

**TOWN OF BIG STONE GAP, VIRGINIA
COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING**

**COUNCIL CHAMBERS
505 E. 5TH STREET, SOUTH
BIG STONE GAP, VA**

April 2, 2019

6:30 PM

AGENDA ITEM 1

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order.

Those Present: Hon. Gary Johnson, Mayor
 Hon. Nancy Bailey, Vice-Mayor
 Hon. Kent Gilley, Councilman
 Hon. Crystal Lyke, Councilwoman
 Hon. Aaron McKinney, Councilman

Staff Present: Mrs. Judy C. Hall, Town Clerk/Treasurer
 Mr. Charles Bledsoe, Town Attorney
 Mr. Steve Hamm, Chief of Police

Those Absent: Hon. Robert Bloomer, Councilman
 Hon. Tyler Hughes, Councilman

Staff Absent: Mr. Stephen Lawson, Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM 2

PUBLIC HEARING– Budget Amendment increasing Water Fund Revenues and Expenditures by \$721,233.00.

Mayor Johnson recessed the Council Workshop and opened the Public Hearing for the proposed increase in Water Fund Revenues and Expenses. He called for comments from citizens. Hearing no comments, Mayor Johnson closed the Public Hearing.

AGENDA ITEM 3

PUBLIC HEARING – Ordinance 05-2019 being an ordinance changing the election of Town Council Members from May to November.

Mayor Johnson opened the Public Hearing for Ordinance 05-2019. This ordinance proposes moving the election of Council Members to November to coincide with the General Elections.

Ms. Hall said the Town checked with the Wise County Registrar and the State Board of Elections to ensure this ordinance is in order and meets state requirements. The new filing deadline is June 11th at 7:00 pm and the candidates will now only need fifty (50) signatures on their petitions.

Mayor Johnson called for comments from citizens. Hearing none, he closed the Public Hearing and reconvened the Council Workshop.

AGENDA ITEM 4**REVIEW OF MINUTES****Review of draft of minutes of the Council Workshop on March 5, 2019 and the Regular Council Meeting on March 12, 2019.**

No comments.

AGENDA ITEM 5**TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT****Rt. 610 and Shelby Avenue Phase II Waterline Replacement Project**

Mr. McElroy said they have addressed comments from the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) on this project. He said they have not received any comments from the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and do not expect any. They hope to have approval for this project after addressing comments from VDH on the System-wide Water Loss Study Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) that was submitted last month. Once that is approved, we can move toward bidding this project.

Fisher Road and Shelby Avenue Phase I Waterline Replacement Project

Mr. McElroy said the new Shelby Avenue line is in service and the old line has been abandoned. The only outstanding item is the paving, which will be done as soon as the asphalt plant is open.

New lines are in the ground on Fisher Road and are ready to be tied in. Both of these projects are close to being ready to close out.

Cadet and W 8th Street Waterline Replacement Project

Mr. McElroy said the contractors are nearly finished with this project, just lacking the installation of a flow meter to connect to the pump station and telemetry. This task is scheduled to be completed by Friday, and the project should be ready to close out in a couple of weeks.

Big Cherry Access Road and Security Improvements Project

Mr. McElroy said all the slide work is now complete and the contractor is putting up the last of the guardrails to protect the top of the basket walls. Mr. Lawson asked McFall to do some main road repair while they were in the area, so they cleaned and lowered a lot of ditches, cleaned out culverts, regraded the road, and placed about 600 tons of stone. All that work has been completed and the road should be able to be opened by Monday at the latest.

The gates and fencing portions of the security system are in place and the cameras in and around the Water Treatment Plant are up and running. They are still working on some details regarding the poles the security cameras and solar panels will be mounted on.

System-Wide Water Loss Report

Mr. McElroy said the comments received from VDH on the PER were minor and will be addressed quickly. The Phase 1-B Project funding application was submitted to VDH last week and we expect to receive an offer from them sometime in July. He said they continue to work with Rural Development (RD) on a funding package for the Phase 1-A Project.

AGENDA ITEM 6 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

In Mr. Lawson's absence, Town Clerk/Treasurer Judy Hall presented the Town Manager's Report.

a. Resolution 01-2019 – being a resolution to facilitate financial assistance from USDA-Rural Development for the Water Loss Project Phase 1A, and authorizing the Town Manager or the Mayor to execute such documents required to obtain the financial assistance.

Ms. Hall said this resolution is to apply for funding from RD for the Water Loss Project Phase 1A.

b. Proclamation – April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

Ms. Hall said this proclamation is to recognize April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. The town adopted a similar proclamation several years ago and would like to do so again. We will be placing the blue pinwheels on Town property as a reminder to the public of the importance of this issue.

c. Projects Update

Ms. Hall said there are no project updates.

AGENDA ITEM 7 COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Planning Commission

Mr. Gilley said the Planning Commission met last night. He said they do not have any issues to bring before Council at this time.

AGENDA ITEM 8 COUNCIL COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION

Ms. Lyke said there will be a parade to celebrate Little League's opening day on Saturday at 10 am. She said there will be a 5K Color Run/One Mile Walk on April 13th at 10 am. Frontier Health is sponsoring the event and all proceeds will go to UVA-Wise to aid students who cannot afford mental health services. The Parks and Recreation Department's Annual Easter Egg Hunt will also be on April 13th at Bullitt Park.

Mrs. Bailey thanked Stephen McElroy and the Boy Scouts Council for honoring Sheriff Oakes last Friday night and making a very nice presentation.

AGENDA ITEM 9 CLOSED SESSION – SECTION 2.2-3711(A)(1)(2) of the Code of Virginia, for the discussion, consideration, or interview(s) of prospective candidate(s) for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, evaluation, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body and for the 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.

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Lyke, that Council enter a Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711(A)(1)(2) of the Code of Virginia, for the discussion, consideration, or interview(s) of prospective candidate(s) for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, evaluation, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body and for the 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. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Gilley, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney
Nayes: None Abstain: None Absent: Bloomer, Hughes

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Lyke, that Council re-convene into Open Session. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Gilley, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney
Nayes: None Abstain: None Absent: Bloomer, Hughes

Ms. Hall read the Certification of Closed Meeting. Roll call vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Gilley, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney
Nayes: None Abstain: None Absent: Bloomer, Hughes

**AGENDA ITEM 10
ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned 6:55 pm.

Minutes Recorded & Transcribed by
Judy C. Hall, CMC – Town Clerk/Treasurer