

AGENDA ITEM 5 COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

No comments.

AGENDA ITEM 6 GENERAL ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. **Approval of minutes of the Council Workshop of August 1, 2023. Recommended Action: Approve as presented.**
- b. **Approval of Regular Council Meeting of August 8, 2023. Recommended Action: Approve as presented.**
- c. **Departmental Reports for the month of August 2023. Recommended Action: Received and filed.**
- d. **Treasurer's Reports for the month of August 2023. Recommended Action: Received and filed.**

Motion by Hughes, 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
Nays: None Abstain: None Absent: None

AGENDA ITEM 7 TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT

Greenbelt Phase V

Mr. Broskey said the bridge for Greenbelt Phase V is scheduled for fabrication in October. Once the bridge is manufactured it will be transported to the site and the anticipated date is still November at this time.

System Wide Water Loss Phase 1A, 1B and 2

Mr. Broskey said they are getting closer to advertisement, Bond Council and Powell Valley National Bank are currently working on the necessary resolutions. One of the items will have to have a public hearing scheduled in October and Council will have some actions to take before signing the loan.

AGENDA ITEM 8 TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. **Parade Permit – UHS Homecoming Parade**

Motion by Bailey, seconded by Hughes, that Council approve the Parade Permit for the Union High School Homecoming Parade to be held Thursday, October 5th beginning at 6:30 pm. Motion resulted as follows:

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

b. Public Hearing - Bond Anticipation

Motion by Hughes, seconded by Gilley, that Council authorize a public hearing on October 3, 2023 at 6:30 pm to receive public comment on the issuance of a Bond Anticipation Note with Powell Valley National Bank in the amount of \$1,762,000 as interim financing for the System Wide Water Loss & Improvements Project Phase 1A, 1B and 2. Motion resulted as follows:

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

c. Property Transfer/Vacate Public Right of Way

Mr. Lawson said the Talley home located at 815 3rd Avenue East is partially on one of the Town's unopened alleyways. At one corner of the property a structure is approximately 7 feet over the property line and on town right of way. Mr. Lawson said the town will work with the purchaser on resolving this. The purchaser will be responsible for the cost of the survey and deed recording. No action is needed currently.

d. Budget Amendment – FY23 & FY24 DMV Grants

Motion by Bloomer, seconded by Hughes, that Council approve a budget amendment to the FY 2023-2024 budget increasing General Fund revenues and expenses by \$11,097.46 to appropriate Virginia DMV Grant Funds awarded to the Police Department. Motion resulted as follows:

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

e. November 7, 2023 Council Workshop

Motion by McKinney, seconded by Gilley, that Council cancel the Workshop Meeting schedule for Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Motion resulted as follows:

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

f. Projects Update

Mr. Lawson shared a flyer for Council inviting them to the Crooked Road's special ceremony September 13, 2023 at Southwest Virginia Cultural Center and Marketplace in Abingdon at 6:30 p.m. to celebrate its 20th Anniversary and new logo unveiling.

Mr. Lawson said the Southwest Virginia Museum VIP Ceremony and Tree Lighting will be Saturday November 11, 2023 from 6-8 pm.

Mr. Lawson said Jimmy McElrath, Zoning Admin and Building Inspector for Wise County, had issued a notice of violation to James Barker, 103 W 5th Street North, Big Stone Gap. The notice stated that the violations must be corrected by October 25, 2023.

Mr. Lawson said the updated Old Dominion Power – Kentucky Utilities (ODP) proposal had alternate routes and this study rated the viewshed. However, ODP still believes Route A is the best route. They did have questions on the zoning and would like a response by October 20, 2023.

Mr. Lawson said that he, Ked Meade, and a team from the Town would be going to Raleigh, NC to the International Bluegrass Music Association festival September 25-29 to promote Blue Highway Festival and as representatives for the nomination for Industry Event of the Year.

Mr. Lawson said we have paving quotes from three contractors on the roads that need to be paved. Vice-Mayor Bailey asked about the potholes on Country Boy Hill. Lawson said the town is using the hot patch to remedy those.

Mr. Lawson said that Chad Hall will be working tomorrow on erecting the basketball goals at Bullitt Park. We have talked to two contractors about the painting of the courts.

Mr. Lawson announced the following events for September:

September 16 - Tour de Cracker's Neck 9 am

September 16 - Leigh Ann Bolinskey 5K Walk/Run Bolinskey 9 am

September 16 - 13th Annual Recover Fest 1pm - 5 pm @ Miner's Park

Suicide Walk - 2 pm

September 16 - Painting with Paws Kids Hours 12-2pm

September 16 - Painting with Paws Adult Hours 6-8 pm

September 16 and 17 - 12th Annual Carv-In Show & Sale 12-5 pm at Carnes Gym

September 23 - The Grizzly Run and Grillin in the Gap starting at 11 am.

The trophies for the Grilling in the Gap competitors were created by the Mountain Carvers. They even carved three chickens for the event.

Mr. Lawson said football season was good for the P-Nut program. The town had some complaints about the doors that protect the concession stands being hard to open, we are going back with same type of metal to make them secure and fix them. Mr. Lawson said there had been more vandalism in restrooms at the park. He said we would need to have a conversation with Union High School about the lighting at the field; halogen bulbs will be illegal to use at the end of 2023 and they will have to be replaced.

Vice-Mayor Bailey asked about the status of Moneyhun issue from a previous council meeting. Mr. Lawson said they had purchased Second Hand Tire in Appalachia and are in the process of moving.

Vice-Mayor Bailey asked about the trees on Country Boy Hill taking over the road. Mr. Lawson said the person that had the side arm bushhog does not do it anymore. We have asked for quotes to do that work but have not received anything back yet. He also said we have Duffield inmates to help the town crews catch up on the mowing. Mr. Lawson said we have received one quote for the Big Cherry road repairs but are still waiting on two more.

Councilman Gilley asked about the scoreboard at Bullitt Park. Mr. Lawson replied that we had got two panels fixed and were still waiting on parts for the third panel.

AGENDA ITEM 9 COMMITTEE REPORT

Councilman Gilley said that the Planning Commission met, August 9th, to discuss the Old Dominion Power – Kentucky Utilities proposal. He said the Commission had questions for Mr. Lawson and Mr. Bledsoe about the proposal. The Commission also had questions for Mr. Bledsoe about the animal/fowl ordinance changes.

AGENDA ITEM 10 COUNCIL COMMENTS AND DISCUSSION

Councilman Hughes said he had a meeting with the MECC fabrication shop about the LOVE sign for Miners Park. He also said that Big Stone Gap was the first town to buy into Crooked Road 20 years ago and encouraged Council to attend the anniversary event scheduled for September 13th. He thanked the town employees, fire, and police departments.

Councilman Gilley encouraged everyone to come out and see Mayor Johnson cook at Grilling in Gap.

Vice-Mayor Bailey thanked town employees for everything they do and that they would have two big weekends coming up.

Mayor Johnson said it would be a busy weekend ahead. He said the bike race, Tour de Crackers Neck, is supposed to be larger this year. He thanked the fire department and police department, as well as Valley Fire Department for their help to guide the race. He said Grilling in the Gap will be great event. He said he was very happy with the repair job on the potholes and thanked the maintenance crews.

AGENDA ITEM 11 ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

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