



Town Council Meeting Minutes
9-Jun-09
156 E. Jackson Street

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Mark Jenkins called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Deputy Town Clerk Rhonda Stacey conducted roll call the following persons were present:

Council: Coates

Council: Herron

Council: Jenkins

Council: Perry

Vice Mayor: Tipton

Absent: None

III. Invocation

Rev. Rollie Hautz

IV. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Mark Jenkins lead the pledge in Sergeant of Arms Chuck Newton's absence.

**V. Proclamations, Congratulatory Resolutions, Awards, Appointments, Resignations, and Confirmations,
Administration of Oaths and Introduction of Guest**

VI. Communications

Attendees from Shoemaker Elementary spoke on behalf of the school requesting the Town to place a Recycling bin outside at the school so that they may be more successful in educating and practicing good recycling habits with the children at the school.

VII. Reports

Codification Committee:

No report

Council Reports:

Mayor Jenkins stated that the Clinch Mountain Music Festival will be soon here,. He hopes

Economic Development Committee:

Council Coates stated the two new entrance signs have been placed and they appear smaller than expected. The cost of placing a music shelter with a stage at grogan park is now being evaluated.

Engineer's Status Report:

Mayor Jenkins stated that Andy has done a lot of work to help secure grants.

Façade Committee:

Council Coates stated that Rob Jones now has nine signed contracts and that they will be having a management team meeting on June 10, 2009.

Historical Committee:

Council Perry stated they didn't meet this month but that Mike Pulace had called and said that with no money currently available he suggested that the down do the research and be ready when money is available.

Manager:

Town Manager Steve Templeton stated, the water department had received the new laptop and software and is getting into the old system. He has met and discussed the old starnes building, the consensus was that the building was not salvageable and would be demolished. There has been significant improvement to some of the properties that were being evaluated by Robert Mullins. Met with Angie Sproles of RADA and a grant official from H.U.D. to discuss sub-slandered housing in the town. The possibility of obtaining a grant is high and all that would be required is to sign on as an official partner. RADA would rent the properties to qualified tenants.

Park Committee:

Vice Mayor Tipton stated, the group did not have a quorum this month however she had called and spoke with Jeff Stapleton and he says the contractor should start this week.

Planning:

Vice Mayor Tipton stated, the group did not have a quorum this month and next month they will be working on the noise ordinance and lodging tax.

Police Department:

Acting Police Chief Michael Delano reports 339 Calls, 84 Summons issued, 21 total reports, 15 total arrests. K9 48 Training Hours, 8 Deployments, 7 Narcotics car sniffs, 1 narcotics school checks, 1 track. Break down by officer:

Summons Arrests Reports

Janeway	14	1	3
Templeton	14	1	1
Taylor	15	3	3
Kilgore	16	0	0
Delano	23	8	7

Property Maintenance:

Vice Mayor Tipton stated, the Old Starnes building needs to be demolished. A condemned sign has been placed at the old Chapman Store building.

Public Works:

Card Board Pick UP	6,900 lbs
Brush Pick up	38,800 lbs
Trash Pick Up	209,236 lbs
Total Work orders	133

Sanitation Authority:

Council Coates stated the meeting is June 10, 2009 and Andy Miles would be there to report on the demolition of the Sewer plant.

Street Committee:

Council Perry stated that it was discussed with the Town Manager getting bids on asphalt for Water Street and the cost of asphalt is down currently and we have money in the 08/09 budget for street repairs.

Treasurer:

No Report

Water Committee:

No Report

Water Plant:

Loretta Cruby stated, the water loss report is back high again this month and is now questioning the individual hand held readers as she doesn't believe the town is losing over 5 million gallons of water each month.

VIII. Public Comment

Mayor Jenkins opened the floor at 6:55 P.M.

Michael Delano stated during the Clinch Mountain Music Festival all officers are aware they are to all be on standby and available for double coverage.

With no one else to offer public comment Mayor Jenkins closed the floor at 7:00 P.M.

IX. Consent Agenda

Approval of the Town Council Meeting minutes from May 12, 2009

With typographical errors fixed the motion was made to approve the minutes.

Motion: Council Perry **Seconded by:** Council Coates

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

X. Unfinished Business

Review of Tow Service Policy

The company 5150 Towing is in a residential area need make sure all towers have a lot in town and a storage facility.

Possibility of a stop light at intersection of Jones Street and East Jackson Street

Mayor Jenkins has talked to the Police Department and they think the problem would get worse if the light is placed at the location. Mayor Jenkins request a study to be done by VDOT to confirm the best solution. Council Coates stated that James Parsons with VDOT has done the study before and it was agreed that Town Manager Steve Templeton would follow up with Mr. Parsons to get the study results from the past.

XI. New Business

Potential Building Purchase

This item was postponed until after closed session.

Delinquent Property Taxes

Mayor Jenkins stated, the town needs to take necessary steps to collect bad debts owed to the town. Town Attorney Mike Carrico stated there is a twenty year time period to collect. Town Attorney Mike Carrico stated the County is using a law firm to take care of there delinquent accounts and that would be his suggestion that the town do as well. Mayor Jenkins stated, we can place the ad in the paper listing out individuals who are delinquent on taxes. We have to file suit against the individuals the town just cant go out and sale the properties. This has been let go to long. Mayor Jenkins stated to publish the list and to let the town attorney review the wording to make sure everything is ok before publication.

Delinquent Meals Taxes

We have only one business that is not making payments on a regular basis. Most companies are making payments on time. We need to start contacting the customers immediately if payment not received in a months time. Mayor Jenkins stated for Mr. Templeton to take care of contacting the business. Council Perry questioned is this not theft or tax evasion. That this tax is being collected by the business owner its just not being turned over to the town.

Idle Police Car

The car has been towed out to the water plant. Mayor Jenkins stated its in the plans to auction that car off. Attorney Mike Carrico stated that we can use the online auction as before.

Lot on East Jackson Street that belongs to Ron Baker

Lot actually belongs to David Baker son of Ron Baker. The letters were sent out and the timeframe to resolve expires June 10, 2009. They have until the 28th of June to take are of. Mayor Jenkins stated, that the town can clean the property up and charge the property owner the cost of clean up and place a lien on the property.

New Gate City Signs

Council Perry stated, Signs look to small we need to look into getting the funds to exchange that sign to the east end of town, and replace it with a larger sign. Also maybe look at landscape or brick for old sign on the hill. We may be able to utilize the vocational school to help with building this would be no charge to the town for labor only supplies and maybe we can get that donated.

Additional Item Placed on Agenda:

Possible Resolution for the Town to place a recycle dumpster at shoemaker Elementary

Motion to draft a resolution to have dumpster placed at Shoemaker.

Motion: Council Herron **Seconded by:** Vice Mayor Tipton

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

XII. Closed Session

Motion made to enter into closed session

Motion by: Vice Mayor Tipton **Seconded by:** Council Coates

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Entered Closed Session at 7:40 P.M.

XIII. Return from Closed Session at 9:25 P.M.

Motion made to enter back into regular session

Motion by: Council Coates **Seconded by:** Vice Mayor Tipton

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Certification of Closed Meeting read by Attorney Mike Carrico

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 provision 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 conformity with Virginia law;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved, that the Gate City Town Council Heby 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 the certification applies and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion conveying the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Gate City Town Council.

Yeas:	Council: Coates	Neas:	None
	Council: Herron		
	Council: Jenkins		
	Council: Perry		
	Vice Mayor: Tipton		

XIV. Motions from closed Session

Motion to purchase the Scott County Co-Op building contingent upon an enviromental study a price with the aprasel value to be aproved by the Gate City Town Council and which meets the regulations of the grant guidelines also to be contingent on on financing

Motion: Council Coates **Seconded by:** Vice Mayor Tipton

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to appoint Chris Edwards as Treasurer at a starting salary of \$30,000.00 per year.

Motion: Vice Mayor Tipton **Seconded by:** Council Coates

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to amend personel policy to do away with comp time and the insurance payout.

Both to be effective July 1, 2009.

Motion: Vice Mayor Tipton **Seconded by:** Council Herron

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to accept Danni Cambells resignation effective June 12, 2009.

Motion: Vice Mayor Tipton **Seconded by:** Council Coates

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to advertise for town clerk position

Motion: Vice Mayor Tipton **Seconded by:** Council Jenkins

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Council Coates **Seconded by:** Council Herron

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to resend adjourn

Motion: Council Coates **Seconded by:** Council Herron

Motion to hold public hearing to adopt budget June 23, 2009 and adopt the new budget

June 30, 2009. Advertise accordingly

Motion: Council Perry **Seconded by:** Council Jenkins

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to reschedule August council meeting to August 6, 2009

Motion: Council Coates **Seconded by:** Council Herron

Vote:	Yeas	5
	Nays	0
	Absent	

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Council Herron

Seconded by: Council Coates

Vote:

Yeas

5

Nays

0

Absent

Adjourned meeting

Mayor Mark Jenkins

Deputy Town Clerk Rhonda Stacey