



GATE CITY TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
AUGUST 12, 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 – Town Clerk - Kathy Riley**

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: Debra & Larry Lane, William Tipton, Debbie Kindle, Tutti Jennings, Betty Spears

- III. INVOCATION - Allan “Cotton” Roberts**
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Acting Police Chief, Scott Fink served as Sergeant of Arms.**
- V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion made to approve the agenda.

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

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

Mayor Perry made the appointment to have the Gate City Police Officers in attendance of the Council meeting to serve as Sergeant of Arms to lead us in our pledge of allegiance.

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

- **Jim Spears Proclamation** – Town Manager, G. Jones, read and presented a Proclamation to the family of Jim Spears as an expression of the respect in which his memory is held by the Gate City Town Council.

Mayor Perry introduced Justin Miller, newly hired part-time Gate City Police Officer. Acting Police Chief, Scott Fink, provided Council of Officer Miller’s attributes, knowledge and accomplishments.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **Council Meeting of July 8, 2014 as presented?**

Motion made to approve the minutes as presented.

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

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

VIII. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

Motion made for approval for payment of bills for July, 2014.

Motion by: Council Member, R. Richards 2nd by: Council Member, W. Salyers

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

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Debra & Larry Lane – Questioned status of a Property Maintenance issue at 946 W. Jackson Street. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, informed them of nine properties that she had filed with the court system. She explained the legal process, along with the timeframe of two-three months for decision. Further discussion of having the town crew clean the property up, possible trespassing issues, placing a lien against property if town cleans property and changes that can be done to current Ordinance.

Mayor Perry closed the public comment session at 6:45 P.M. and opened the consent agenda session.

X. COMMUNICATIONS – No communications.

XI. REPORTS

A. Engineer’s Status Report – No comments.

B. Treasurer’s Report – No comments.

C. Codification Committee/Property Maintenance – No comments.

D. Police Department Report – No comments.

E. Council Reports – Council Member, A. Roberts questioned possible recycling for residents. Council Members discussed previous discussions in past regarding recycling and options. Council Member, W.W. Ross, Jr., discussed up-dating signage with the town borders, place notice in paper regarding Gate City regarding the Gold Award, questioned who cut Manville road, the need to send a thank you to Hardee's regarding their up-grading and remodeling their establishment, questioned ownership of alley at Gravel/Manville Rd and asked what are the requirements for taking over a road. Council Member, R. Richards, questioned the weeds at Daugherty Brother's property. Council Member, R. Cassell, discussed Carl Roberts who does demolition of buildings for salvage.

F. Economic Development Committee – Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, discussed the function he, Greg Jones and Mark Freeman attended at Heartwood about information received and contacts made. He also discussed the Crooked Road Mountain Music Homecoming event and his agreement with W.W. Ross, Jr. regarding up-dating the signage at both ends of town.

G. Historical Committee – Council Member, W.W. Ross, Jr., discussed the town needing to take advantage of what is available, i.e., movie that was made in town, current historical events and historical buildings such as the courthouse.

H. Manager – Town Manager, G. Jones, went over his report as presented in Council's packet. Mayor Perry commented on the sidewalk project route suggesting it go from Kane St., behind the Crossroad Community Center, up Solon to Jackson Street versus in front of Williams Heating and Cooling. Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, commented the kids would continue on Kane Street to Jackson Street because it was the shorter route. Council Member, W.W. Ross, Jr., suggested the building at Daugherty Brothers may change the sidewalk direction completely.

I. Park Committee – Council Member, R. Richards, discussed the Gate City Appreciation Day that is scheduled for Saturday, August 16, 2014, at Grogan Park.

J. Planning Commission – Council Member, R. Cassell, had no comments other than the Planning Commission needs some projects assigned to them.

K. Public Works – No comments.

L. Sanitation Authority – Council Member, R. Cassell, discussed Public Hearing scheduled for tomorrow regarding adoption of the Sanitary Sewer Policy and the meeting he and Greg had with the new PSA, Director.

M. Street Commission – Council Member, W. W. Ross, Jr., questioned status of the drain on Manville Road, status of the new meters and Back Street. Council Member, R. Cassell, questioned funding for streets if any is available. Mayor Perry suggested Council Members, R. Cassell and W.W. Ross, Jr., each turn in a list of streets they feel need attention to the Town Manager.

N. **Safety Committee** – Council Member, W.W. Ross, Jr., discussed a safety warning system for the town. Town Manager, G. Jones, stated it is already in place with individual cell phones and possible use of the fire whistle for weather warning.

O. **Water Plant** – Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, addressed water loss went up.

P. **Events Committee** – Vice Mayor, A. Roberts, stated items were covered under the Manager’s Report.

Council Member, W. Salyers, addressed a subject for Council Reports, questioned if the police officers will work the school zones this year. Town Manager, G. Jones, stated he thought so and it should not be a problem.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- **Discuss and decision regarding speed limit at Moccasin Hill Drive area on E. Jackson Street** – Town Manager, G. Jones, informed Council that he sent a letter to VDOT informing them of the number of accidents with injuries that had occurred in that area and the request for lower speeds. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, informed Council they do not have the authority to reduce the speed, but can make a request to VDOT.
- **Request from 911 to place a speed bump on Hemlock Drive** – This item was tabled to the September Council Meeting
- **Appointment of _____ as Sergeant of Arms** – This item was addressed earlier in the meeting by Mayor Perry.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- **Tutti Jennings, E-911 Director, discuss fire whistle.** – Ms. Jennings discussed the fire whistle, new radio system, liability of fire whistle disconnected, and fire department pagers. She asked the town to reconsider hooking up the fire whistle with it not to be used from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., unless an extreme emergency. She stated if it is not hooked up, she requests a release of liability or to have it removed completely. After Council discussion the following motion was made:

Motion made to have the fire whistle to remain disabled and notify 911 that it no longer exists.

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

After motion was made and second Council discussed the fire whistle topic further.

VOTE: Yeas, 4
Nays, 0
Abstain, 1-W.W. Ross, Jr.
Absent, 0

- **Approval to advertise for Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Engineering Services** – Town Manager, G. Jones, explained the different parts of the RFQ to Council. He stated this

is similar to the one used in 2009 but he made a change regarding Project Manager language that was not in the previous RFQ.

Motion made to advertise for Request for Qualification (RFQ) for Engineering Services.

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

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

- **High service pumps at water plant** – Town Manager, G. Jones, explained the project at the water treatment plant being under budget to about \$60-70,000. Money that was borrowed last year to take care of the balloon payment of Town Hall, a little more was borrowed to take care of the of the pumps, but the HEEE will take care of that. He stated with the project being under budget has freed up funds to be used for the Town Hall heat pumps. He explained with the approximately \$26,000 left over will cover for the cost of the heat pumps from the General Fund, not Water Fund.

Motion made to use the excess money from the bond money for the water plant to do the high service pumps and to return back the money we had on the loan to replace the heat pumps.

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

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

- **VDOT waiver, Daugherty Brothers property** – Town Manager, G. Jones, explained to Council the reason for a VDOT waiver regarding the proposed main entrance located on Kane Street for the proposed commercial development on the Daugherty Brothers property. He informed Council the need for Town Council’s concurrence for VDOT to issue the waiver.

Motion made as a member of the Planning Commission who did approve it.

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

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

- **Dollar General Store** – Mayor Perry informed Council of the up-coming remodeling of the store and their request to place PODs in the parking spaces on Jackson Street to hold their inventory during the remodeling process. Council commented VDOT would have to approve that request. Town Manager, G. Jones, will contact VDOT regarding this matter.
- **Face painting at Grillin’ at the Gate** – Mayor Perry informed Council of her being contacted by individuals who want to do the face painting at the Kid Zone, but would charge \$1.00. The fee was to assist them to raise money for a mission trip. There were no objections from Council regarding this matter.

- **Water and Sanitary Sewer easement between Town of Gate City and McDonald's USA, LLC** – Town Manager, G. Jones, provided Council an explanation regarding new lines, manhole cover and them providing an easement to the Town. Town Attorney, M. Brooks, stated she read the agreement and it was fine.

Motion was made to accept the water and sanitary sewer easement between the Town of Gate City and McDonald's USA, LLC.

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

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

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT – NEW BUSINESS – No public comment.

Mayor Perry closed the public comment session for new business at 8:15 P.M. and opened the consent agenda session.

XV. CLOSED SESSION

Motion made for Council to enter into closed session to discuss legal and personnel matters.

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

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

Mayor Perry opened the closed session at 8:15 P.M.

XVI. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Council returned from closed session at 8:45 P.M.

Motion made for Council to return from closed session.

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

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,	6
	Nays,	0
	Absent,	0
	Abstain,	0

XVII. MOTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION: No motions coming out of closed session.

XVIII. ADJOURN

Motion made to adjourn.

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

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

*Mayor Perry adjourned the meeting at 8:46 P.M., until the next regularly scheduled Council Meeting on September 9, 2014, at 6:30 p.m.

Frances Perry – Mayor

Kathy Riley – Town Clerk

Proclamation

Honoring *Mr. Jim Spears*

WHEREAS, Mr. Jim Spears, a talented artist and member of the Gate City community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears passed away on September 11, 2009 in his 83th year; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears proudly served his country as a member of the U.S. Marines and fought in Okinawa and Peleliu Island during World War II; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears was a welding instructor at the Scott County Vocational Center for 15 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears produced and performed on The Jim & Betty Spears Show, airing weekly on local STE cable Channel 30 for 8 years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears was known for his large welded metal sculptures; Big Blue, The Rye Cove Eagle, Military Man, and his life size rendition of The Last Supper to name a few; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears donated many of his art pieces as well as many hours utilizing his skills in service to country; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and the Town Council of Gate City wish to honor this long-time resident who gave so selflessly to the Town of Gate City, his family, and its residents; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spears's personal commitment to the Town of Gate City and its citizens has left a lasting legacy; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gate City Town Council mourn the passing of Mr. Spears and hereby extend their sympathy, on behalf of the people of the Town of Gate City, to his beloved family and many, many friends; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Gate City Town Council hereby present this proclamation as an expression of the respect in which his memory is held by the Gate City Town Council and that a copy of this proclamation will forever be made a part of the Permanent Records of the Town of Gate City.

Adopted this the 12th day of August 2014



Frances Perry

Frances Perry, Mayor, Town of Gate City

Kathy Riley

Attest: Kathy Riley, Town Clerk