

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 27, 2021; 7:00 P.M.
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293**

MINUTES

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Laura Taylor-Baugh

Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation:

Mayor Teresa Adkins led the Pledge of Allegiance. Jim Collie, retired campus minister at the University of Virginia's College at Wise, provided the invocation.

Consent Calendar:

Councilman Jeff Dotson made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the March 23, 2021 regular Council Meeting, the April 12, 2021 Special-Called Meeting, the February-March 2021 Treasurer's Financial Reports, the March 2021 Police, Water Plant, and Fire Department Reports, and the April 2021 Planning Department Report. Councilman Ben Conway seconded the motion that passed 4-0.

Public Expression:

Dr. Sue Cantrell and Reisa Sloce, of the Wise County Health Department, presented COVID-19 statistics for the area, including vaccinations, case, and death numbers.

Hometown Hero Award:

Wise Town Council honored recently retired regional public health director Dr. Sue Cantrell by presenting her with the town's annual Hometown Hero Award.

Update on Chillin' and Grillin' Event:

Greg Cross, coordinator of the annual Chillin' and Grillin' Event, provided a status update on the 2021 event including COVID-19 regulations, the beer garden, and breakfast provided by Council.

Resolution #13, 2021:

Laura Roberts, Planner, reported that "Request for Bids" were issued for demolition of the eleven structures purchased under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. She noted that the lowest bid was submitted by Natural Resource Services, Inc. in the amount of \$89,429.56. Following a brief discussion, Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AWARDED A CONTRACT TO NATURAL RESOURCE SERVICES, INC. FOR DEMOLITION AND SITE RESTORATION OF THE HAZARD MITIGATION PROPERTIES", Ben Conway seconded the motion that was recorded by roll call:

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

Resolution #14, 2021:

Councilman Jeff Dotson made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA REAPPOINTING CAYNOR SMITH, JR. OF THE TOWN OF WISE TO SERVE ON THE COEBURN-NORTON-WISE REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT AUTHORITY”. Ben Conway seconded the motion that was recorded by roll call:

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

Resolution #15, 2021:

Councilman Jeff Dotson made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A MUTUAL AID AGREEMENT WITH PARTICIPATING LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATIONS”. Ben Conway seconded the motion that was recorded by roll call:

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

Proclamation #1, 2021:

Ben Conway made a motion to adopt “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA DESIGNATING MAY 2021 AS ENDANGERED SPECIES MONTH” and Jeff Dotson seconded the motion. The vote carried 4-0.

Proclamation #2, 2021:

Jeff Dotson made a motion to adopt “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MAY 16 THROUGH MAY 22, 2021 AS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES WEEK”. Ben Conway seconded the motion that passed 4-0.

Proclamation #3, 2021:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to adopt “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA TO OBSERVE THE WEEK OF MAY 9-15, 2021 AS POLICE WEEK” and Jeff Dotson seconded the motion. The vote carried 4-0.

Proclamation #4, 2021:

Jeff Dotson made a motion to adopt “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA RECOGNIZING THE WEEK OF MAY 2 THROUGH MAY 9, 2021 AS MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK”. Ben Conway seconded the motion and the vote passed 4-0.

Resolution #16, 2021:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING SUBMITTAL OF AN APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE FOR REHABILITATION WORK ON SEVEN WATER TANKS OWNED BY THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA”. Jeff Dotson seconded the motion that was recorded by roll call:

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

Amendment to Dotson Park Coordinator Services Agreement:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to amend the Dotson Park Coordinator Services Agreement with Doug Bates, increasing monthly compensation from \$500 to \$1,250. Ben Conway seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

Resolution #17, 2021:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA ACCEPTING DONATIONS TO BE UTILIZED FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES”. Jeff Dotson seconded the motion that was recorded by roll call:

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

Discussion of Opening Town Facilities:

Town Manager Beverly Owens advised that as of the current date the Wise Municipal Building was ready to reopen to the public. She noted that there would be stipulations involved with the opening of the pool, unless state regulations change prior to the opening date. Councilman Dotson suggested that the Recreation Committee meet prior to the opening date to decide how to address regulations that may be in place near the date. Dotson further suggested that the committee be authorized to make the final decision without further Council action, due to time constraints.

Discussion of the Revised FY 2021-2022 Budget:

Beverly Owens presented amended pages to the fiscal year 2021-22 budget. In addition, Councilman Smith suggested charging travel ball teams a fee of \$100 per year for use of fields at Dotson Park, excluding tournaments. He added that travel ball teams would still be required to pay entry fees for tournament play. Smith stated that the annual use fee would help to cover costs for maintenance. Following the brief discussion, Town Manager Owens requested Council’s approval of the budget with the amended field use fee. Mayor Adkins made a motion approving the fiscal year 2021-22 budget was in its final form with the addition of field use fees. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 4-0.

Closed Session:

On a motion made by Jeff Dotson and seconded by Caynor Smith, Jr., 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).*

Open Session:

Councilman Dotson made a motion to reconvene in open session. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

Certification of Closed Session – CM Resolution #6, 2021:

Assistant Town Treasurer Sarina Collins, read Closed Meeting Resolution #6, 2021, “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	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

Appointee Reports (Informational Purposes Only) – Acknowledgement of Receipt:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Cumberland Airport Commission from March 18, 2021. Jeff Dotson seconded the motion that carried 4-0.

Council Comment:

Jeff Dotson asked how the change in the time of year town elections would be held (November instead of May) would affect those currently up for re-election. Town Attorney Leonard Rogers stated that to the best of his knowledge, once the change takes place, those in office would hold their current office until the newly elected officials took office in January.

Caynor Smith, Jr. stated that Ryan Adkins had volunteered to mow the fields at Dotson Park until the end of the season in May and questioned who would be mowing after this date. The Town Manager informed that Doug Bates had indicated that he would prefer to mow himself once the volunteer service ends. Owens added that a mower and trimmer would need to be purchased and stored at Dotson Park. Following the discussion, Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion authorizing the Town Manager to transfer funds from the contingency line item for the purchase of a mower and trimmer. Ben Conway seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

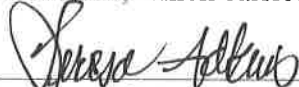
Staff / Manager Comment:

Laura Roberts requested approval to proceed with the summer entertainment schedule for Big Glades. Council members authorized the scheduling of summer entertainment events.

Chief Danny French and Officer Nathan Rose thanked Council for their support of the Police Department.

Adjournment:

There being no additional business to come before the governing body, the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Councilman Smith. Councilman Conway seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.



Teresa Adkins, Mayor



Sarina Collins, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer