



**GATE CITY TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**JUNE 10, 2014**  
**156 E. JACKSON ST.**  
**6:30 PM**

**I. COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:30 P.M. BY: Mayor - Frances Perry**

**II. ROLL CALL – Deputy Town Clerk – Judy Guinn**

**PRESENT:**

Mayor, Frances Perry  
Vice Mayor, Allan “Cotton” Roberts  
Council Member, Roger Cassell  
Council Member, Robin Richards  
Council Member, Wallace W. Ross, Jr.  
Council Member, Walter Salyers  
Town Manager, Greg Jones  
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks

Others present: Jo Ann Castle, Cheryl A. Burgess, Bart Burgess, Larry & Debra Lane, Bill Tipton, Jamie Lawson, Tim White, Benny Reed, Acting Police Chief Scott Fink.

**III. INVOCATION – Council Member, R. Richards**

**IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Council Member, R. Richards**

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Motion made to approve the agenda.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Cassell

VOTE:	Yeas,	5
	Nays,	0
	Absent,	0
	Abstain,	0

**VI. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS.**

- **Receipt of the 2013 Excellence in Waterworks Operation Gold Award from Virginia Dept. of Health**

**Town Manager, G. Jones** stated that the Water Treatment Plant won the Gold Standard Award from the Virginia Department of Health for the third year in a row. **Town Manager, G. Jones** congratulated L. Cruby, Chief Water Plant Operator and her staff for doing an excellent job.

**VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- **Council Meeting of May 13, 2014 as presented?**

**Motion made to approve the Council Meeting Minutes of May 13, 2014.**

Motion by: Council Member R. Cassell, 2nd by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts

VOTE:	Yeas,	5
	Nays,	0
	Absent,	0
	Abstain,	0

- **Special Called Council Meeting for Temporary Closure of King Alley of May 29, 2014 as presented?**

**Motion made to approve the minutes for Special Called Council Meeting of May 29, 2014 concerning the temporary closure of King Alley.**

Motion by: Council Member R. Cassell, 2nd by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts

VOTE:	Yeas,	5
	Nays,	0
	Absent,	0
	Abstain,	0

**VIII. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS**

**Motion made for approval for payment of bills for May, 2014.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, 2nd by: Council Member W. Ross Jr.

VOTE:	Yeas,	5
	Nays,	0
	Absent,	0
	Abstain,	0

**IX. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Jo Ann Cassell** – Discussed the many accidents that have occurred at the intersection of E. Jackson St. and Moccasin Dr. and E. Jackson St. and Old Nickelsville Hwy. Asked that the Council consider reducing the speed limit from 45 to 35 out to the city limits. Would like to have data on how many accidents had happened in that stretch.

**Cheryl Burgess** – 241 Ravine St. – Discussed the fact that she is having a hard time paying water bill and understands that rates were increased. Explained that she did not receive response in time that she thought was prompt after calls to office, and other Town officials. Turned off water at meter to work on a water heater and water was still coming through the pipe. Also grass seeds had

not been sown where they worked on the line. **Town Manager, G. Jones** informed her that he would look into the problem and get back to her in a few days.

**Larry and Debra Lane & William Tipton** – Expressed concern about 946 W. Jackson St. needing mowing. It has become a rat and snake pit. Also concerned about two houses on 262 and 274 Highland, and another on Campbell St – 1<sup>st</sup> house on left – a brick house. Also were concerned about cars tagged with Tennessee license plates after the residents had been living in town for quite a while.

**Mayor Perry** closed the public comment session at 7:03 P.M. and opened the consent agenda session.

**X. COMMUNICATIONS** – no comments.

**XI. REPORTS**

**A. Engineer's Status Report** - no report.

**B. Treasurer's Report** - **Council Member Wallace W. Ross Jr.** expressed his concern about getting the packets later than Wednesday. **Mayor Perry** stated that if you get it on Friday, you have all day Monday and Tuesday to ask questions of staff in Town office.

**C. Codification Committee/Property Maintenance** – **Town Attorney M. Brooks** stated that everything highlighted in yellow in the report would be in court before the next meeting.

**D. Police Department Report** - **Mayor Perry** stated that there have been lots of complements on the Police Department.

**E. Council Reports** - **Council Members R. Cassell and R. Richards** had no reports. **Council Member W. Salyers** stated that the sign coming into Gate City on West Jackson cannot be seen for the tall grass. **Council Member W. Ross Jr.** stated that he was concerned that street light bulbs are out and that the Town is not cutting grass on the old Daugherty Brothers property and main roads into town. He expressed concern that VDOT is not cutting grass beside the road. **Vice Mayor A. Roberts** – stated that Town needed a regular schedule for main roads and to use a push mower beside sidewalks. Also expressed his concern about the legal ad that was in the Kingsport Times News for a brewery at 327 Highland St.

**F. Economic Development Committee** – **Vice Mayor A. Roberts** stated that they are meeting every two weeks, new businesses are coming to town, arts initiative is doing well, and the Kickin' Back @ King Alley is a great success. A speaker about a farmer's market is scheduled for the next meeting.

**G. Historical Committee** - **Council Member W. Ross, Jr.** stated that he has been looking at the old Estil Cemetery.

**H. Manager** – **Town Manager G. Jones** – summarized his report as presented in the Council packet.

**I. Park Committee** – **Vice Mayor A. Roberts** - reported that they had a new member with lots of good ideas.

**J. Planning Commission** – **Council Member R. Cassell** – reported that the Scott County Economic Development Committee has a new president and are interested in working with the Town. New businesses are coming to Town. They are trying to get in touch with a gardener to beautify the Town.

**K. Public Works** – no comments.

**L. Sanitation Authority** – **Council Member R. Cassell** – reported that the new policy and procedure manual is ready for public hearing.

**M. Street Commission** – **Council Member W. Ross Jr.** – wanted to know about meeting with paving company that he did not attend. A heated discussion between Council Member W. Ross Jr. and Mayor Perry took place.

**N. Safety Committee** – **Council Member W. Ross Jr.** - stated that he had been looking for cameras to be placed at the water plant and referred the source to the Town Manager.

**O. Water Plant** - **Vice Mayor A. Roberts** - discussed the loss level at the Water Plant and the criteria to set the goal for loss levels. **Council Member, R. Richards** – mentioned prior comments regarding selling water and the rates being too low. **Council Member, R. Cassell** stated we need to look at the PSA Contract. **Town Manager, G. Jones**, agreed it is an issue and will be looked into.

**P. Events Committee** - **Vice Mayor A. Roberts** - discussed the importance of the summer concerts and Grillin’ at the Gate with the bands helping to get out the word about Gate City through their media and their followers.

## **XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- **Discussion and decision regarding naming Kane Street bridge after Jim Spears.**

**Town Manager G. Jones** stated that VDOT said the Town would pay all costs and VDOT creates signs. **Council Member A. Roberts** expressed the concern that the Town would be starting a precedence that they could not keep up.

**Motion was made for Town to seek other avenues to honor Jim Spears.**

Motion by: Council Member R. Cassell, 2nd by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain 0

## **XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- **Discussion with Gate City Fire Department Chief Brickey concerning Flea Market.**

**Town Manager G. Jones** stated that the Town Council has concerns about not receiving revenue from the Fire Department for the flea market. **Fire Department Chief J. Brickey** stated that they can look back at the records and send that to the Council. Getting vendors to come to Town Hall and purchase a business license was discussed. Cleaning up the parking lot after the flea market was also discussed. Fire Department will work with the town crew when water plant must be closed for construction work on June 17 and would like for an officer to be on duty all night that night to patrol for fires, so to be able to get to them as soon as possible. **Mayor Perry** mentioned that Town needs more communication from the Fire Department.

- **Discussion and decision regarding the Resolution for Employer Contribution Rates for Counties, Cities, Towns, School Divisions and Other Political Subdivisions.**

**Motion made for decision regarding resolution to go with 6%**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Cassell

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

- **Discussion and decision regarding the Resolution of Support for SBH-Kingsport, LLC to construct a Psychiatric Hospital in Kingsport, TN.**

There was much discussion about the facility and who might be running it with **Town Manager G. Jones and Acting Police Chief S. Fink** explaining what they learned from the meetings they had attended and how this facility would help Gate City.

**Motion made to adopt resolution.**

Motion by: Council Member R. Cassell, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Richards

VOTE: Yeas, 3  
Nays, 2, Council Member W. Ross, Jr., Vice Mayor A. Roberts  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

- **Decision to accept the application to appoint Tina Nash to the Economic Development Committee.**

**Motion made to accept application to appoint Tina Nash to the Economic Development Committee**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member W. Salyers

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

- **Mayor Perry appointed Council Member R. Cassell to a seat on planning commission, term to run from July 1, 2014 thru June 30, 2018.**

- **Discussion and Decision concerning 2015 FY Budget public hearing.**

**Motion made to discuss and decide on the 2015 FY Budget public hearing.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member W. Salyers

**Town Manager G. Jones** stated that each member had a copy of the budget.

**Motion made to hold a public hearing on the 2015 FY Budget on June 24 at 6:30 P.M.**

Motion by: Council Member R. Richards, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

#### **IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – NEW BUSINESS**

**Benny Reed** – wanted to express his support of closing Town Parking Lot and to say that he thought we did not have enough Police support in Gate City. Quality was good but not number of officers.

**Motion made to amend the agenda to include discussing the closing of the Town Parking Lot.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Richards

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

Discussion was made weighing using signs versus gates to close Town Parking Lot.

**Motion made to close Town Parking Lot after dark.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Cassell

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

**Motion made to amend the agenda to include discussing Moccasin Hill Dr. area of E. Jackson St. speed limit.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Richards

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

Discussion about speed limit was held with options of marking area as a school zone, sending resolution to VDOT to get their input, and other options. **Mayor Perry** stated **Town Manager G.**

**Jones** would work on a resolution to send to VDOT and this item would be tabled to the next meeting under Old Business.

Mayor Perry closed the public comment session for new business at 8:40 P.M. and opened the consent agenda session.

**XV. CLOSED SESSION**

**Motion made for Council to enter into closed session to discuss legal issues.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Richards

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

Mayor Perry opened the closed session at 8:41 P.M.

**XVI. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION**

Council returned from closed session at 9:18 P.M.

**Motion made for Council to return from closed session.**

Motion by: Vice Mayor A. Roberts, 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Council Member R. Richards

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING – Read by: Town Attorney M. Brooks**

**WHEREAS**, the Gate City Town Council has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2-7312 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Gate City Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member’s knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed meeting to which this certification applies and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Gate City Town Council.

VOTE: Yeas, 5  
Nays, 0  
Absent, 0  
Abstain, 0

**XVII. MOTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION:** none

**XVIII. ADJOURN**

**Motion made to adjourn.**

Motion by: Council Member W. Salyers, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Vice Mayor A. Roberts

VOTE: Yeas,	5
Nays,	0
Absent,	0
Abstain,	0

\*Mayor Perry adjourned the meeting at 9:20 P.M., until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting on July 8, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

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Frances Perry – Mayor

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Judy Guinn – Deputy Town Clerk



Employer Contribution Rates for Counties, Cities,  
Towns, School Divisions and Other Political Subdivisions  
(In accordance with the 2014 Appropriation Act Item 467(I))

**Resolution**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Gate City- 55394 does hereby acknowledge that its contribution rates effective July 1, 2014 shall be based on the higher of a) the contribution rate in effect for FY 2012, or b) eighty percent of the results of the June 30, 2013 actuarial valuation of assets and liabilities as approved by the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees for the 2014-16 biennium (the "Alternate Rate") provided that, at its option, the contribution rate may be based on the employer contribution rates certified by the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees pursuant to Virginia Code § 51.1-145(I) resulting from the June 30, 2013 actuarial value of assets and liabilities (the "Certified Rate"); and

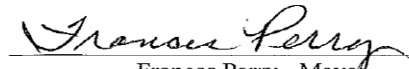
BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Town of Gate City - 55394 does hereby certify to the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees that it elects to pay the following contribution rate effective July 1, 2014:

(Check only one box)

The Certified Rate of 6.00%                       The Alternate Rate of 4.82%; and


BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Town of Gate City - 55394 does hereby certify to the Virginia Retirement System Board of Trustees that it has reviewed and understands the information provided by the Virginia Retirement System outlining the potential future fiscal implications of any election made under the provisions of this resolution; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the officers of the Town of Gate City - 55394 are hereby authorized and directed in the name of the Town of Gate City - 55394 to carry out the provisions of this resolution, and said officers of the Town of Gate City - 55394 are authorized and directed to pay over to the Treasurer of Virginia from time to time such sums as are due to be paid by the Town of Gate City - 55394 for this purpose.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Frances Perry - Mayor

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Kathleen Riley, Town Clerk of the Town of Gate City, certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed at a lawfully organized meeting of the Town of Gate City held at Gate City, Virginia at 6:30 o'clock p.m. on June 10, 2014. Given under my hand and seal of the Town of Gate City this 10th day of June, 2014.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kathleen Riley - Town Clerk

Town of Gate City  
156 E. JACKSON ST.  
GATE CITY, VA 24251  
276-386-3831 OFFICE  
276-386-7789 FAX

Town Manager – Greg Jones  
townmanager@townofgatecity.com



Mayor  
Frances Perry  
Vice Mayor  
Allan "Cotton" Roberts  
Council Members  
Roger Cassell  
Robin Richards  
Wallace W. Ross Jr.  
Walter Salyers

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT  
SBH-KINGSPORT, LLC TO CONSTRUCT A 72 BED PSYCHIATRIC  
HOSPITAL IN KINGSPORT, TN.**

**WHEREAS,** SBH-Kingsport, LLC (SBH, LLC) is requesting a Certificate of Need for the construction, development, and establishment of a 72 bed, 52,260 square foot Psychiatric Hospital to be located at the end of Executive Park Boulevard in Kingsport, TN; and

**WHEREAS,** The service area of the proposed Psychiatric Hospital will be Hawkins and Sullivan County in Tennessee and Wise, Scott, and Lee Counties in Southwest Virginia serving psychiatric and chemical dependency patients; and

**WHEREAS,** The closest Psychiatric Hospital is the Woodridge Psychiatric Hospital in Johnson City, TN which is outside the proposed service area; and

**WHEREAS,** The Indian Path Psychiatric Hospital in Kingsport, TN closed in 2009 leaving only twelve inpatient psychiatric beds available in the proposed five county service area. There are no other free-standing inpatient Psychiatric Hospitals in the same proposed service area; and

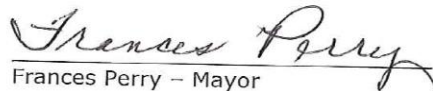
**WHEREAS,** Large portions of the population must travel outside the area in order to receive needed health care; and

**WHEREAS,** There is a large and growing need for psychiatric health care in the five county service area.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE TOWN OF GATE CITY HEREBY:**

Requests that the Certificate of Need be approved so that SBH, LCC can help fill the demand of quality psychiatric care in our service area and provide up 250 new, high paying jobs while providing lower cost psychiatric health care to the State.

Adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2014.

  
Frances Perry – Mayor

Attest:

  
Kathy Riley – Town Clerk

*Where Mountains & Music Make Memories*