

The Pearisburg Town Council met in Regular Session on July 14, 2020 at 6:30 pm at the Pearisburg Municipal Building in the Council Chambers and via electronic meeting using Zoom technology hosted by Assistant Town Clerk Williams. Present for the meeting in the Council Chambers Mayor Dickerson; Vice Mayor Eaton; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Journell and Clark; Town Manager Meredith; Town Clerk Harless; Treasurer Harrell; Assistant Town Clerk Williams; and Police Chief Martin; Citizens Zach Thompson and Jeff Morris. Present for the meeting via Zoom Council Member Ballard; Town Attorney Hartley; Recreation Director Collins; and Virginian Leader, Amelia Whittaker.

Williams made a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular June 9, 2020 Special June 23, 2020 Council Meetings as written. Eaton seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Helen Wallace with the Giles Health and Wellness Center addressed Council concerning a proposed Daycare to be located at the Community Center. She stated that Kids & Co. is an intergenerational program. They are looking at expanding their daycare program. She requested the use of the Pearisburg Community Center to operate a K-7 supervised schooling program. She is also considering developing a high school mentoring program to serve students grades 8 and above for peer mentoring assistance. She stated that the program would follow all the required guidelines for social distancing, PPE, hygiene and outdoor time recreation. The program will operate Monday through Friday. They are also exploring the operation of a bus route. They plan to have a supervised study hall environment. The staff will have either an AAS, bachelors or master's degree in education. Their goal is to assist students and help them stay on task during their virtual learning scheduled hours. A significant number of people have expressed an interest in the program; therefore, and Ms. Wallace is concerned that her organization will not be able to accommodate the number of students enrolled in the program in their current facility. Eaton asked if the Daycare licensure would cover the proposed programs to be held at the Community Center. Ms. Wallace answered that the DSS licensure covered programs serving children up to age 12 and 11 months and that regulations are in place.

Meredith asked if the proposed expansion to the daycare program would create additional revenue; or, be operated on a break-even budget? Wallace replied that it would be a break-even program and that any new revenue would be used to provide services in the community. She is hoping to be able to offer the program to clients for \$10 to \$15 dollars a day. If a family can't afford the cost, they may be able to apply for grants. She wants to broker a deal with the Town to secure a location for the program at the Community Center. She has applied for a grant to help create this forthcoming need in the County.

Eaton asked how much space will be needed to accommodate the program. Wallace stated they would need as many rooms as possible to allow for social distancing. She believes that the cafeteria could hold 20 children and that she would need a classroom as well. She estimated holding an average of 100 children on a rotating schedule based on the school's plan. Meredith stated that the Town is currently renting out the cafeteria on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. He commented that this will require additional disinfection. Wallace stated that in the evenings after 3:30 when school is out, their numbers would potentially decrease, and they could combine children into one room. Clark commented this was going to be a need and is wonderful idea. She suggested stopping the rentals and using the building for this program. Eaton stated that Wi-Fi services may need to be increased to accommodate increased computer access for the program. Wallace stated the Daycare is invested and committed to developing this program. She her organization will be required to get approval to cover the building on their insurance, meet Health Department requirements, obtain an asbestos test, and get a Daycare license for the extended location. Mayor Dickerson agreed this would be a great program and that high schoolers need mentoring. Wallace stated that she has been working with Jeff Dinger on the Workforce Program to get five students in place to help. Meredith stated that an Insurance Company has reservations in Room 2 from October to December every Tuesday and Thursday. He stated that the daycare would need to work around them; or, the Town could look at relocating them to another facility. He stated that the Fire Station may be a possibility. Council asked if the current number of tables and chairs available at the Community Center would meet their needs. Wallace stated that based on her knowledge the Town supply of table and chairs would be enough for their needs. Wallace stated that she is committed to developing the program and would purchase items needed to

make it work. The state will help with personal protection equipment (PPE) and sanitizing supplies.

Ballard asked if they planned to increase their insurance coverage for injuries or allegations and the Town be held harmless. Wallace stated that she had spoken with their insurance carrier and she was not sure which entity was responsible for the insurance. She stated that the other facility they are considering is the Methodist Church in Pearisburg. She stated that Hartley is their legal representative. Hartley stated that in the lease agreement between the daycare and the Town it would have the tenant indemnify the Town for use of rooms in the Community Center and we would be listed as an additional insurance on the daycare policy. Wallace stated that each child enrolled and approved would have the proper immunizations and child's liability insurance. Meredith stated that based on the current path we are traveling with the reopening of schools on an altered schedule, this will be an area of increased need and a great opportunity to help the community.

Wallace stated that she is requesting for confirmation to be able to move forward on completing her process for expanding to the Community Center. Ballard asked if anyone else had showed an interest in our facility. Meredith stated that a teacher in the school district was developing an idea and sending it to the school board. He stated that another person was working through a county staff member on their idea. He stated that if Wallace was approved, he would notify the other interested parties and make them aware that the space had been reserved for the daycare.

Williams made a motion that Council approve Helen Wallace with Kids & Co. moving forward on her daycare and school program to be housed at the Pearisburg Community Center. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Ballard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Journell reported on the Public Safety Committee. Mayor Dickerson stated that at the last Council Meeting Fire Chief Stevers had requested the purchase of extrication equipment. He said that Stevers is now looking at trying to get equipment donated. Harrell asked for clarification that the equipment had not yet been donated. Meredith stated that Stevers was looking for Council's approval to get the equipment donated to the Town. The firemen would need to train on the equipment. He stated that training could be in house at little to no cost. Williams stated that the fireman would need to be trained and receive certification by a

certified instructor. Meredith stated that he believed that Stevers had experience in using the equipment. Eaton stated that Woodyard with Pembroke Fire Department is certified on the equipment. Clark stated that she was not in favor of proceeding with obtaining the equipment. She felt the department needed to focus on recruitment, fire fighter training, and fundraising. Clark stated that the Town recently purchased the department new suits and air packs. She felt the other departments in the County were already trained and could continue to assist the department as needed. Harrell asked if there were tools that were required to use the extrication equipment. Williams stated that a compressor would be needed. Chief Martin stated he thought the Fire Department is looking at obtaining battery operated equipment. Eaton stated the extrication equipment was the "jaws of life" and she felt it important for additional emergency usage. She stated that it would be beneficial for the firemen to train on the use of the equipment even if they were not able to obtain the donated equipment at this time. Harrell asked if there were enough volunteers to fight fires if others were called for extrication. She felt fighting fires should be number one priority. Eaton stated that the monthly fire report regularly shows that most responses are auto related.

Eaton inquired when the vacancy would start with the Police Officer position. Meredith stated he had not received a letter of resignation to date. Chief Martin stated that the officer was waiting on a letter to arrive in the mail. He stated the officer was offered the job with an outside agency and is just waiting on written confirmation.

Journell reported on Property and Recreation Committee. She reported that final grading of the outfield was complete. The grass has been seeded and starting to grow.

The Committee recommended that Council approve purchasing a 30-foot flagpole to be installed at the small ball field and cost not to exceed \$1100. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Ballard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Eaton reported on the Finance Committee.

The Committee recommends that the Council approve and adopt the appropriations for expenditures as outlined in the "Appropriations Letter FY2020 Budget." Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Ballard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

TO: Mayor Dickerson and Town Council

FROM: Todd Meredith, Town Manager

RE: Appropriate To The Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget

DATE: July 14, 2020

Each year as we end the Fiscal Year and begin preparation for the Audit, Council is asked to appropriate to the Budget funds to cover overruns within Department Budgets and Special Accounts. All other departments ended the year at or below appropriations.

Special Account	Budgeted Amount	Actual June 30	Difference	Requested Appropriation
Sewer Special Fund	\$1,000.00	\$1,486.93	\$486.93	\$1,486.93
Library Donation Fund-Richardson Grant	\$0.00	\$3,405.08	\$3,405.08	\$3,405.08
RD UV/Sewer Project-Engineering Fees: Basic	\$23,427.50	\$25,244.45	\$1,816.95	\$25,244.45

The Committee recommends that the Council approve the rent agreement between the Town and Josh Hollie for the space located at 107 North Main Street. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Clark, Journell and Ballard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith briefed Council on a quote for services from Edmunds for an online payment system. He explained that the cost for a one-time Software License fee is \$1200 with an annual maintenance fee of \$1240. He commented that the Town was currently absorbing the individual transaction cost of providing the service through Paymentus. If the Town implemented Edmunds and opted not to absorb the cost, it could lead to annual savings of approximately \$7,000 to \$10,000. Ballard commented that if a citizen gets a \$60 or more water bill, the transaction cost is cheaper with Paymentus. He asked what staff goals staff was trying to accomplish and if we were trying to save the Town or customer money. Meredith felt it would save the Town and the customer fees. Meredith agreed that if benefitting the customer was the primary goal, then Paymentus may be better because of the number of residents receiving bills in excess of \$60. Ballard asked if Edmunds was more convenient and easier for staff. Treasurer Harrell stated that she could use either software effectively. Councilwoman Harrell stated that it may be the best practice for the Town to continue using Paymentus but charge the customer for the transaction fee. Treasurer Harrell stated that the customer cost is a little bit more. She mentioned that with Edmunds staff would be able to see the customer data and bill. Ballard is not in favor of passing on a transaction cost to the consumer. Eaton asked if it was possible to set up a flat fee for the customer with Edmunds and the Town absorb the difference. Meredith stated that he would work with staff to complete an informal analysis of the two options. Ballard asked what the County's reason was for absorbing the cost. Treasurer Harrell stated that she knew the County used PayPal. Ballard felt the Town should do what the County does as well. He would just like more information on why other entities do things certain ways. Mayor Dickerson tabled the item until the August meeting.

Fire Chief Stevers addressed the Council on extrication equipment. Mayor Dickerson informed Stevers that Council discussed the extrication equipment and had some questions. Williams asked who would be providing the training on the equipment. Stevers answered that Fireman Eaton and Caldwell were certified. He stated the VAVRS had halted training temporarily due to Covid-19. VAVRS has classes available now. Stevers is working towards

getting all the fireman trained and certified in August. He stated most of their calls have been automobile accidents. They currently use hand tools to force doors open to rescue the victims before going to a forced-out method. The entities in the county that do respond have to be called out to assist which increases in response times that could cost a life. Stevers stated he was certified through Advanced. At times, he uses other departments equipment which is not in best working condition and could be a liability. He is planning to request that the equipment be donated by another fire department. He explained that some departments are willing to donate their extrication equipment after they purchase new equipment for their own department. The department has recruited 11 new members in the last year. They have several firemen already certified and one expected to complete Fire Fighter 1 in the near future. He stated that Josh Settlege is almost certified as an instructor. He stated that it was challenging to find a class near the Town of Pearisburg. The last time they traveled to Peterstown and filed in Virginia to get it transferred. He stated that several firemen are currently trained in rescue. He stated that one of the trucks was already set up with hand tools and needed hardware, they would only need the tools for extrication. Journell asked if they had a donor yet. Stevers answered that Blacksburg will give him more information regarding their equipment this week. He hopes to get them donated and be able to help the citizens in the Town and the County. He indicated that if he located some equipment to be donated, it would be hydraulic. The equipment is still serviced and comes with a warranty. He stated one of the departments trucks already has a compressor. He stated that if they did get equipment donated the compressor would come with the tools. The equipment requires 5,000 or 10,000 PSI and their truck can handle both. The training on the equipment would include 16 hours of certification training.

Williams asked how many firefighters are currently certified Fire Fighter 1 (FF1). Stevers stated that years ago there was a three-year grandfather clause that he was going to review and see if any changes need to be made. He stated that the department has between 5 to 10 with FF1. He stated that FF1 takes three months to complete 160 hours of training. There is one fireman halfway through FF1 training. The department currently has one certified instructor and that the new recruits will begin taking classes soon. He also stated that current and new firemen would be taking the classes. He stated that out of 33 members about half are certified in Fire Fighter 1 (FF1) and Fire Fighter 2 (FF2). New members have 18 months to

obtain FF1 or its equivalent. Clark asked if there were online classes available and Stevers answered there that are some. The Fire Department is considering taking an online air pack class. Journell asked about FF1 training. Stevers stated it was NFPA1001 – 160 hours. He stated that VAVRS has reopened for classes for departments that comfortable having training at this time.

Eaton summarized her understanding of what Stevers presented. She stated that the Fire Department is looking to get extrication equipment donated at no cost. The Town currently has a truck equipped to handle the equipment. The department plans to move forward with training whether they get the equipment or not. Eaton stated that if it saves one life, then to her it's worth it. Harrell asked about liability on the equipment. Meredith stated that there would be no additional cost for use of equipment just increase on the property liability. Meredith asked Stevers if having extrication equipment would increase the efficiency with which firefighters could remove a victim from a dangerous situation. Stevers stated that sometimes they must cut battery cables on wrecked vehicles, but the batteries can surge. They switched from foam to encapsulated agent (F-500) for fires. Stevers stated that having extrication equipment would allow them to rescue a victim trapped inside a vehicle much faster, especially if the vehicle was on fire. He stated there were so many hybrid vehicles now. He is looking into training to protect the fireman, so they are familiar with the different vehicles. He wants to look out for the fireman's safety by increasing their knowledge about when cut cables during a rescue.

Journell stated she has some other concerns. The Town funds for the Fire Department Building is slowly decreasing which helps pay the debt service on the building. She understands Clark's concerns on recruitment, training, and fundraising. Clark stated that she heard there were some issues getting volunteers to participate in the boot day to obtain donations. She stated that the department should consider hosting hot dog or spaghetti dinners. She hasn't seen any fundraising in a long time. Stevers stated that he had been working with Todd to develop a process for soft billing. He stated that the towing companies are currently getting the money. He stated this would take a lot of coordination, but it would be worth it. They would need to know who the person's insurance provider is and the department would need to provide details on the call. He stated that automobile accidents constituted most of their calls. Clark stated that in the past, the department has had some debacles. She stated that Lost Lane

was a debacle and would like to see the fireman trained further on firefighting. She stated the annual payment on the building was \$130,000 and the Town budgets \$150,000 annually for the department expenses.

Eaton thanked the fireman for all their hard work and effort to protect Town residents and their desire to obtain training in the department. Stevers welcomed Council to visit the department and would be more than happy to show them around. Meredith stated he was very appreciative of Chief Stevers and the volunteers at the Fire Department.

Eaton made a motion that Council approve of Fire Chief Stevers working towards obtaining donated extrication equipment. Harrell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Journell and Ballard. Voting no: Clark. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 1. Harrell stated that it is important that the firemen continue to obtain Fire Fighter 1 training and not let the extrication equipment distract from Fire Fighter 1 training.

Eaton reported on the Public Works Committee. She stated the Street Department has been mowing the right of ways, filling potholes and started back on regular schedule for brush/chipping and the pickup of bulk items.

Eaton reported on the Beautification Advisory Committee. Williams commented that the bushes in front of the Community Center need to be trimmed. She stated the Committee had planted flowers at the Community Center sign and will be planting flowers next at the Route 100 entrance sign. The painting of the pool house was nearing completion and looked great.

Meredith briefed Council on the need to adopt Ordinance 20-04 on due dates and penalty dates for utility services. He stated this ordinance would make the Town compliant with state code. The Town shall not cut off water to customers unless 60 days has passed. He stated the current code was not in compliance.

Williams made a motion that council approve and adopt Ordinance 20-04. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Eaton, Williams, Harrell, Journell and Ballard. Clark was not present for the vote. The motion carried by a vote of 6 to 0.

ADOPTED: JULY 14, 2020

ORDINANCE NO: 20-04

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 74-226 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF PEARISBURG TITLED "DUE DATE AND PENALTY DATE OF BILLS; DISCONTINUANCE OF SERVICE UPON FAILURE TO PAY"

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Town Council of the Town of Pearisburg, Virginia, 6 of the elected members concurring, that:

Section 1. That Section 74-226 of the Code of the Town of Pearisburg titled "Due date and penalty date of bills; discontinuance of service upon failure to pay is hereby amended and re-enacted to provide as follows:

Section 74-226. Due date and penalty date of bills; discontinuance of service upon failure to pay.

- (a) If any water service charge provided for in this Article is not paid on or before the 3rd day of the month immediately following the date of billing, there shall be added to the charge a penalty of ten percent interest of the amount of the water service charge to be paid in addition to the water service charge. The third day of the month immediately following the date of billing is hereinafter referred to as the "Penalty Date."
- (b) If any water charge and penalty provided for in this Article is not paid within thirty days of the Penalty Date, the Town shall notify the water customer in writing of the total amount of said delinquency and shall also give written notice that if the water charge and penalty is not paid on or before sixty days after the Penalty Date, then the Town's water service to the customer will be disconnected at the water meter.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon its adoption.

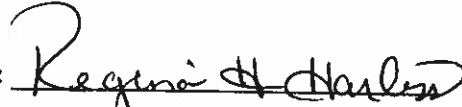
This 14th day of July, 2020.

APPROVED:



Robert L. Dickerson, Mayor

ATTEST:



Regina H. Harless, Clerk

Meredith briefed Council on the need for an EEOC policy. He stated that this came to his attention while applying for grants. Some grants require that the Town have an EEOC policy and program. Staff drafted a policy using a template from VRSA. He has not been able to find an EEOC policy on the Town books. The Town states that it is an EOE employer, but the policy is not accessible or in a place that can be located. Harrell stated that the Town had an EEOC policy at one time. She stated that the document might have been shredded at some point. Meredith stated that he mirrored the EOE statement off Virginia Tech's. They had a very inclusive policy the Town could implement into its personnel policy.

Eaton made a motion that Council adopt the EEOC policy effective immediately. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Journell asked if all required employment posters were posted at the Town Hall. Clerk Harless responded that posters were posted and visible at each facility and updated annually.

Meredith stated that he wanted to discuss Covid-19 and employees traveling and best return to work practices. He stated that his recommendation would be that the Town does not impose rules but ask employees to be cognizant of risks when they travel. He stated that if an employee feels they were exposed to Covid-19 they should report it as a best practice to their supervisor and it will be handled on case by case. Clark asked if we required an employee to quarantine after vacation, would the Town have to pay the employee. Meredith stated that we could require them to use their accrued Personal Time Off (PTO). He doesn't think they should put them off without pay. Clark asked if it would help having them wear a mask. Williams stated that Walmart sends employees home with pay when they are sick. Clark stated that if we require employees to quarantine, does the Town need to pay the employees. Eaton asked if that was a business to business decision. She posited that if under a pandemic, the Town could implement a travel ban and make the employee quarantine without pay. Hartley stated that the best practice is to make them take paid time off or pay them. He suggested addressing vacation on a case by case basis. He doesn't think you can effectively do anything except on a case by case basis. Meredith stated that from a management perspective it is difficult to decide which employees must self-isolate after returning from travel because there was no good metric for measuring risk of exposure. Clark stated that she understood Lynne Sibold vacationed and then quarantined and worked from home a week. Meredith stated that only a few staff had that ability to work from home. He stated that the Treasurer's Office does not have the ability to work from home. Eaton stated that the Town was an essential business. Eaton asked if we had considered testing. She stated that the health department is offering free testing. Ballard recommends that Meredith get with Hartley on the Family First Coronavirus Federal Law. Meredith stated he planned to draft a memo to employees.

Meredith updated Council on the UV Sewer Project. He has found an organization with a camera that the Town can borrow to examine the sewer line on Main Street. He stated that last year, the Contractor working for Mendon saw what they diagnosed as a collapsed line with

their camera. He is concerned about the line because Town staff has observed flow on the other side of the collapse. He has a draft agreement between the Town and Red Sulphur Public Service District for the use their camera. He stated that the severance clause states that the agreement may be terminated with 30 days' notice from either party. He stated that Hartley has reviewed the document and finds it a fair agreement that will work well for the Town.

Clark made a motion that Council approve an agreement between the Town and Red Sulphur Public Service District for use of a camera. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. Abstaining: Ballard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Mayor Dickerson recognized that VRSA had presented a Risk Management Excellence Award to Regina Harless, Town Clerk for showing dedication to risk management within her organization. Council commended Clerk Harless for her hard work. Clerk Harless wanted to go on record that without the help of April Williams, Rodney Wilson and Todd Meredith the Town wouldn't have been recognized. She stated that it was excellent teamwork that accomplishes the task.

Meredith briefed Council on documents the Town Auditor indicated needed to be in place prior to his next audit. Meredith stated that as he was completing the draft template and had some questions on current Town policy he wanted to address with Council. He stated that under our current Procurement Policy it states that a micro purchase is anything up to \$1,000 and the next step for small purchases is \$1,000 to \$10,000. He asked that Council look at the procurement and conflict of interest policies under Paragraph 10 which is highlighted. He suggested that micro purchases be anything up to \$10,000 and small purchases be \$10,000 to \$50,000. Clark stated the Town Manager should be able to make micro purchases without the consent of Council. Hartley commented contingent upon funds being already appropriated in the budget. He stated that if it's a continuing contract it makes it more efficient for the Town manager to purchase. He indicated that it should be what amount Council is comfortable setting. Meredith stated that he is proposing low end as mentioned in document. He stated that for example it would allow Chief Martin to purchase a vehicle. Meredith stated that he would continue to get 3 quotes on majority of purchases for the Town.

Clark made a motion that Council approve the Uniform Guidance Policy for Grant Administration. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Clark made a motion to approve the Conflict of Interest Policy. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Williams made a motion to approve the Town Procurement Policies and Procedures. Harrell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith briefed Council on appraisal service quotes obtained for Whitt-Riverbend Park property. The Town only received an estimate of \$1,000 by Randi Lemmon's firm, Lucas Real Estate Appraisal Services, Inc. Lemmon indicated that there were rules on the property, and he had the information from years ago. Hartley stated that Lemmon was in the development process since it started. Eaton asked if that was a conflict of interest. Hartley stated that he was familiar with the property. He stated the challenge will be to find like park land in the area. If someone wants to dispute the appraisal, they can get their own.

Harrell made a motion that Council authorize the Town Manager to obtain an appraisal by Randi Lemmon with Lucas Real Estate Appraisal Services, Inc. at a cost of \$1,000. Clark seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith discussed reopening of the Town Pool. He stated that staff was finishing up painting and working on disinfection. He stated that if we open the Town could mirror Castle Rocks policy. He stated the pool could be marked off in 10-foot sections. They could operate with two shifts during the day. They could close midway during the day for disinfection then open again. Clark asked if there would be a sign in sheet as part of their procedure to help with contact tracing. Clark asked how many patrons the Town planned to let in. Collins stated they could get around 20 chairs and spread out eight picnic tables. The baby pool would have two sections with picnic table. Collins stated that it would depend on how many families or individuals came as to the capacity. She asked if they had permission to turn patrons away. She stated that if patrons leave and it opens space, they will let them in. Meredith stated that

Governor indicated there could be up to 75% occupancy. Harrell asked how long we would leave the pool open this season. Meredith stated with schools finalizing their plans over the next few weeks it's unknown for students when they return and could be available to work depending on their schedules. Council concurred that if pool staff disinfects let Collins and Meredith work out the details.

Meredith stated that the Town had received a request to use the front lawn of Community Center on August 28 for a Trump Concert Series. He asked Zach Thompson how they planned to use the facility. Thompson answered that the event could be viewed as a concert/festival. There would be music, food and voter registration. He stated the committee has complete understanding if Covid-19 numbers increased they would need to cancel. Meredith asked how many people they anticipated attending. Thompson stated that he thinks the attendance could reach 250. He stated that they are not really selling anything , just asking for a minimum donation you can have the following Trump campaign items. He indicated they would only need the front lawn and access to the bathrooms.

Ballard asked if there had been any other requests. Meredith stated the democratic party had not got back to him yet. Ballard asked if the Governor's plan with social distancing is what concerns the Council. Meredith stated his concern came from following Phase 3 on Entertainment and Public Amusement and adhering to 250 gathering at one time. Thompson stated that would comply in accordance with Governor's orders. Ballard stated that Council should treat this request as any other and remind the party to abide by the Governor's mandates and recommendations.

Ballard made a motion to approve the request by the Republican Party to host a Trump Concert Series on the front lawn of Community Center on August 28 with the understanding the party would abide by the Governor's mandates and recommendations. Eaton seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Meredith discussed the Pearisburg Post Office with Council. He stated our local branch had not been open for an extended period. He indicated that citizens had been asking questions on when it might reopen. Meredith asked if Council wanted him to contact the post office and inquire. Williams stated that Congressman Griffith office was aware, and they said contractors were going in and getting bids. He stated the local carriers tried to call the owners,

but they will not talk to them. He felt that Council needed to get someone involved to get us an operational post office back in Pearisburg. He was told there was black mold in the building that needed to be removed. Eaton suggested Wilson going in and assessing the need. Meredith stated that maybe the Town could facilitate and work towards a resolution by contacting the post office.

Meredith briefed Council on the need for a budget amendment. He stated the Police Chief has four of their in-car cameras out of operation. The cameras are invaluable to protect the officers and those being pulled over.

Williams made a motion that Council approve Budget Amendment FY 2021-01. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

BUDGET AMENDMENT FY 2021-01

EXPENDITURES	Current Budget	New Amount	Difference
10.1500.15.11 POLICE EQUIPMENT	\$ -	\$ 21,990.00	\$ 21,990.00
		Total	\$ 21,990.00
		%Change	0.49%

	Revenue	Expenditures	Difference
Current	\$ 4,497,626.00	\$ 4,497,626.00	\$ -
Amended	\$ -	\$ 21,990.00	\$ (21,990.00)
Total	\$ 4,497,626.00	\$ 4,519,616.00	\$ (21,990.00)

For Council Action on July 14, 2020

Williams made a motion to approve purchase of four in-car camera systems for the Police Department as appropriated in the budget. Journell seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Journell made a motion that Council authorize the Town Manager to sign Award Acceptance Documentation for COPS Grant contingent upon Town Attorney approval and Town Manager review. Williams seconded the motion. Voting yes: Mayor Dickerson; Council Members Williams, Harrell, Clark, Eaton, Ballard and Journell. The motion carried by a vote of 7 to 0.

Clark stated that now we have accepted staff can move forward on advertising. Meredith will submit two different ads and state the one being COPS grant funded.

On a motion by Williams, seconded by Clark, passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Ballard, yes; Journell, yes; Clark, yes; and Harrell, yes; Council went into Executive Session as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A) (29), for discussion of the award of public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, including interviews of bidders or offerors, and discussion of the terms of scope of such contract, where discussion in an open session would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the Town on a potential contract with the Giles County PSA.

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

On a motion by Clark seconded by Eaton, and passed by the following recorded vote, Mayor Dickerson, yes; Council Members Williams, yes; Eaton, yes; Ballard, yes; Journell, yes; Clark yes; and Harrell, 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.

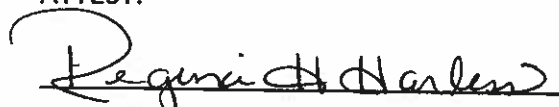
There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:



Mayor Robert L. Dickerson

ATTEST:



Regina H. Harless, Town Clerk