\$1,174,159 TO \$3,214,833</u>
<u>WATER FUND (EXPENDITURES):</u>	<u>\$1,174,159 TO \$3,214,833</u>
<u>RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (REVENUE):</u>	<u>\$924,500 TO \$3,345,724</u>
<u>RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (EXPENDITURES):</u>	<u>\$924,500 TO \$3,345,724; and</u>

WHEREAS, the said proposed 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET was further amended on June 20, 2019, and such amendments are summarized as follows:

<u>GENERAL FUND (REVENUE) – TRANSFERS TO GENERAL FUND:</u>	<u>\$416,350 TO \$638,962</u>
TOTAL REVENUE: \$9,134,219 TO \$9,356,831	
<u>GENERAL FUND (EXPENDITURES) – TRANSFER:</u>	<u>\$392,500 TO \$573,112</u>
<u>GENERAL FUND (EXPENDITURES) – FEMA &amp; CAPITAL PROJECTS:</u>	<u>\$600,000 TO \$642,000</u>

TOTAL EXPENDITURES → \$9,134,219 TO \$9,356,831

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (REVENUE): \$924,500 TO \$3,295,112

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES (EXPENDITURES): \$924,500 TO \$3,295,112

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that the 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET for the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, which is attached to this ordinance, including the increased water rates and increased salaries therein, is hereby approved and adopted by the Council of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia on this 25th day of June, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that, in the 2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET for the Town of Bluefield, a Virginia Municipal Corporation, under the Water Fund, water rates shall be increased by an additional two percent (2%) per year over the next five (5) years.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that this ordinance is hereby adopted on this 25th day of June, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that this ordinance shall be effective on the 1st day of July, 2019.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA that Donald R. Harris, the Mayor of the Town of Bluefield, Virginia, shall execute this ordinance on behalf of the said Council.

IT IS SO ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, VIRGINIA on this 25th day of June, 2019.

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**2019/2020 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET  
TOWN OF BLUEFIELD, A VIRGINIA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION**

<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>	
General Property Taxes	\$1,000,000
Other Local Taxes	3,129,492
Permits (Misc Permits & Fees)	22,750
Fines & Forfeitures	60,000
Use of Money & Property	4,000
Charges for Services	455,000
Miscellaneous Revenue	317,419
Revenue from the Commonwealth – Non Categorical	184,677
Revenue from the Commonwealth – Categorical	2,094,531
Revenue from the Federal Government	600,000
Other Financing Sources	850,000
Transfers to General Fund	638,962
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 9,356,831</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Town Council	63,162
Town Manager	482,674
Legal	4,000
Independent Audit	39,000
Treasurer	209,284
Bookkeeping	129,731
Vehicle Maintenance	478,733
Police Department	1,596,011
Fire Department	159,969
Building Inspection	115,735
Street Department	1,842,731
Refuse Collection	274,808
Town Hall Buildings & Grounds	107,479
Recreation Department	423,209
Cemetery	85,622
HMGP Planning Project	0
Planning Commission	6,990
Community Development	71,100
Donations	29,200
Zoning Administrator	92,715
Non-Departmental	124,153
Transfer	573,112
Capital Projects	1,305,000
FEMA & Capital Projects	642,000
Debt Service – Active	500,413
Debt Service - Retired	0
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$ 9,356,831</b>

<b>WATER FUND</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$3,214,833</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$3,214,833</b>
<b>CEMETERY</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$34,550</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$34,550</b>
<b>TRANSIT</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$528,710</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$528,710</b>
<b>RECREATIONAL FACILITIES</b>	
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>\$3,295,112</b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$3,295,112</b>

FY 2019 / 2020 Water Fund includes an increase of an additional 2% to water rates per year over the next five years