

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Council of the Town of Blackstone, Virginia, held in the Council Chambers located at 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Virginia, on Monday, October 27, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.

There Were Present:

Mayor: William D. Coleburn

Council Members: L. Benjamin Green, John W. Hill, Jr., C. Duncan Quicke, Alfred V. Tucker, J. A. Wilson, Jr., Constance T. Wynn

Town Attorney: Kennon C. Walden, Jr.

Town Staff: Jennifer H. Beck, Administrative Assistant; David Dunn, Assistant Town Manager; Nicholas C. Kuzmiak, Police Chief; J. Larry Palmore, Town Manager; Joan R. Palmore, Town Clerk; Charles C. Wells, Finance Director

Those Absent:

Council Member: Barbara Thompson

Mayor Coleburn called the meeting to order and asked that those present observe a Moment of Silence for Wallace Hardaway a 56 year veteran of the Blackstone Volunteer Fire Department who recently passed away.

After the Moment of Silence, Councilman Hill led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Coleburn led those in the Chambers in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES

Councilman Wilson made a motion to dispense with reading and approve as presented the Minutes of the September 15, 2008, Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Green and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye

Councilman Green - Aye
Councilman Wilson - Aye
Councilman Hill - Aye

(Council Member Tucker absent during this vote.)

VISITORS

1. Col. Tom Wilkinson, the new Commander of Fort Pickett, addressed Council and stated that he is looking forward to working at Pickett and with the Town.

2. Cale Godfrey, Dept of Game and Inland Fisheries, addressed Council regarding the mountain lion sightings in Town. He stated that in early to mid-July the Blackstone Police Department, as well as his Department, received a number of phone calls about mountain lion sightings off of Ridge Road and near WalMart and the Lunenburg Avenue area. He stated that on July 22nd he and Officer Bret Saunders came to Town and met with Chief Kuzmiak and inspected the sites mentioned and looked for evidence. He stated that the things they looked for are tracks and droppings and they also requested photos and or videos from those who had seen the animal. They also set up at least two surveillance cameras within the areas mentioned. Mr. Godfrey added that to date there have been no pictures taken of a mountain lion those surveillance cameras.

Councilman Tucker entered the meeting.

Mr. Godfrey has been down seven or eight times since August but has found nothing that they could attribute to mountain lions. He added that they did receive three plaster casts of possible tracks but they came back inconclusive although it was very unlikely that it was a mountain lion and much more likely that these tracks were made by dogs. He stated that his office continues to monitor and respond as best they can, to whatever the need is.

Mayor Coleburn stated that he has asked people to contact the police when they have a sighting. He asked Mr. Godfrey if they have met with any of the residents that have said they have seen a mountain lion to see if their stories are consistent with a mountain lion.

Mr. Godfrey answered, no, he has not but they are trying to be responsive to everyone.

Councilman Green asked how familiar is Mr. Godfrey with this species of animal.

Mr. Godfrey answered, he has had no training whatsoever on mountain lions.

Councilman Green asked what is the position of the Department regarding the possibility that we have a mountain lion in this area.

Mr. Godfrey answered that he cannot know for sure because it is fairly easy for people to get their hands on exotic animals so it is possible that what people have seen is a mountain lion.

Councilman Green stated that he has two young children and he is concerned.

Mr. Godfrey stated that we need to be cautious and wary but we don't need to change our daily activities.

Mayor Coleburn thanked Mr. Godfrey and his agency for their response.

3. Ann Hoover addressed Council regarding the National and State governments as well as our local debt. She stated that she appreciates the Town trying to curb spending. She also appreciates the Council's openness in discussing the people's concerns as they bring them to Council. Although, she added, that she does not see the Council Members voting any differently than before. She asked the Council why do they continue to put more on the citizens than they can bare. She stated that none of us knows what the future holds. No one knew that gas would escalate to record highs or that Wall Street would plummet to record lows. She asked that the Town put something away for a rainy day and not to incur more debt. She proposes that instead of building new sidewalks in the Downtown Revitalization Project area that we maintain some of the sidewalks that we already have. She added that she rode the bus to Farmville and it was delightful. She hopes that maybe we can advertise in the paper a little better on the bus schedules and she suggested putting advertising on store fronts, in the office and maybe some at VUMAC. She feels the bus is great deal for only \$.50. She feels this is a real service to people especially in unstable times.

Mayor Coleburn stated that the Town pays **16%** of the bus system and the rest of the funding comes from the State and other localities. He also explained that the grant money we received for the Downtown Revitalization Project will not pay for sidewalks outside of the designated grant area.

Councilman Green stated that there is a whole lot more to the grant than sidewalks such as street scapes. He stated that Mrs. Hoover made a couple of comments that he wants to address. He explained that the biggest portion of our debt was the mandated upgrade to our water and sewer facilities and the previous Council made a very hard but wise decision to upgrade these systems. He also asked Mrs. Hoover for some examples of the unnecessary expenditures that she is speaking of. Mr. Green stated that the Council packets outline in detail the many expenses of the Town. He then welcomed Mrs. Hoover to attend the planned Council Work Session in November.

Mayor Coleburn stated that we are going to have a Work Session on November 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Manager Palmore explained the project and the replacement of sidewalks, storm drainage, parking, etc. He stated that if we don't get the money, someone else will. He added that one of good things about the grant is we get to charge a portion of his salary and other staff members salaries back to the grant.

4. Barbara Gibbs, with the Chamber of Commerce, presented Police Chief Kuzmiak a certificate of appreciation and a check to thank him and his department for their help with the Arts and Crafts Festival.

5. Mr. Al Moore addressed Council regarding the Downtown lighting. He stated that he has noticed that the medical center has nice bright lights but it is still dark Downtown. He also stated that he feels it was embarrassing for the Town to go to the County and ask them to waive the Building Permit fees for the new medical center.

Mayor Coleburn explained that in the past, governing bodies have not charged each other for building permit fees, tap fees, etc., and the Town Manager was only going along with the way things have been done by requesting that the County waive this fee. He added that we were taken aback when the County sent us a bill and he was only asking that the County waive the fee as they always have. He stated that the Town has waived Nottoway Counties water and sewer tap fees for many, many projects in Town.

Mr. Moore stated that he is unhappy about the prospect of replacing the sidewalks Downtown because it will be detrimental to the businesses.

Mayor Coleburn stated that Manager Palmore is very sensitive to Downtown Businesses and the very earliest that we would see sidewalks being replaced Downtown would be the end of 2009 or early 2010.

Mr. Moore feels it is a shame that we lost three good police officers. He added that if we had a President of the United States that did what he did why should we lose three officers for doing what they did.

Mayor Coleburn stated that this is a grey area. He added that the President of the United States has a process and our officers have a process. He added that we have a great Police Chief.

Mr. Moore agreed that the Police Chief is great and he and the other officers have always been there when he has called them.

6. Mrs. Lisa Hudson commended the Council on the Town's recycling efforts. She stated that Blackstone Primary School is back in the swing of things. They are hauling paper and plastic and they are excited to hear about what the Town is doing to further the recycling efforts here in Town.

Manager Palmore asked Mrs. Hudson have they found out yet about the location of the dumpster.

Mrs. Hudson answered, not yet.

Councilman Green asked are they planning to have someone from their group to go on the Bedford trip.

Mrs. Hudson answered that she has been contacted and she hopes someone can go.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT

Fire Chief Tony Bradford made the report on the Fire Department for the month of September. He thanked the Mayor and the Council for remembering Chief Hardaway and his family. He reminded people to change the batteries in their smoke detectors on November 2nd because we are going back to Eastern Standard Time, as we always do this time of year. He stated that the Fire Department Open House went well but attendance was down a little bit. One of the problems was that fliers did not make it to the primary school students until two days after the event but they were given to the school the week before. He informed Council about a "Down-and-Out House" that was donated to the Fire Department, complete with a window and a working smoke detector, electrical sockets, etc. He explained that this "house" helps to train children and adults to get out of their homes in case of a fire. He informed Council that Sam Nunnally had the idea of talking to local businesses to see if they would be willing to donate money for this and he wanted Council to be aware that this "house" was built with contributions from Bevell's, Benchmark Bank and Dominion Carpet as well as volunteer labor. He added that the Fire Prevention Committee deserves all the credit for this project. Sam Nunnally, Lee Scott and others on the committee put a lot of time and work into this. He stated that on November 4th a representative from the Virginia Defense Force will be here for a meeting at the Fire Station at 7:00 p.m. He welcomed members of Council to attend.

Fire Chief Bradford asked the Council to approve the 2008/09 Slate of Officers as follows:

Fire Chief	-	Tony Bradford
Asst. Fire Chief	-	Glenn E. "Bubba", Hart, Jr.
Captain	-	William C. "Buzz" Bryant
1 st Lieutenant	-	Doug Webb
2 nd Lieutenant	-	Jason Krotzer
Secretary	-	Eddie Moreno
Treasurer	-	Jason McGrady

Councilman Wilson made a motion to approve the above 2008/09 Slate of Officers for the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hill and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Fire Chief Bradford stated that their membership is close to 50. He then asked for three sets of turn-out gear which has been budgeted through Capital Outlay.

Councilman Green asked how much money are we talking about.

Fire Chief Bradford answered around \$2,300 a set.

Councilman Green made a motion to authorize the Fire Chief to seek bids on three sets of turn-out gear. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

PAYMENT OF BILLS

Councilman Wilson made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$696,474.55. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tucker.

After discussion, the motion being made and seconded was approved as follows.

Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Mayor Coleburn stated that we are on track to pay back the \$600,000 line of credit by February 2009.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Manager Palmore stated that the Building Committee recommends that we hold off on the sale of the Memorial Center until March of 2009 so that the Recreation Association and others can use it during the winter months.

Councilman Green made a motion to delay the disposition on the sale of the Memorial Center until March 1st. The motion was seconded by Councilman Quicke. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

REPORT ON NEW MEDICAL CENTER

Councilman Green stated that they have picked out the bricks for the new medical center and they will be the same ones used at Police Station. They have also selected a new roof, which is very dark.

Manager Palmore stated that there are some questions on the lease and he will get back to Council next month on this after he has met with Bon-Secours and the Town Attorney.

Manager Palmore reported that things are going well on the new medical center. Our plans are to have a roof on the building by Friday. He feels confident that we will be receiving an additional \$300,000 from the Tobacco Commission. He stated that he wants to make it very clear that the new medical center is a non-profit business. That is why we have been asking for donations through bricks, etc. He can think of no better way for a community to step forward to help its citizens than for it to help build a new medical center. He reiterated that this is a NON-PROFIT business and he added that everything that we spend will come back to us from Bon-Secours.

Mayor Coleburn stated that surrounding medical facilities have supported us on this project.

Councilman Green is concerned with the Water Tap/Building Permit issue that we are having with the County. He feels that we should make one more effort to get the building permit fees waived.

Manager Palmore stated that he does not feel that the Town should ever charge another locality for a tap fee especially when it is for the public good. He added that he went and appeared before the County Board of Supervisors because of an article in the paper six or eight weeks ago regarding the 460 Bridge. Nottoway County took the Council to task about the 460 bridge and stated publicly that the Town snuck around and did something behind their back and the Board stated in the paper that this was not a Town of Blackstone issue because the bridge is out in the County. He told the Board last month, as he will tell Council tonight, that he will be totally shocked if he sees a bridge out there before 2014 but it will not be the Town's fault. He added that the reason we probably won't get a bridge has to do with gas prices and people not traveling as much as they have in the past. Manager Palmore feels it is important that everyone know that Nottoway County delayed the surplus of the property over on Oak Street which caused us to lose the grant for the new ballfields that we applied for with the Nottoway School Board. Manager Palmore mentioned that he appeared before the Board first in 1995 and then again in 1997 and asked them to help us with the removal of stumps in Blackstone. He explained that State Law says that if you remove stumps from property they are now considered toxic. Twice in 1995 we were told that the Board would get back with us but as of today, we have heard nothing from them on this issue. Manager Palmore also stated that he went to the Board back in October for money for the library. We only asked for the same amount of money that Nottoway spent in the Town of Crewe which was \$20,000. He added that he has heard nothing back from the Board on this. He also asked Nottoway for money for a new fire truck. We have never heard back from them on either of these issues. He apologized for anything that he said at the Board of Supervisor's meeting last month that hurt anyone's feelings and added that he is very passionate about what he does. Manager Palmore stated that he respects the Board but his point about Lunenburg County is still true—we need to stop fighting about issues and try to work together.

Councilman Green agrees with the Mayor. We need to put these issues on paper and do what we have to do to move forward.

Mayor Coleburn stated that the fact remains that this bridge is going to be built and it is because of Manager Palmore.

Manager Palmore added that we will do everything we can to make sure that the businesses Downtown continue to thrive.

Councilman Green stated that the Town Manager's priorities are for the businesses and the citizens of Blackstone.

Council agreed by Common Consent for the Town Manager and the Town Attorney to write a letter to the Nottoway County Board of Supervisors.

TRIP TO BEDFORD - RECYCLING

Council discussed the recycling trip to Bedford scheduled for November 5th.

DOWNTOWN LIGHTING

Mayor Coleburn asked that this be on the agenda tonight.

Councilman Wilson added that Council agreed several months ago to turn out every other light Downtown in order to save money.

Manager Palmore stated that he intends to turn the lights back on during the holiday shopping season. He added that he has men who are still voluntarily not being paid overtime and he does not feel that we should turn them back on at this time. He feels that the new recommendation for Downtown is going to be to spread the lights out more.

Mayor Coleburn asked about the lights at Seay Park.

Manager Palmore feels that we will turn the lights out earlier but we still intend to keep the lights on all night on Christmas Eve.

Council discussed this further.

Councilman Hill made a motion to turn on all the lights Downtown starting Monday, November 3rd through the Christmas Holidays and to revisit this at the January Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Green.

After further discussion the motion was carried as follows. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

RESOLUTION - NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

Councilman Quicke stated that Councilman Wilson asked a question last month about whether or not the banks will require borrowers to purchase flood insurance if we choose to be included in this program. Councilman Quicke read a statement saying that lenders retain the prerogative to require flood insurance if the borrower is in a flood plain but this is a situation that would not affect residents of Blackstone because we are not in a flood plane.

Councilman Wilson feels that we should ask the bankers if they will require that borrowers purchase flood insurance.

Councilman Quicke made a motion to adopt the attached Resolution with the addendum that we go to the banks to find out if they will require that homeowners to purchase flood insurance. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved as follows:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

CAROLINA TRANSFORMER

Manager Palmore stated that we received \$12,568.50 back out of this law suit.

Assistant Town Manager Dunn reported to Council on Ward Transformer. He stated that he feels that Carolina Transformer was a walk in the park compared to Ward Transformer. The big question we have is how did they figure out the percentage that they want us to pay. There is a meeting in Durham tomorrow where our little group is going to ask the big guys some questions with regards to the percentages and our projected cost. He stated that we decided not to do anything but now we have gotten the notice from Ward Transformer that we have to answer. He wanted to make sure Council is aware that the Town is being sued.

Manager Palmore feels that this is just the beginning.

Mayor Coleburn asked if this goes to litigation where will the case be tried.

Town Attorney Walden answered in North Carolina.

Manager Palmore stated that we need to go to the meeting tomorrow, listen and take notes. We cannot ignore this issue.

Councilman Green asked where will this \$12,000 check go.

Manager Palmore answered, back in the General Fund.

Councilman Quicke asked how much did we end up spending with Carolina Transformer.

Manager Palmore answered around \$27,000.00.

ORDINANCE - INOPERATIVE MOTOR VEHICLE

Town Attorney Walden stated that this ordinance eliminates two of the notices that the Police Department would have to serve and makes it easier to have inoperative vehicles removed.

Councilwoman Wynn made a motion to adopt the attached Inoperative Motor Vehicle Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

ON GOING PROJECTS:

Bus Shop - We have finished the driveway and we have to get on the fence. Everything is going great. We are waiting on the State to give us some dates for the grand opening.

Downtown Revitalization - Lafayette Dickens stated that they are planning to take a lead roll in organizing the Christmas Parade which will be the second Friday in December. He stated that last year the parade cost right at \$1,000 and he asked for help from Council again this year. He added that the Town gave them \$500.00 last year.

Councilman Green made a motion to approve the parade permit contingent on Mr. Dickens getting approval from the Police Chief. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tucker and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Councilman Green made a motion to donate \$500.00 to the Christmas parade. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Councilman Green made a motion to continue this meeting to Thursday, November 6th at 12:00 noon, with the location to be announced. The motion was seconded by Councilman Quicke and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Manager Palmore informed the Board that W. E. Bowman Consultants submitted the low bid in the amount of \$754,900.00 for the Downtown Revitalization Facade Improvements and he recommended that Council accept this bid. He explained that by accepting this bid, it will allow us to go into negotiations with the property owners. What happens now is we go back to each property owner and meet with the contractor. He added that the store owners will get \$10,000.00 for each facade. He stated that we had four contractors to bid on this project.

Councilman Green made a motion to accept the low bid from W. E. Bowman Consultants in the amount of \$754,900.00, for (45) facade improvements. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hill and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Councilman Hill asked will this be paid for under the grant.

Manager Palmore answered, yes sir.

Castles Trailer Park - We have two houses underway and are ready for three more. We hope to have one more within the next week, if weather permits.

Councilman Green asked about a ground breaking ceremony for the Medical Center.

Manager Palmore stated that he has been concentrating on doing a grand opening when we move into the building but he will do whatever Council wants us to do.

Council agreed to this.

DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

Manager Palmore reported that a few weeks ago, when he was in Roanoke meeting with the Tobacco Commission he received a phone call from General Newman in which General Newman told him that he is planning to move the Department of Military Affairs headquarters back to Richmond within six years. Manager Palmore stated that General Newman stood out in his yard two years ago and said, "not under my watch, will the headquarters be moved back to Richmond." We have been hearing rumors for years that the headquarters were going back but we chose to believe General Newman who assured us that this would not happen. He is now telling us that he is planning to move 90 employees this Fall and the rest by 2013. General Newman admitted that they are planning to take the money that Senator John Warner earmarked for Fort Pickett, to build a new building in Sandston. He stated that he met with Governor Kaine this past Tuesday morning at the VML Conference and the Governor looked him straight in the eye and stated that he knows nothing about this and he said he will find out what is going on. He also spoke to Mark Warner who is running for Senator John Warner's seat and former Governor Warner promised him that he would help us in any way that he could. Manager Palmore stated that this is the first time that he has ever felt that he has been misled by a man in uniform. He added that he and County Administrator Ronnie Roark talk everyday and the County is on board with us. He now realizes that this has been planned ever since General Newman took office. He stated that he has spoken with Congressman Forbes, Delegate Frank Ruff, Senators Louise Lucas and Jim Webb as well as Delegate Tommy Wright and none of them seem to know anything about this.

Mayor Coleburn asked the Town Manager why does he think General Newman is doing this now.

Manager Palmore stated that this has been a well thought out plan and he feels the reason he is doing it now is they want to put this money into some property in Sandston.

Mayor Coleburn stated that if the conspiracy theories are true why hasn't General Newman nailed this down.

Manager Palmore stated that he feels that General Newman has misled us.

Mayor Coleburn stated that he has had people calling him and emailing him for years about this but he has failed to give it due diligence because he believed General Newman. He added that we are working closely with Nottoway County on this issue. He also stated that he has written a letter to General Newman as well as to Nottoway County and others and copies of those letters have been provided to Council.

Councilman Green made a motion to adopt a Resolution opposing the move of the National Guard Headquarters to Sandston. The motion was seconded by Councilman Tucker.
Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

ORDINANCE - VEHICLE LICENSE TAX

Manager Palmore explained that this is simply moving the due date from April 15th to December 15th. Most of the citizens who have called, have been very supportive after we have explained this to them. He stated that we modeled this Ordinance after Dinwiddie County.

Council discussed this further.

Councilwoman Wynn made a motion to adopt the attached Vehicle License Tax Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson and approved as follows. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

JOE ALLMAN - BROAD STREET RIGHT-OF-WAY

Manager Palmore spoke to Council about the right-of-way on Broad Street. He explained that right now there are actually store fronts sitting on Town right-of-way. He feels this needs to be corrected and that the property owners should pick up any expenses associated.

Joe Allman stated that he had some additional information since he met with the Town Manager and the Town Attorney. He stated that he talked to the surveyor out of Amelia and it doesn't say it in the survey but sometime, years ago, the property owners on Broad Street deeded property to the Town. Everything has been done to fix this problem on the North side. He stated that he didn't share this with the Town Attorney earlier but only because he didn't have this information.

Francis Gilmore spoke to Council about this issue. He is concerned that there is an inaccuracy or an inconsistency and he doesn't want to have it recorded wrong.

Manager Palmore stated that the only way he can recommend this is for the business owners to pay the expense. He feels this should be corrected and that we agree to the line as drawn by the surveyor on the document in the packet. He added that this is the same thing we did with the Presbyterian Church a few years ago. As long as we all agree on the line than that is where the line will be.

Town Attorney would like to look at this further and talk with the surveyors. He suggested that we give them an easement.

After further discussion, Councilman Green made a motion to approve the recommendation of the Town Manager and to agree to the new boundary line as shown on the attached survey-- contingent on the property owners at 105, 107, 109 and 111 W. Broad Street agreeing to this. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn and approved unanimously. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

GOVERNOR KAINE'S BUDGET CUTS (VML CONFERENCE)

Manager Palmore stated that there are more budget cuts coming from the State in December. He added that this will also affect police funding.

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS - LETTER

Mayor Coleburn stated that the letter in Council's packet is from the new Warden Mr. Harris Diggs who is introducing himself to the Town Officials and offering any help he can.

599 FUNDS ADJUSTMENT TO ALLOCATIONS

Manager Palmore stated that this is all informational just so Council will know where our funding is being cut.

MISCELLANEOUS

Manager Palmore stated that Mr. Campbell Epes has written a letter to Councilwoman Wynn about the H. L. Jackson building and in that letter he states that he has some historical records and he wants to know who he should turn them over to.

Council agreed that we should have copies here at the Town Office, a copy given to Mrs. Arlene Harris and also copies to the Historical Society (Lucia Malon).

Manager Palmore stated that we need to help DBI move their office to a first floor office space and he feels it should be Downtown. He would like for Council to give permission to Councilman Green and Councilman Quicke to negotiate on Council’s behalf for new office space and to give them the discretion to rent a building. He added that we plan to separate ourselves from DBI in about two years but we need to make every effort now to help them succeed. He would like to take \$4,800.00 from the sale of the surplus property and put it towards rent space for DBI.

Mayor Coleburn restated that the Town Manager wants to take \$4,800.00 from the proceeds from the sale of the surplus property to rent property for the new DBI office.

Councilman Green made a motion to appropriate \$4,800.00 from the surplus sale towards office rent for DBI. The motion was seconded by Councilman Hill. The motion carried as follows. Vote:

Councilman Quicke	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Green	-	Aye
Councilman Wilson	-	Aye
Councilman Hill	-	Aye
Councilman Tucker	-	Aye

Councilwoman Wynn asked the Town Manager to thank JetBroadband for the new TV Guide Channel.

MAYOR’S MINUTE

Mayor Coleburn asked will we have siren test dates for the new siren system.

Manager Palmore answered, yes.

Mayor Coleburn asked can we allow businesses in Town to bid for Town Christmas presents this year.

Manager Palmore answered, yes.

POLICE REPORT

Councilwoman Wynn thanked the Police Department for their help on North Main Street with regards to the buzzard problem she has been experiencing lately.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS

There were none.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Coleburn continued the meeting to November 6th at 12:00 noon.

MAYOR
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

_____ APPROVED AND ADOPTED

TOWN CLERK
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

