

Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on February 9, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in the Pearisburg Municipal Building Council Chambers. Present for the meeting was Mayor Robert L. Dickerson; Vice-Mayor Munsey; Council Member Williams, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton; Town Manager Vittum; Town Engineer Tawney; Chief Martin; Building Official Wilson; and Town Clerk Harless. Also present was Dianne Dinger, consultant; and Jeff Dinger, citizen; Zach Guynn, Virginian Leader.

Clark made a motion to approve and accept the minutes to the Regular January 12, 2016 and Special January 27, 2016 meetings. Munsey seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Dianne Dinger gave Council her report and updated them on Project Focus, upcoming pairing dinner, farmers workshop, murals and Challenge Grant. She stated that some of the funds from the Challenge Grant would be used to finish the front of the PATS Building murals. The Arts Council voted to finish the mural with the same artist for continuity. She stated that letters went out for presentations on Sustainability of the Market Program. She stated that a focus group being developed to look at bringing frequent shoppers of the market. She stated that Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Science (VDACS) will be touring the Ag Lab projects at the high school and she hopes to schedule VDACS to attend a meeting with the Town while they are in the area. She reported that there would be a change in key personnel. She has prepared an ad for help wanted for a Market Site Manager. She discussed having a big dinner in the center of a downtown tied into tourism. Clark had some questions on the Market Site Manager position. Dinger stated that the duties and responsibilities were more detailed as to what is happening at the market. Clark asked if the ad would disclose the salary amount. Dinger stated that they are considering \$12 per hour. Eaton asked if this was for just one year to finish out the grant. Dinger stated that it was for the grant period only. Eaton asked if the Sustainability Plan was for this year or next. Eaton stated that after she had reviewed the Sustainability Plan she had some questions as to whether the grant was for that scope of work. She did not realize it covered more than the Farmers Market. She stated that it seemed like we were planning more than what we had at the start of the market. Dinger stated that all the pieces

she listed in the Sustainability Plan was always the scope of the grant such as the Farmers Market, Farm Table, Farm to Fork Classes.

Colin asked Dinger if she was the liaison for the Giles Arts Council. She answered that Vittum had asked her to meet with the Arts Council and kick start the projects to make sure they are concluded before the grant deadline. She understood that Council was interested in completing the murals on the PATS building. She stated that there is Tourism Growth money that could be used for repairs to the building. She could begin by submitting a letter to the funding source and they would meet with us to see what could be submitted on an application. Munsey asked about the status on the mural on the Ingram Furniture building and using funds to make repairs to the mural. Dinger stated that she has spoken to the artist and she indicated to her that the building is in need of repair. She stated that the guttering on the roof is draining down the wall causing water seepage from the block. Dinger asked Council how they would like her to address the problem. She could talk to the landlord about making the repairs.

Mayor Dickerson felt that writing a letter to the funding source would be a good idea to help with repairs to the PATS building. Dinger stated that she just needs guidance on what council would like to see done.

Dinger reported that the New River Valley Planning Commission gave her a list on what localities are part of Main Street Program. Vittum stated that Marion is a larger community than Pearisburg and they are part of the Main Street Program. Clark thought it would be something to look into. Dinger stated that the Town of Ashland has a Small Business Program. Most on the list are Main Street programs. She is not sure what the benefits include but she will explore it more and bring it back to Council. Vittum stated that Pearisburg was a Main Street Affiliate around 10 years ago.

Dinger stated that she is working towards people hearing the buzz about Pearisburg. We will be partnering with Damascus for the Appalachian Trail Day, promoting the new River Sculpture walk in the park and provide musical opportunities to help Pearisburg become more vibrant.

Dinger reported on potential grant money from Rural Development. She stated that in order to get the funding the Market must be seen as successful. In order to do this, you want to

look for intense shoppers who are purchasing 50% of their fresh groceries at the market. She stated that there are three types of models in the Sustainability Plan. She briefly explained them to Council. The market needs to be seen as a viable destination. The committee will be getting information from their stakeholders. Dinger stated that Dean Marshall with Celco Credit Union was very active in the community as is Adam Harman at the Wellness Center. She stated that the Committee will be looking at such organizations to partner with on sustainability. The market is an economic benefit to our community.

Mayor Dickerson asked if Council wanted to start the process to see what funding may be available to renovate the PATS building. Munsey stated that there was no plan in place. He stated that we needed to have a plan before Council could consider matching it. Munsey asked Council what they wanted to do with the PATS building. Clark stated that the PATS building has been cleaned out and if someone wanted to use it they could. Council agreed to hold off on any decision on the PATS building until later.

Harrell reported on the Public Safety Committee. She reported that the Fire Department has been given a surplus computer for training purposes. The Town Manager has given conditional approval of the re-elected officials in the Fire Department. Chief Stump will provide staff with a current roster for the worker's compensation audit renewal. There were no recommendations.

Munsey reported on the Property and Recreation Committee. He stated that the Pearisburg Red Devils have \$1200 to give us right now for the flooring in the cafeteria at the Community Center. The Red Devils will be sending out a letter asking for more donations. Tawney had spoken to Wilson and the estimated cost is \$4,000 for the flooring. He briefly went over the request from the VT Group using the building in April. Hartley asked if there was a consistent policy of when we waive fees. Munsey stated that there was nothing set in stone, it just comes before Council. Council tabled the request.

Munsey made a motion to choose Earthworks Boulder tile for the Council Chambers. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee. She stated that DMV Stops revenue has resulted in over \$16,266 since collection began. A sub-grant to Giles Arts Council was tabled until March.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve a donation to Giles Health and Family Center for \$3,000. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Munsey reported on the Public Works Committee. The water loss for December was 35.97%. He reported that the Town had received the grant to do the study on changing from chlorine gas to UV at the sewer plant. The Town will not be receiving any revenue sharing funds from VDOT for 2017 Revenue Sharing.

Munsey asked Tawney about his conversations with Belcher concerning the repairs to the check valve. Tawney stated that he had emailed him twice. Munsey stated that Belcher had only received one email. Tawney will get with Belcher to address the problem in Ingram Village and help get it resolved.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council accept the Pre-Development Planning Grant with a 75%-25% match. Rural Developments part is \$11,200 with the Town part being \$3800. Also, the Town Manager needs to be given permission to sign any document that deals with this grant. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

The Committee made a recommendation that Council approve the release of the letter of credit #1830 in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Brock Gilmer for his 2009 storage building being built. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The recommendation carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton asked for an explanation on the procedure for calling the town out for snow removal. Tawney stated that the police call out Public Works. Eaton stated that she had been told by VDOT that no one was on the road and dispatch could not get ahold of anyone. Tawney stated that as far as he knew the trucks were out early in the morning. He will check into the matter with his staff. Vittum stated that salt only works to at certain temperature. Tawney stated

that they did put brine down. Tawney explained how he schedules the employees for snow removal.

Vittum reported on Virginia's First. He talked about the cost of shares and lump sum payoff. He stated that the information has been provided. He stated that Pearisburg makes up 3% on the Red Sun Farms employees. Munsey stated that he had spoken to the County and he would ask the board if they were interested in purchasing Pearisburg's shares. He said that the board is not too excited about it. It seems like other places want to get out of Virginia's First. He said that Montgomery County wants out too. Munsey feels 99% sure that the County will not buy our shares. He suggested that Vittum talk to Virginia's First at their next meeting to see if anyone that wants to buy shares. Mayor Dickerson stated that the Board wanted to get the agreement back before their next meeting of the Authority. Vittum felt that it might be best to have a formal motion to seek withdrawal and he could notify Wilson to start the process. He stated that the by-laws may state how shares are dealt with. The process if you withdraw from the authority requires the town to pay current and next year's fees.

Hartley stated that the first thing Council would need to do is make an offer that Pearisburg desires to withdraw from the authority and sell their shares. Hartley stated that a motion would be needed from Council to offer to withdraw from the Authority and sell shares. Vittum stated that he would get with Danny Wilson and let him know of Council's decision.

Munsey made a motion that Pearisburg desires to enter into negotiation to withdraw from Virginia's First Authority and sell our shares. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Munsey, Journell, Harrell, Clark and Eaton. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Mayor Dickerson stated that he was appointing Susie Journell as Chair for Property and Recreation Committee.

On a motion by Munsey, seconded by Harrell, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council went into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A) (7), for consultation with legal counsel, and the briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in

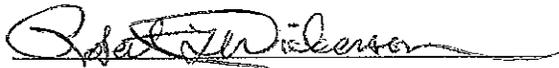
an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the Town; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by the Town regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of the legal advice by such counsel re: 7-Day Market and PSA Contracts.

On a motion by Munsey, seconded by Clark, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council returned to regular session.

On a motion by Harrell, seconded by Clark, and passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Munsey, yes; Harrell, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; Council certified that the subject discussed in this Executive Session was the subject identified in the motion to go into Executive Session and only that subject, and that Council discussed no other subject while in Executive Session.

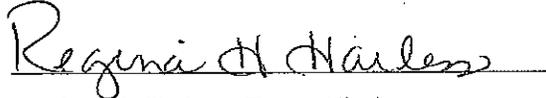
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

ATTEST:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

APPROVED:



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk