

TOWN OF BIG STONE GAP, VIRGINIA REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
505 E 5TH STREET S
BIG STONE GAP, VA

July 11, 2023

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. Robert Bloomer, Councilman
Hon. Kent Gilley, Councilman
Hon. Tyler Hughes, Councilman
Hon. Crystal Lyke, Councilwoman
Hon. Aaron McKinney, Councilman

Staff Present: Ms. Amanda L. Hawkins, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Mr. Steve Hamm, Chief of Police
Mr. Charles Bledsoe, Town Attorney

Those Absent: Mr. Stephen Lawson, Town Manager

AGENDA ITEM 2

INVOCATION by Pastor Josh Tompkins of the West End Baptist Church.

AGENDA ITEM 3

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

AGENDA ITEM 4

ADOPT OR AMEND THE AGENDA

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Hughes, that the Agenda for the Regular Council Meeting of June 13, 2023 be adopted as presented. Motion resulted as follows:

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

AGENDA ITEM 5 COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Noah Moneyhun, 17 East 2nd Street N, stated that he and Wes Isom, owners of My Diesel Automotive received a letter from the Town of Big Stone Gap stating they could not operate a business in a residential area. The letter asked them to cease operations in 20 days. Wes Isom asked the Council for an extension of time to move the business. Ms. Hawkins told Council that Mr. Moneyhun and Mr. Isom did meet with Stephen Lawson, Town Manager, earlier this week regarding the matter. Mayor Johnson said that the Council would work with them on the matter but could not guarantee a lengthy extension of time.

AGENDA ITEM 6 GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. **Approval of minutes of Council Workshop of June 6, 2023.**
Recommended Action: Approve as presented.
- b. **Approval of minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of June 13, 2023.**
Recommended Action: Approve as presented.
- c. **Departmental Reports for the month of June 2023.**
Recommended Action: Received and filed.
- d. **Treasurer's Reports for the month of June 2023.**
Recommended Action: Received and filed.

Motion by Bloomer, seconded by Gilley, that the General Order of Business be approved as presented. Motion resulted as follows:

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

AGENDA ITEM 7 AUDIT REPORT – FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Tamara Greear, CPA, MSA and Partner from Rodefer Moss & Co, PLLC presented a draft of the FY2021-2022 audit report. Ms. Greear said town management staff as well as Rodefer Moss staff were reviewing the report for typos and grammatical errors, but the numbers were correct. The draft copies given to Council for this presentation were not to be distributed to the public.

Ms. Greear said the Town had again received a clean or unmodified opinion. She then summarized Exhibits 1, 2, 3, and 5 regarding the governmental activities of the town which included the General Operating Fund and the Special Revenue Fund ARPA. She then discussed Exhibits 7 and 8 that reflected the enterprise fund activities of the Water Operating Fund and Sewer Fund.

Ms. Greear stated that she had met with the Budget/Finance/Audit Committee and Town Management staff earlier to go over the report in detail. If any member of Council has any questions or concerns about the annual audit report, they are welcome to contact her office.

AGENDA ITEM 8 TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT

GREENBELT PHASE V PROJECT

Mr. Bobrosky said that 90% of the paving is complete on the Green Belt Phase V Project. There is only a small amount of paving in this phase due to the bridge construction. Also, the grass has grown back, and they had to weed eat. The bridge should be here in November.

BIG CHERRY TRAIL

Mr. Bobrosky said that the contractor is coming back to install the trash cans, benches, and signage on the Big Cherry Trail, but the construction of trail is complete.

AGENDA ITEM 9 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

a. ORDINANCE – Ordinance 02-2023 Peddlers License

Ms. Hawkins asked Council to authorize a public hearing on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 6:30 pm to receive public comment on the revisions to the Peddlers License Ordinance. She stated that the reasons for the changes were due to considering the difference between vendors set up and the public seeking them out for services, background checks are not necessary for this purpose. People coming to your home or on your property for business purposes, background checks are needed to ensure the safety of the homeowners. Food vendors will be required to pay meals tax if they are operating in the Town of Big Stone Gap limits.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Bloomer, that Council authorize a public hearing on Tuesday, August 1, 2023 at 6:30 pm to receive public comment on the revisions to the Peddlers License Ordinance. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Bloomer, Gilley, Hughes, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

b. REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – October 10, 2023 Meeting

Mrs. Hawkins said the Virginia Municipal League conference will be October 7th -11th, and since most of Council members were planning to attend the conference, she asked Council to approve rescheduling of the October 10, 2023 Regular Council Meeting to Tuesday, October 3rd and cancel the October Council Workshop.

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Hughes, that Council reschedule the October 10, 2023 Regular Council Meeting to Tuesday, October 3rd at 6:30 pm and cancel the October Council Workshop. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Bloomer, Gilley, Hughes, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney

Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

c. Projects Update

No project updates were left by the Town Manager in his absence.

**AGENDA ITEM 10
COMMITTEE REPORT****a. Budget/Finance/Audit Committee**

Councilman Hughes said the Budget/Finance/Audit Committee met this afternoon to receive the FY2022 audit report. Councilman Hughes said the Budget/Finance/Audit Committee unanimously recommends that Council accept the Audit Report – Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022.

The recommendation by the Committee constitutes a motion and a second. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Bloomer, Gilley, Hughes, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney

Nayes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

b. Planning Commission

Councilman Gilley said the Planning Commission meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 19, 2023.

**AGENDA ITEM 11
COUNCIL COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION**

Councilman Bloomer thanked the Town for the July 4th celebration; it was great event.

Councilman Gilley thanked all the employees, fire department, and police department that worked July 4th. He said it was a busy time, and he heard only good things about the events.

Council Hughes said to make sure everyone watched the PBS special that featured Big Stone Gap. The 60th Anniversary for Trail is this year and encouraged Council to go see the show. He thanked all the employees for July 4th Celebration and wished the Union Little League teams good luck at the State tournament. Hughes asked Council if the Town could make a donation to the Little League program since the cost of sending three teams to the state tournament was very costly to the program. Some discussion followed.

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Lyke to donate \$1,850 to the Union Little League program. Motion resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bailey, Bloomer, Gilley, Hughes, Johnson, Lyke, McKinney

Nayes: None Abstain: None Absent: None

Councilman McKinney said it was a great 4th of July event, there were license tags from all over the region and several out of state tags.

Councilwoman Lyke thanked Council for the donation to Union Little League. The dedication of Barbara Polly theater was a great event, she encouraged everyone to go see the drama.

Councilwoman Bailey said July 4th at the park was wonderful and she enjoyed the 60th anniversary for the Trail and cast reunion event.

Mayor Johnson said the Trail had a great performance this season.

AGENDA ITEM 12

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Lyke, seconded by Hughes, that the meeting be adjourned. Motion resulted as follows:

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Minutes Recorded & Transcribed by
Amanda L. Hawkins–Town Clerk/Treasurer