

The Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on February 11, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. at the Pearisburg Town Hall. Present for the Meeting were: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Harrell, Eaton, Journell and Clark; Town Manager Vittum; Town Attorney Hartley; Lieutenant Gautier; and Town Clerk Harless. Also present was Jeff Williams, Bryan Strader, Cooney Ratcliffe, Tyler Perdue and Shane Clark, Giles High School Varsity Football Team Coaches and Team Members; Howard Nippert, citizen; and Butch Mullins, Virginian Leader.

Councilman Munsey led the pledge of allegiance.

Williams made a motion to approve the January 14, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Council approved the following Consent Items and Reports: Police, Finance, Library, Recreation, Building Permit, Manager, Water and Fire for January 2014.

Harrell reported on the Public Safety Committee. The Committee discussed the recent fire at 7-Day Market and, Celanese donation. Due to the flu the Police Department has been shorthanded.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve using the \$1500 donation from Celanese for bunker gear purchase as this was the purpose for which the donation was intended. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Mayor Dickerson wanted to not only thank our Volunteer Fire Depart but Pembroke, Narrows and Celanese for assisting with the fire at 7-Day Market and doing a wonderful job.

Munsey reported on the Property and Recreation Committee. The Committee discussed possible jobs for the spring break students and relocating the batting cage to the tennis court.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve the Public Works Department moving the batting cage to the tennis court nearest the ball field. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee. The Committee discussed the proposed River Art Project, request for Small Business Grant from Zeppa Studios and draft audit report. The Committee would like to see the auditor come to the next Council meeting to give a brief overview of the recent audit. There were no recommendations.

Williams reported on the Public Works Committee. The water loss for December was 34.96%. The Committee discussed the condition of the old truck at the sewer plant and the status of the mini-storage project.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council sell the old truck at the Sewer Plant for scrap. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Vittum stated that the County had received all their new directional signs and will have them up in the near future.

Vittum reported to Council on the Water and Sewer Project. The Town only has \$2,898.78 left to draw down and closeout the project.

Vittum briefed Council on the audit and stated that the Finance Committee felt it would be a good idea to have the auditor or a representative explain the audit since several of Council were not familiar with the audit. Staff will ask the auditor to attend the March meeting.

Vittum updated Council on the Giles Arts Council. He stated that they are trying to offer an educational project that would involve creating a sculpture from items collected on river clean-up day. The first sculpture will be located in the Town of Pearisburg. The artist will provide Council with a conceptual sketch of their design before creating the sculpture.

Vittum briefed Council on the proposed Community Center Renovation Project. He stated that we had advertised for architectural work at the Community Center. Three bids were received from CHP (Community Housing Partners), Martin and Co., and Colley. The top ranked design was CHP. The first item that will be looked into is the mechanical and electrical system. Staff has met with them and forwarded a draft AIA Agreement to Mr. Hartley to review. Vittum stated that he did receive a proposal that summarizes the first tasks. He stated that there is a design build option. Munsey asked when the architect would be getting back to us with the money amounts. Vittum stated that it would be a few weeks. They will be doing an architectural and engineering study. They will look at the potential

funding sources. Vittum is trying to keep things moving since part of the community center is not usable at this time.

Vittum updated Council on PSA. He stated that staff had not paid the January bill since the PSA had questions as to whether they need a public hearing. Hartley stated that Town should pay the \$1.93 until the PSA can resolve their questions.

Vittum stated that he would give an update on the Vision on Small Downtown Tourism and related items. Staff asked Dianne Dinger to break the project down with dollar amounts. The initial meeting and the turnout was good for interested local chefs and the 4H Extension to start programs with cooking classes and demonstrations. Farm to Fork was the name established for the cooking programs. There will be a follow-up meeting on March 3rd. Michael at the Bank Restaurant will look at what it would cost to do a wine/cheese pairing with food. He stated that the restaurant and the Town could team together and the licensing would fall under The Bank Restaurant. Eaton asked if the classes would start this spring. Vittum indicated they are planning for May and June. This would allow time to plan for what will be needed such as supplies at the Community Center to be ready for the classes. The chefs would provide the appliances and the Town would provide the basics and store them in a locked cabinet. Vittum suggested that Council approve the breakdown presented to them. Harrell stated that at the last meeting Council approved to set a cap at \$4,000. Council reviewed the proposed expenses and decided to eliminate Objective No. 2.

Eaton made a motion to approve the Small Town Tourism as presented omitting Objective No. 2 on the Plan. Harrell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Vittum briefed Council on Zeppa Studios asking for a Small Business Grant. He stated that Zeppa Studios is looking at the empty space where B's Café was located in the downstairs of the Scott Building. The owner is fine with the proposed work but wants the tenant to pay for the improvements. This request was not received in time for the Finance Committee to review to make a recommendation. He stated the Grant Program maximum per grant is \$5,000. In the past we have awarded grants between \$1,000 and \$2,500. Clark asked about the sign listed on No. 6. Vittum stated that the hanging sign would need Building Official review and approval. Munsey asked if there was money in the budget for

the Grant Program. Vittum stated that there was money in the contingency line item for this purpose.

Munsey made a motion that Council approve a \$1500 Small Business Grant to Zeppa Studios and that it be awarded after the work is complete and has been approved by the Building Official. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson, Council Members Williams, Eaton, Munsey, Harrell, Journell and Clark. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Vittum stated that the draft Comprehensive Plan would be completed very soon. He asked Council if they preferred to hold a joint Public Hearing with Planning Commission in March or April. Council preferred extra time to review the document and decided to hold the Public Hearing in April.

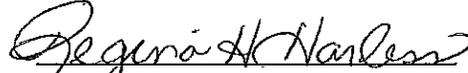
Mayor Dickerson reminded Council of the Retirement Party for Jean Parks on March 6th, the NRVPDC Annual Dinner is scheduled for March 12 and College Student Volunteers will be here March 1 thru 7.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:


Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:


Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk