

**GATE CITY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING &
PUBLIC HEARING**

**July 8th, 2008
156 E. JACKSON ST.
6:00 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Jenkins
Vice-Mayor Tipton
Council Ashley Jenkins
Council Frances Perry
Council Tommy Herron

ABSENT: Council Cassell

I. PUBLIC HEARING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jenkins opened the Public Hearing regarding 2006 Property maintenance and traffic codes.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public regarding this issue. Mike Carrico stated to the audience that he had drafted the amendments and the amendments mimics the Code of VA.

Mayor Jenkins moved the vote to New Business and adjourned the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

III. COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jenkins called the Town Council Meeting to order at 6:03 P.M.

IV. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Jenkins
Vice-Mayor Tipton
Council Ashley Jenkins
Council Frances Perry
Council Tommy Herron

ABSENT: Council Cassell

V. INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation: Don Muncie
Pledge of Allegiance: Chuck Newton, Sergeant at Arms

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

A. Mayor Jenkins congratulated the newest member to the council Ashley Jenkins.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Council Herron advised that we had a vacancy within the Police Department no other discussion was made on this issue.
- B. VDOT has agreed to pave a total of 35 streets within the town limits.
- C. Mayor Jenkins discussed the announcement of the Downtown Revitalization Grant that the town had received. Following is the cut out from the Governors News Release dated on June 27, 2008:

**GOVERNOR KAINE ANNOUNCES MORE THAN \$10 MILLION
IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT FUNDING**

Town of Gate City Business District Revitalization Project

| | | | | |
|--|--------------------|---------------------|---------|----------------|
| Town of Gate City Business District Revitalization Project | Gate City, Town of | Mark Jenkins, Mayor | CDBG | \$ |
| | | | Private | 925,000 |
| | | | Local | 413,150 |
| | | | TOTAL | <u>164,810</u> |
| | | | | \$ |
| | | | | 1,502,960 |

Project Description: The town will revitalize its downtown area through the elimination of blight and removal of barriers to economic development. The project includes the creation of a façade program to improve 34 buildings, the installation of 1,700 linear feet of storm drain and 12 drop inlets, entryway signage, acquisition of two buildings, the creation of four rental units, and sidewalk, curb and gutter improvements.

Improvements to the physical elements of the downtown will create an environment conducive to retail and office activity that compliments the planned Performing Arts and Learning Center location. The project is expected to increase downtown sales, property values, and benefit five low-to-moderate income people in the new housing units.

*Mayor Jenkins closed the Communications session and opened the Reports session.

VIII. REPORTS

A. Manager

Manager Steve Templeton announced that the budget had been passed at the last meeting held on June 26, 2008. He said the Town is working to improve revenue in the form of back taxes, business licenses, etc. He advised his excitement of getting the grants project so that the town can increase its revenue as well as appearance.

B. Police Department

The Chief Jason Cox gave the Council of the monthly report and the K-9 report. Council asked that the chief of police start to handle situations down at the flea market parking area regarding trash being left behind.

C. Public Works

Public Works foreman Stoney Falin announced that he had searched everywhere he could think of to find the large water leak that has been a concern since the last council meeting.

D. Water Plant

Water Plant Operator Loretta Cruby advised that due to the large leak they have been pumping excess water to cover for the leak and that she and Mr. Falin would continue to research the origin of the leak.

E. Sewer Plant

None.

F. Planning Commission

Vice-Mayor Rita Tipton discussed the loss of member Eric McMurray he resigned and that they are in need of members and needing applications. Boundry adjustment stated we need to get the survey done. Larry Lane made a request to the Planning Commission, and the Planning Commission chose to deny his request.

G. Street Committee

Council Perry advised nothing new.

H. Sanitation Authority

Meeting will be the next day on July 9, 2008 at 6:00 PM

I. Economic Development Committee

Council Perry advised that the new signs should be completed shortly. Request to meet jointly with the Planning Commission no date was set.

J. Water Committee

None.

K. Park Committee

Council Frances Perry advised that she had requested a donation from the school board at the last meeting to use towards the outdoor classroom.

L. Council Reports

Manager Steve Templeton announced that a local business owner had advised that they would like to purchase some Outdoor Christmas Decorations for the East end of the town.

M. Treasurers Report

None.

*Mayor Jenkins closed the Reports session and opened the Public Comment session.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Diane Davis

Diane Davis stated she felt she was charged incorrectly on her water bill. The account had been past due for several months and the water card stated if her payment had not been received in office by 5:00 PM on June 18, 2008 the water would be cut off. Due to the water not being actually cut off yet the town policy is that we do not charge her the full \$50 fee only half the charge which is \$25 for the cost of a work order fee only. The council advised her that was the correct procedure and nothing was done. Council Perry advised that we should be going to her with detail when someone is having a hardship so that she may direct them to the ministerial association for assistance. Attorney Mike Carrico stated he did not believe the town should be doing this due to discrimination to those we don't advise of the assistance.

B. Debbie Kindle

Mrs. Kindle requested the town look into charges and fees assessed by the town she stated we need to show more compassion to our citizens.

Mayor Jenkins closed public comment at 7:00 PM.

X. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Town Council meeting minutes of June 10, 2008
- B. Approval of Council Budget Public Hearing minutes of June 19, 2008
- C. Approval of Special Called Planning Commission and Council minutes of June 26, 2008
- D. Approval of bill payments for June 2008 in the amount of **\$142,756.34.**

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Motion by Perry, Seconded by Tipton
To approve the Consent Agenda.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, None
Absent, Council Cassell

*Mayor Jenkins closed the Consent Agenda and opened the Unfinished Business session.

XI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*Mayor Jenkins closed the Unfinished Business session and opened the New Business session.

XII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Action on adoption of Revision of property maintenance and traffic codes

Motion made by Herron and 2nd made by Tipton

B. Acceptance of resignation of Town Council Member

Motion made by Tipton and 2nd made by Herron

C. Appointment of New Council Member

Motion made by Tipton to nominate Cindy Coates and 2nd made by Perry

D. Filling of Appointed Positions

Vice Mayor to be Rita Tipton Motion made by Tommy Herron and 2nd made by Frances Perry
Sergeant of Arms to be Chuck Newton Motion made by Rita Tipton and 2nd made by Tommy Heron
Town Clerk to be Audra Fritz Motion made by Frances Perry and 2nd made by Tommy Herron
Police Chief to be Jason Cox Motion made by Tommy Herron and 2nd made by Rita Tipton
Town Attorney to be Mike Carrico Motion made by Rita Tipton and 2nd by Tommy Herron
Town Treasurer **No Motion was made.**

E. Committee Appointments

Economic Development Committee Rita Tipton and Cindy Coates
Finance Committee is Cindy Coates and Ashley Jenkins
Mayor Jenkins advised the committees are as follows:
Park Committee is Rita Tipton and Ashley Jenkins
Personnel Committee is Tommy Herron and Rita Tipton
Planning Commission is Frances Perry and Rita Tipton
Safety Committee is Frances Perry
Street Committee is Tommy Herron and Frances Perry

Vice Mayor is Rita Tipton

Water Committee is Tommy Herron and Frances Perry

F. Discussion of possible forgiveness of Town Real estate back taxes

Mike advised this should not be done. Mike advised the town can put a lien on past due taxes owing 2 or more years. The council instructed Steve Templeton to begin the proper processes to collect the delinquent property taxes.

Motion made by Rita Tipton and 2nd was made by Tommy Herron

G. Define the area for the proposed boundary adjustment. NE corner to Mountain view Exxon at the
ridgeline Hwy 23 to East End Slab town Circle to Scott County Park.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

*The Council entered into a closed session at 7:21 PM.

MOTION: Motion by Herron and 2nd made by Rita Tipton

To return from closed session at 7:58 PM.

MOTION: Motion by Herron and 2nd made by Rita Tipton

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|-----------------|---------|---|
| ROLL CALL VOTE: | Yeas, | Council Jenkins Council Herron Council Perry Vice-Mayor Tipton |
| | Nays, | None |
| | Absent, | None |

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

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.

MOTION: Motion by Herron and 2nd by Frances Perry
To hire Cindy King as the Town Treasurer.

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| VOTE: | Yeas, | 4 |
| | Nays, | None |
| | Absent, | None |

MOTION: Motion made to Herron and 2nd by Rita Tipton to terminate employee number 19.

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| VOTE: | Yeas, | 4 |
| | Nays, | None |
| | Absent, | None |

MOTION: Motion by Frances Perry and 2nd by Rita Tipton to Reschedule the next meeting until August 4, 2008 @ 6:00 PM.

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| VOTE: | Yeas, | 4 |
| | Nays, | None |
| | Absent, | None |

XIII. ADJOURN

MOTION: Motion by Ashley Jenkins and 2nd by Frances Perry
To adjourn the meeting.

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| VOTE: | Yeas, | 4 |
| | Nays, | None |
| | Absent, | None |

*Mayor Jenkins adjourned the meeting at 8:00 PM.

Mayor Mark Jenkins

Deputy Town Clerk- Rhonda Stacey