

WISE TOWN COUNCIL
Tuesday, September 24, 2024; 7:00 P.M.
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor
Ben Conway
Jeffery Dotson
Robin Dotson
Caynor Smith, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION:

Police Chief Kevin Yates led the Pledge of Allegiance. Adrian Dale, Town of Wise Street Superintendent, provided the invocation.

AGENDA CHANGES:

Town Manager Laura Roberts advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the August 21, 2024 special-called Council meeting, minutes of the August 27, 2024 joint Council meeting with Planning Commission, minutes of the September 3, 2024 continued Council meeting, the June 2024 Treasurer's Financial Report, the August 2024 Police and Water Plant Reports, and the September 2024 Fire Department and Recreation Specialist Reports. Jeffery Dotson seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION:

There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, Mayor Adkins closed public expression.

DISCUSSION OF DEPARTMENT HEAD REQUESTS:

Town Manager Laura Roberts advised that Special Events Coordinator Natasha Proulex had Centennial Committee and Council banners made for use in the upcoming Central High School Homecoming Parade should members decide to participate in the event. Roberts advised Proulex would be in touch to gauge interest in participation.

PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION #24, 2024:

Town Manager Laura Roberts provided a brief overview of a Conditional Use Permit Application submitted to allow use of an existing structure as a short-term rental unit. A public hearing was held on "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA APPROVING A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTED BY WILLIAM AND JAN THOMPSON FOR USE OF AN EXISTING STRUCTURE LOCATED AT 334 MASONIC STREET AS A SHORT-TERM RENTAL IN AN R-B MEDIUM DENSITY RESIDENCE ZONING DISTRICT". There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, Mayor Adkins closed the public hearing. Jeffery Dotson made a motion to adopt

Resolution #24, 2024 as presented. Ben Conway seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

RESOLUTION #25, 2024:

Town Manager Laura Roberts advised both the Administrative and Treasurer Departments were utilizing the services of Unbound Digital, Inc. for needed Information Technology (IT) services. She noted that by contracting with the provider for all departments, the Town could streamline and consolidate its IT support. Following a brief discussion, councilman Jeffery Dotson moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING A THREE-YEAR CONTRACT WITH UNBOUND DIGITAL, INC. TO PROVIDE INTERNET SUPPORT SERVICE AND SECURITY FOR THE TOWN OF WISE POLICE DEPARTMENT, TOWN OF WISE FIRE DEPARTMENT, TOWN OF WISE WATER TREATMENT PLANT, AND TOWN OF WISE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT”. Robin Dotson seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

RESOLUTION #26, 2024:

Town Clerk/Treasurer Sarina Collins informed that IBM announced hardware maintenance would be withdrawn on the AS400 server used in the Data Processing and Treasurer Departments. She added that a computer system, with the same specifications required by the Town, was available for purchase under a state contract established by the University of Virginia and open for use by public bodies of the Commonwealth. Collins further advised funding for the upgraded computer equipment had been appropriated in the current fiscal year budget. Following a brief discussion, councilman Robin Dotson made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF NEW COMPUTER EQUIPMENT FOR THE DATA PROCESSING DEPARTMENT THROUGH A STATE AGENCY CONTRACT”. Vice-Mayor Ben Conway seconded the motion with the vote recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

HOMETOWN HERO AWARD PRESENTATION - RESOLUTION #27, 2024:

Councilman Caynor Smith, Jr. honored Robert R. Adkins as the 2024 Centennial Hometown Hero for his numerous contributions to the Town of Wise throughout the years. Adkins thanked Council for the unexpected recognition. Following the presentation, Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA NAMING ROBERT R. ADKINS A HOMETOWN HERO FOR THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA". Jeffery Dotson seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	"Aye"
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	"Aye"
Jeffery Dotson	"Aye"
Robin Dotson	"Aye"
Caynor Smith, Jr.	"Aye"

CLOSED SESSION:

On a motion made by Jeffery Dotson and a second by Ben Conway, the Wise Town Council moved to convene into closed meeting for the purpose of and including:

***Personnel** – 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 as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(1).*

***Legal Matters** – Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(8).*

OPEN SESSION:

Robin Dotson made a motion to reconvene in open session. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION – CM RESOLUTION #11, 2024:

Sarina Collins, Town Clerk/Treasurer, read Closed Meeting Resolution #11, 2024, "Resolving and certifying that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applied, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Town Council of the Town of Wise," and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	"Aye"
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	"Aye"
Jeffery Dotson	"Aye"
Robin Dotson	"Aye"
Caynor Smith, Jr.	"Aye"

COUNCIL COMMENT:

Robin Dotson thanked everyone for their efforts in making the Centennial Celebration a success.

Caynor Smith, Jr., stated that the Centennial Celebration was remarkable and commended all involved for contributing to its success.

Ben Conway noted the sidewalk construction on Lake Street was progressing well.

Jeffery Dotson stated the Centennial Celebration was well attended and he had received a great deal of positive feedback from the events. He also requested that signage be placed at Big Glades to inform the public of the availability of free internet access.

Mayor Adkins noted that the Town of Wise Centennial Week received a Certificate of Recognition from Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin and a Resolution from the Wise County Board of Supervisors.

STAFF COMMENT:


Town Manager Laura Roberts reviewed upcoming events, which included the Central High School Homecoming Parade and Pep Rally, the Fall Fling, and UVA-Wise Homecoming.

Fire Chief Jack Mullins informed the recently held Regional Fire School was a success, noting that 360 students attended.


Town Clerk/Treasurer Sarina Collins advised delinquent Real Estate and Personal Property taxes were published in The Coalfield Progress.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional discussion by the Wise Town Council, Jeffery Dotson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Robin Dotson seconded the motion that passed 5-0.



Sarina F. Collins, Town Clerk/Treasurer



Teresa Adkins, Mayor