

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JUNE 28, 2022; 7:00 P.M.
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor
Laura Taylor, Vice-Mayor
Ben Conway
Jeffery Dotson
Caynor Smith, Jr.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION:

Councilman Dotson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Adrian Dale, Town of Wise Street Superintendent, provided the invocation.

AGENDA CHANGES:

Town Manager Laura Roberts noted an incorrect Virginia Code Section referenced in resolutions numbered 24-29 in regard to the “keeping of inoperable vehicles”. She noted that the correction was reflected in the original resolutions that would be acted upon later in the meeting. There being no additional comments, Councilman Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve the agenda change. Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the May 24, 2022 regular Council meeting, the February – April, 2022 Treasurer’s Financial Reports, and the May, 2022 Police, Water Plant, and Fire Department Reports. Laura Taylor 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, on behalf of the staff working with the upcoming state softball tournament, requested authorization to issue one free pool pass to each state softball tournament participant to be used on Friday, July 1st. Council concurred with the request.

ORDINANCE #4, 2022:

Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor moved to adopt “AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA ADOPTING A DECREASE IN THE TAX RATE FOR REAL PROPERTY AND REIMPOSING AT THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED RATES, THE TAX RATE FOR TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY, SETTING THE PERCENTAGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF AT A LEVEL ANTICIPATED TO FULLY EXHAUST FUNDS PROVIDED BY THE COMMONWEALTH FOR THE PROGRAM, AND RE-IMPOSING, RE-ESTABLISHING, AND LEVYING AT THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED RATES A TAX LEVY FOR BUSINESS LICENSES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PROFESSIONAL

BUSINESS LICENSES), BANK STOCK, EXCISE TAXES, AND ALL OTHER TAXES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CIGARETTE TAXES). LEVIES, FEES (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICE FEES), AND CHARGES AT THE SAME RATE AS PREVIOUSLY IMPOSED BY THE TOWN". Councilman Ben Conway seconded the motion, which was recorded by roll call:

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

ORDINANCE #5, 2022:

Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor moved to adopt "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE TOWN OF WISE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023 AND PROVIDING FOR EMPLOYEE BONUSES FOR SAID MUNICIPALITY". Councilman Ben Conway seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

ORDINANCE #6, 2022:

There being no additional comments or discussion, Councilman Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to adopt "AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR ALL CONTEMPLATED EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2022 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2023". Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

RESOLUTION #15, 2022

Town Manager Laura Roberts notified that the resolution under discussion was for the approval of an agreement between the Town of Wise and the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation in regard to the Town's award of an AMLER grant in the amount of \$371,000 for lighting at the Town of Wise Municipal Sports Complex. There being no additional discussion, Councilman Dotson made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA

AND THE OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT FOR THE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE TOWN OF WISE SPORTS COMPLEX (VELDON DOTSON RECREATION PARK IMPROVEMENTS)". Councilman Conway seconded the motion, with the vote recorded by roll call:

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

RESOLUTION #16, 2022

Town Manager Laura Roberts explained that, at the direction of Council, Community Event Coordinator Natasha Proulex had obtained pricing from companies providing website services. In a written report, Proulex provided a quote received from a company by the name of CivicPlus, who would build a new website for the Town of Wise and host the site for an initial cost of \$4,325. In her report, Proulex noted that the company charged \$4,541.25 for yearly maintenance. Following a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AND CIVICPLUS FOR HOSTING AND UPDATING THE TOWN OF WISE WEBSITE". Councilman Jeff Dotson seconded the motion, with the vote recorded by roll call:

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

RESOLUTION #17, 2022

Laura Roberts explained that in order to receive the Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) distribution of state aid known as 599 funds, localities must complete an eligibility process. She explained that the resolution under discussion, was Council's authorization to submit the required eligibility certifications. There being no additional discussion, Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATIONS FOR STATE AID (599 FUNDS) TO LOCALITIES WITH POLICE DEPARTMENTS". Councilman Ben Conway seconded the motion, with the vote recorded by roll call:

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

RESOLUTION #18, 2022

Councilman Conway made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF WISE PLANNING COMMISSION”. Laura Taylor seconded the motion, with the vote recorded by roll call:

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

RESOLUTION #19, 2022

Town Manager Laura Roberts reported that Board of Zoning Appeals member George Culbertson had notified that he did not wish to be reappointed to the Board, following the expiration of his term on July 17, 2022. She advised that in the search for a new board member, Trisha Folds-Bennett, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at UVA’s College at Wise, had volunteered to serve. Councilman Dotson made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA APPOINTING TRISHA FOLDS-BENNETT TO THE TOWN OF WISE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS”. Councilman Smith seconded the motion, with the vote recorded by roll call:

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

DISCUSSION OF THE TOWN OF WISE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE:

Laura Roberts presented, for Council’s review, a list of the holidays currently observed by the Town of Wise as compared with the Commonwealth of Virginia’s holiday calendar. Following a brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor made a motion that the Town of Wise observe the same holiday schedule as the Commonwealth of Virginia. Councilman Smith seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT:

- Wise Primary/LF Addington School Traffic – Jeff Dotson, Chair, reviewed a Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 21, 2022, with officials from Wise County Schools and Wise County Sheriff’s Department, to discuss possible solutions to school traffic complaints. Dotson reported that all in attendance agreed there were no easy solutions to the school traffic issue; however, they also agreed that open communication among all the

entities involved would help to address and minimize school traffic issues in the future. Dotson suggested any additional concerns or suggestions from Council members, citizens, or parents be forwarded to Police Chief Danny French.

PROPERTIES TO INVOKE RESTRICTING THE KEEPING OF INOPERABLE MOTOR VEHICLES (RESOLUTIONS #20 – #24, 2022):

Police Lieutenant Chris Kent presented the following property owners with inoperable motor vehicles on property within the Town of Wise:

- *Resolution #20 – Britta Kilgore, 210 Railroad Avenue*
- *Resolution #21 – Judith Riner, 301 and 603 West Main Street*
- *Resolution #22 – Robin Dotson, 202 Railroad Avenue*
- *Resolution #23 – Lorene Lee, Phillip Lee, or Lorene’s Estate, 507 East Main Street*
- *Resolution #24 – Estate of Mariom Virginia Hamilton or Margaret Susan Mitchell, 214 Grandview Drive*

Laura Taylor made a motion to approve Resolutions #20-#24, 2022 as presented. Jeff Dotson seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

PROPERTIES TO PRESCRIBE TIME FOR CUTTING OF WEEDS AND OTHER FOREIGN GROWTH (RESOLUTIONS #25 - #29, 2022):

Police Lieutenant Chris Kent presented the following property owners with overgrown property within the Town of Wise:

- *Resolution #25 – Deborah Beverly-Boatwright, 903 Coeburn Road*
- *Resolution #26 – Stuart and Nikita Branham, 826 Hurricane Road*
- *Resolution #27 – Marla Weitzman, 101 Virginia Avenue*
- *Resolution #28 – Judith Riner, West Main Street and Roberts Avenue*
- *Resolution #29 – Lorene Lee, Phillip Lee, or Lorene’s Estate, 507 East Main Street*

Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor made a motion to adopt Resolution #25 - #29, 2022 as presented. Councilman Jeff Dotson seconded the motion that required a roll call vote:

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

PROPERTIES TO REQUIRE THE REMOVAL OF TRASH, GARBAGE, REFUSE, LITTER, AND CLUTTER (RESOLUTIONS #30 - #32, 2022):

Police Lieutenant Chris Kent presented the following property owners with an accumulation of trash and litter within the Town of Wise:

- Resolution #30 – Sonya Cox, 225 Park Avenue
- Resolution #31 – Wanda Rose, 238 Grandview Drive
- Resolution #32 – Lorene Lee, Phillip Lee, or Lorene’s Estate, 507 East Main Street

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve Resolution #30-#32, 2022 as presented. Laura Taylor seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

CLOSED SESSION:

On a motion made by Jeff Dotson and a second by Laura Taylor the Wise Town Council moved to convene into closed meeting for the purpose of and including:

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:

Councilman Smith made a motion to reconvene in open session. Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION – CM RESOLUTION #5, 2022:

Robin Meade, Town Clerk/Treasurer, read Closed Meeting Resolution #5, 2022, “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”
Laura Taylor, Vice-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's Airport Commission report from June 16, 2022. Jeff Dotson seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor stated that in April, 2022 she had submitted a written letter of resignation to the mayor, to be effective on June 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. Taylor added that it had been an honor to serve as both a council member and as vice mayor for the Town of Wise.

Councilmembers Jeff Dotson, Caynor Smith, Jr., and Ben Conway, along with Mayor Teresa Adkins expressed their appreciation to Vice-Mayor Taylor for her dedication and service to the Town of Wise.

Ben Conway stressed the need to seal the new sidewalks against not only salt, but also the upcoming seasonal freeze and thaw cycles.

STAFF/MANAGER COMMENT:

Town appointed officials Leonard Rogers, Laura Roberts, Danny French and Robin Meade expressed their appreciation to Laura Taylor, adding that it had been an honor and pleasure to serve with her.

Town Manager Laura Roberts stated her pride in the employees and volunteers who worked to help make the upcoming state softball tournament a success. Roberts also informed that she had been notified by Wise County that the road going into the Town of Wise Sports Complex would need to be named and they were looking to the Town of Wise for suggestions.

Special Event Coordinator Natasha Proulex provided a summary of upcoming events.

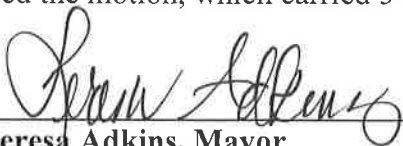
Superintendents Jerry Kilgore and Adrian Dale thanked Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor for her service.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no additional business to come before the governing body, the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Jeff Dotson. Ben Conway seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.



Robin R. Meade, Town Clerk/Treasurer



Teresa Adkins, Mayor