

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, June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

There Were Present:

Mayor: William D. Coleburn

Council Members: Christine Hasbrouck, Shelia Jones, Lonnie Morgan, Barbara Thompson, Nathaniel Miller, Eric Nash, Tom Wilkinson

Town Staff: Philip Vannoorbeeck, Town Manager; Jennifer Daniel, Town Clerk; Jennifer Hardy, Finance Director, Mary Murphy, Transit Director; Tony Mayton, Police Sgt.

Town Attorney:

Those Absent:

Mayor Coleburn called the June Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Coleburn delivered the Invocation.

Mayor Coleburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

#### **1. Conditional Use Permit – MB Enterprises, LLC**

#### *NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BLACKSTONE*

*The Blackstone Town Council shall hold a Public Hearing on June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Council Chambers, 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Va. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a Conditional Use permit request from **MB Enterprises, LLC** to allow the development of three residential dwellings on the second floor of property located in the B-G, General Business District. The subject property is located at 222 S. Main Street and is designated as Nottoway County Tax Map Number 50A27-1-V-9. The Town Council may act on this request following this public hearing.*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the applicant has requested three apartments be permitted on the second floor of 222 S. Main Street. He said this property is in the General Business District and requires a Conditional Use Permit.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said typically 2 parking spaces per unit are required, but the applicant has only offered four, but the public parking lot is to the rear of her property.

Mayor Coleburn asked if Council could waive the required parking. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes.

Mayor Coleburn opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anyone here to speak for or against the request.

Mayor Coleburn said the Planning Commission unanimously approved the request.

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit for three upstairs residential dwellings as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Thompson.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**3. Juneteenth Celebration**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he spoke with Mrs. Molly Black-Lashway and she has work going on at the building on Saturday during Juneteenth.

Mrs. Lashway said the work would be repointing and re-mortaring the front of the building.

Ms. Chastiddy Bryant said they moved their gaming station from Broad Street to the Maple Street area, since Broad Street would remain open. She said she spoke with Mrs. Lashway, and was told that Mrs. Lashway's workers would be there from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Ms. Bryant said they were concerned about the food being served in the area and if kids were running around and not paying attention, she did not want people to have to dodge around the construction.

Mrs. Lashway said she would just be working on the corner, the former J&J Dollar building.

Ms. Bryant said their gospel station would be playing on that end of Town as well, and was not sure if the work going on would block the sound. She said two co-chairs went to Mrs. Lashway's business and presented her a letter with the date of the Juneteenth event, this was presented in April. She questioned why this work was scheduled for this Saturday, when notice was provided previously about the date of the Juneteenth Celebration.

Mayor Coleburn asked what was being asked of from Council. Ms. Bryant wanted to know if Mrs. Lashway could push her construction to another weekend.

Councilman Morgan did not think the Council had any authority to keep Mrs. Lashway from doing something personal on her building.

Councilman Miller said everyone has known about Juneteenth, and now you are asking them to break up what they are doing and replan. He said he thought if a street was going to be closed, it had to come before Council. Councilman Nash said Mrs. Lashway was not requesting to close the street. Mayor Coleburn said the street was already being closed for Juneteenth.

Mrs. Lashway believed technically; the sidewalks were on her property. Manager Vannoorbeeck said some sidewalks are owned by the merchants, but the Town's ordinances do say merchants are required to keep the sidewalks clear of obstructions.

Mrs. Lashway said as for the mason, it was his time schedule, not hers, the project started over a month ago.

Councilman Nash asked how many vendors would be in attendance. Ms. Erielle Eppes replied 78. She said each vendor is assigned a parking space downtown.

Councilwoman Hasbrouck suggested using a cattle barrier around the area to make it more secure.

Mrs. Lashway said the crew would consist of 2 people, plus her husband.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to continue with the route we had and keep the sidewalk clear for Juneteenth. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Councilman Wilkinson said we need to work together. He said during Arts and Crafts, the vendors are on the street and people don't walk behind the vendors, they all walk in front of the vendors. Ms. Bryant said they left the sidewalks for businesses that wanted to be a part of the event.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Nay
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Nay
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Nay
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Nay
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Nay

Mayor Coleburn said he hoped this was not a win or loss for anybody.

Ms. Bryant discussed the parking situation, because some homeowners live upstairs of the businesses, they were going to hand out parking passes. She said they planned to use the Town parking lot for the vendors.

Sgt. Mayton said they had talked to some of the residents downtown, and they were fine with parking around back. He said he had talked to Mr. Johnny McNabb, and he was going to park his vehicles in the back. Sgt. Mayton said if anything else comes up, they would address it then. Councilman Nash suggested putting up a sign for vendor parking.

Ms. Bryant said she was informed that Representative Spanberger would be in attendance.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **2. Industrial Development Authority Clarification**

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked Ms. Ellen Eppes if she was a Nottoway County resident. Ms. Eppes replied she does not live in Nottoway; she is a co-owner of property in Nottoway and a registered voter in Nottoway.

Mayor Coleburn asked Ms. Eppes her address. Ms. Eppes said the house in Blackstone is 105 Viewbank Street, but her address is Sutherland.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we will get clarification from Attorney Bacon.

2. Conditional Use Permit – Bentayga Properties, LLC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF BLACKSTONE

*The Blackstone Town Council shall hold a Public Hearing on June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Council Chambers, 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Va. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a Conditional Use permit request from **Bentayga Properties, LLC** to allow the development of three two-family dwellings on property located in the B-G, General Business District. The subject property is located at 804 Church Street and is designated as Nottoway County Tax Map Number 50A25-1-19-6 through 16. The Town Council may act on this request following this public hearing.*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this request is for three duplexes at 804 Church Street. He said the property is currently zoned General Business, and the proposed use would have to be considered a conditional use.

Mayor Coleburn opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anyone here to speak for or against the request.

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing. He said the request was unanimously approved by the Planning Commission.

***Councilwoman Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit for Bentayga Properties to allow three duplexes at 804 Church Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Abstain
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

3. Rezoning Request – DMM Properties, LLC

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF BLACKSTONE

*The Blackstone Town Council shall hold a Public Hearing on June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Council Chambers, 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Va. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to consider a Rezoning request from **DMM Properties, LLC** to rezone five parcels bounded on the South by Hungarytown Road and on the east by S. Freeman Street. The property is designated as Nottoway County Tax Map Number 50A31-1-44-6 through 9 and a portion of 10. The pending request is to rezone this property from the P-O, Public Open Space to R-2 Residential District. This rezoning if approved would specifically permit the placement of single family, two family and townhouse type dwellings. The Town Council may act on this request following this public hearing.*

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed a third of the property that DMM Properties own was in Town. He said this property was directly across from the parking lot at VUMAC. He said they were proposing a total of 140 units, with a small portion being in Town. He said in Town the minimum square footage would have to be, 10,000 sq. ft. for a single family, and 14,000 sq. ft. if they choose two family. He said if they choose townhouses, the lots would have to be reorganized. He said the Planning Commission's commentary was more supportive of R-2 Zoning, and that is what was approved.

Mayor Coleburn opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anyone here to speak for or against the request.

Councilman Nash asked what would happen if the County did not approve their section. Manager Vannoorbeeck said there would have to be reorientation of some roads. He added, with the County being in such a state of flux, until a new County Administrator comes in, it will take some doing.

Councilman Nash asked if there would be an opportunity to take all the property in. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was already in the Town's electric district. Mayor Coleburn said then the Town would not need to take it in.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there may be some difficulties because VDOT maintains the roads in the County and the Town maintains the roads in Town. He said some arrangements would have to be made with VDOT. He added water and sewer belongs to the Town as well.

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing. He said this was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission.

Councilman Nash asked if the plan changes to townhouses, would it be brought to Council. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it would not come back to Council for approval, because it is a permitted use. He said the recordation of the subdivision plat is an administration process, but he would bring it to Council as informational.

***Councilwoman Hasbrouck made a motion to approve the rezoning request from DMM Properties to R-2, Medium Residential. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed some of the lots that front on Freeman and Hungarytown may be developed.

#### **4. FY22 Budget**

*TOWN OF BLACKSTONE  
BUDGET SUMMARY  
JULY 1, 2021 – JUNE 30, 2022*

*The Town staff is inviting all citizens of the Town to come by the Town Office and have the annual budget explained to them in detail, if they so desire. A Public Hearing on this budget will be held **Monday, June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Council Chambers. All interested residents of Blackstone are urged to attend and express their opinion. It is the intention of the Town to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Should you need special accommodations, please contact the Town Manager's office prior to **5:00 p.m. on Friday, June 18, 2021.***

Mayor Coleburn said the highlights are, no tax increases, but this Council does intend, when they adopt the budget, to approve an RFP for the design/build renovations of the Armory. He said there will be a 2% water and 2% sewer increase, and a \$2.25 garbage collection rate increase to purchase a garbage truck.

Mayor Coleburn said the big, bad news for the people of Blackstone is the budget was advertised with an 8.2% increase for electric. He said VMEA is looking at a 24.8% increase, without fuel adjustment. Manager Vannoorbeeck said with fuel adjustment it would be an 18% increase.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he needed a little more time to finalize and had a few things to discuss with the Finance Committee concerning the true-up. He said Dominion says they under charged us \$480,000.00 last year. He said this is because of the war on coal fired electric. Mayor Coleburn said legislatures are making this happen.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said VMEA believes Dominion is charging them incorrectly, and the Town of Blackstone is a part of VMEA. He said VMEA intends to file suit at FERC.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would discuss further next Monday, but believed the rates going up would be less than 18%. He said it was too late for a Public Hearing, so anticipated another Public Hearing in July for electric rates.

Mayor Coleburn said this budget includes some merit increases and across the board 3% increases.

Mayor Coleburn opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anyone here to speak for or against the proposed budget.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Budget was advertised at \$16,738,945.00, and does include the full amount of the East End Project.

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing.

#### **MINUTES:**

*Councilman Nash made a motion to dispense with reading and approve as presented minutes from the Continued Meeting on May 12, 2021 and Regular Council Meeting on May 17, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.*

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

#### **VOTE:**

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

#### **VISITORS:**

1. Mrs. Teresa Keller/Ms. Susan Fuller – 100 Mile Yard Sale – July 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>

Ms. Fuller asked for use of the Town Square for the 100 Mile Yard Sale.

Mayor Coleburn clarified the requests were to waive the Yard Sale Fee for that day and use of the Town Square.



Mrs. Keller asked if the permit fee could be waived from Friday through Sunday.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to waive the Yard Sale fee from Friday through Monday and allow use of the Town Square for the Saturday, July 3, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Mrs. Keller asked Council to beef it up, Blackstone usually has less than anybody participating.

Clerk Daniel advised a lady came by Town Hall today and the Church of God would be having a bin in their parking lot for donations to help flood victims in Louisiana.

#### **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:**

Assistant Fire Chief, Ray Armes was present.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said in the Fire Chief's report, Chief Tomer has strongly requested reconsidering the decision for the LED sign.

Councilman Morgan said he talked to Chief Tomer and other chiefs from the past. He said the concern was only receiving one bid and the increase in price. He said the original amount was only an estimation from Chief Tomer, the labor and installation are where the extra costs came from. He said he talked to Mr. Tony Bradford, who thought this sign would be very beneficial, because emergency messages could be posted on this sign. He believed the previous motion should be rescinded and grant the request.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to rescind the previous motion on June 2, 2021, to reject the sign bid at the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

***Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the bid that was previously rejected in the amount of \$41,816.00 from Sign Enterprise to be installed at the Fire Department. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.***

Mayor Coleburn said this was duly advertised and the Fire Department did nothing wrong with procedure.

Councilman Nash said duly advertised, which was only in the local newspaper, which there are not a lot of sign companies seeing this. He said he was for it as long as the extra money was not coming from the taxpayer dollars.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the motion should include, contingent on Cares Act Funding. Finance Director Hardy said Ms. Katy Tomer had seen the new price and did not have a problem.

Mayor Coleburn said if we are going to have this LED sign, he hoped we fully maximize the benefit.

Assistant Fire Chief Armes said they can use their phones to change the message. Councilman Nash believed Ms. Jennifer Daniel should have rights to post on there as well.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**7. USDA Funding – Ladder Truck**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was pleased to announce that USDA has agreed to raise the amount from \$250,000.00 to \$500,000.00 in grant funds. He said he had already signed the documents and submitted, because they had to be in by June 15, 2021.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the budget was built on \$1.6 Million, but that does not mean you have to buy a \$1.6 Million truck, you can buy a used truck per USDA. He said this budget would require the Town to finance \$520,000.00 at about 2.1% interest. He said we should have \$200,000.00 from the County, and to get to \$1.6 Million, the Town would have to finance another \$300,000.00, which is not within reach right now.

Mayor Coleburn believed the \$200,000.00 match from the County was for the federal appropriations committee. Councilman Nash said the County has \$200,000.00, if they are not going to help pay for a \$1.2 Million fire truck, let the residents of this Town go speak to the County.

Assistant Fire Chief Armes said he had been in negotiations and believed \$1.2 Million was feasible. Manager Vannoorbeeck said if the Town gets a better deal, then the grant is reduced.

Assistant Fire Chief Armes said in his negotiations, a used truck would have a 110' platform, a pump, tank, but a single axle. Manager Vannoorbeeck asked if the truck would have an engine on it to pump, would an engine need to be dispatched to help pump. Assistant Fire Chief Armes replied, not necessarily. He added, it has been told that \$1.2 Million is it, not a penny more.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to ratify Manager Vannoorbeeck's signature on the documents that had to be turned in to USDA by June 15, 2021, for the grant funds in the amount of \$500,000.00, for the ladder truck and remain with the \$1.2 Million budget. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Councilman Nash asked what the next step would be. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, sit down with the Fire Department for procurement.

Councilman Nash said there is a truck already on the line and is \$1.2 Million. Assistant Fire Chief Armes said the truck was a Pierce, that is a demo unit and in line to be built. Mayor Coleburn clarified; this truck would not be a used truck.

Assistant Fire Chief Armes said if the Town places the order, it could be here in August, a brand new truck.

Mayor Coleburn said on Monday, July 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m., the Board of Supervisors are going to discuss the Fire and EMS Study, and they are going to revisit the \$200,000.00 pledge to Blackstone.

Mayor Coleburn said the Fire Services Board Study was included in the packet as informational.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Mayor Coleburn stated the bills that have already been paid are in the amount of \$331,151.46.

*Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the bills that have already been paid in the amount of \$331,151.46. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.*

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Councilman Nash saw an expense for Juneteenth, and asked what the cost was up to from the \$5,000.00. Finance Director Hardy said it had all been expended.

Mayor Coleburn stated the bills not yet approved, and to be paid, are in the amount of \$474,119.69.

*Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve as presented, the bills not yet paid in the amount of \$474,119.69. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.*

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

### **APPROPRIATIONS:**

Mayor Coleburn said appropriations have to be made when the Town spends over what was budgeted.

#### **Appropriation #1 – Street – General Fund = \$215,666.00**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we anticipate receiving the FEMA Grant, that would be over the \$215,666.00, but this amount is what was spent for brush removal with MTS. He said this item was not included in the budget.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would provide the estimated cost for brush next week. He believed the final cost from the ice storm was \$580,000.00. Finance Director Hardy said a few months ago, a lot of the appropriations were handled. She said she had been holding off on this item waiting to hear from FEMA.

#### **Appropriation #2 – General Properties = \$2,600.00**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town had collected roughly \$4,000.00 from games of skill. He said there was a letter included in the packet about this type of gaming would be illegal starting July 1, 2021.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this \$2,600.00 is going towards helping with the cost of paint disposal out of the old school building.

#### **Appropriation #3 – General Properties = \$5,400.00**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said additional business license revenue was used to fund concrete work and trash cans at Schwartz Tavern.

**Appropriation #4 – General Fund Capital Improvements = \$46,621.00**

Mayor Coleburn said there were additional General Fund revenues used to cover concrete work at the Garage and parking lot improvements at the Carriage Museum.

**Appropriation #5 – Community Development = \$9,500.00**

Mayor Coleburn said there were additional funds from local sales tax to fund the VML/VACO RFP services for VUMAC. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would try to recoup this from the \$600,000.00.

**Appropriation #6 – Recreation = \$11,907.00**

Mayor Coleburn said it looks there are new businesses coming to Blackstone, because there are additional tax revenues being used.

Mayor Coleburn said additional tax revenues were used to purchase two bleachers and two goalposts for the Gators.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the bleachers were here. He said goalposts were being bid out.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the fencing bids were opened today and he would present next week.

**Appropriation #7 – Street – General Fund = \$17,925.00**

Mayor Coleburn said this was for unbudgeted revenue and expense related to large tree removal from the ice storm.

**Appropriation #8 – Police Department = \$2,500.00**

Mayor Coleburn said this appropriation was to fund the education stipend from June 2020 for Officer Justin Walters. Finance Director Hardy said Officer Walters was not on the original list.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the appropriations as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Employment & Police – met 5-25-21 – minutes included in June’s Council Packet

**Closed Session – Personnel – Police Department / Bus Shop**

There were no recommendations.

2. Buildings, Property & Cemetery – met 6-10-21 – minutes included in June’s Council Packet

**Roofing Updates**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the roof on the Library was discussed and would be lumped into the Council Chambers and Fire Department renovations.

**Seay Park**

Manager Vannoorbeeck suggested to the Committee to bid out the flower beds in Seay Park.

***Councilwoman Hasbrouck made a motion to bid out the flower beds in Seay Park. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

### Carriage Museum

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Councilwoman Hasbrouck would be contacting Ms. Sandra Tanner for a meeting.

### Property Clean-Up – S. Main Street

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Blight Policy was discussed and there is a house in the 800 block of S. Main Street that is a concern to neighbors, this house is occupied.

Mayor Coleburn believed the primary resident had moved to Florida.

Councilman Nash suggested sending a letter.

Mayor Coleburn said there was another house discussed next to Dollar General. Manager Vannoorbeeck said Councilman Nash reported that Dr. Whiteside was intending to tear it down.

### 3. Street & Light – met 6-10-21 – minutes included in June's Council Packet

### Previous Projects

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there were several projects that had been approved previously, to include 404 College Road, 102 Viewbank Street, 410 Sixth Street, 107 Bird Road, 736 N. Main Street and 505 Tavern Street. He said he was dissatisfied with the drawings for College Road and have since been revised. He said he was waiting on an estimate before bidding it out.

### N. West Avenue Ditch

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was waiting on a cost estimate to either rip rap or pipe in the ditch to the rear of property owner's house. He said this ditch was on private property, but he was able to find a 30' drainage easement.

Assistant Fire Chief Armes asked about his father's ditch. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this ditch would have to be addressed with the East End project. He said it could be brought back up with the Street Committee.

Councilman Morgan asked why nothing has been done. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the sentiment he received was the Town was not going to do anything. Councilman Nash said if that was the sentiment, then the ditch on N. West Avenue should have the same sentiment because it is private property.

Mayor Coleburn asked if the East End Grant could do anything. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the money could not be used on private property, there would have to be a local contribution.



Councilman Miller did not think the Town should just say forget N. West Avenue, he said maybe we can do both.

Mayor Coleburn said this will open the “ditch” of requests.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed he already had a cost for Mr. Armes’ ditch and would get a cost for N. West Avenue and report back.

### **200 Forest Drive**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is no ditch there currently, but he would discuss with Walker Construction, a possible valley gutter.

### **Traffic Calming / Truck Route**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he asked Chief Kuzmiak to handle this, so Chief Kuzmiak and Sgt. Mathias would be working on this.

Councilman Nash asked about the traffic counts. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he did not have them, Mayor Coleburn had asked previously as well.

### **Sixth Street Parking – Heritage Hall**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Committee wanted to know if it was legal to allow resident parking only. He said he would check with Attorney Bacon.

Mayor Coleburn said there are some disabled residents and elderly that live on this street and they have to walk a half block to get to their house.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would meet with the new director to discuss.

### **Stop Sign – Sixth & College Avenue**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said several constituents contacted Councilman Wilkinson and were not in favor of a stop sign or speed bumps, the requested better police presence.

### *Doswell / Scott Street*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Councilwoman Jones came to him about this and they had a neighborhood meeting. He said Ms. Tucker had inquired about closing Scott Street. He said he would like to get Mr. Jeff LaVelle or another surveyor to mark the corners to be sure the property does not belong to the Tucker's. He did not believe it was a unanimous decision from the neighbors to close Scott or Doswell Street.

#### *4. Health & Ordinance – met 6-14-21 – minutes included in June's Council Packet*

### *Town Square Rentals*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said after reading the Policy, for profits are permissible, however, there is a fee to be paid. He said the Committee discussed Meals Tax and if it is prepared and served in Town, Meals Tax would have to be collected.

### *Zoning – Installation of Homes*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was some concern from a neighbor when a modular home was recently placed on Third Street, because the front door faces the side and not the street. He said there is nothing in the Zoning Ordinance that says you have to have your door facing a certain direction.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Committee recommended that front doors on all homes must face the street. He said this would now require the Town to get a set of plans for each house.

Mayor Coleburn said Manager Vannoorbeeck would be working on an Ordinance for this.

### *Oak Street*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is a blighted property. He said a letter had been sent to the owner and he received a phone call from them. He said the property owner rejected giving the Town the property.

Mayor Coleburn asked if the owner lived there. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no, it was an abandoned home.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the house was not condemned and the Committee was not interested in tearing the house down and allowing the property owner to make payments. He added the house was wrapped in asbestos siding. He did not recommend doing repairs to the house, if Council moves forward with the Blight Policy.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Blight Policy would be pursued.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

*1. Rotary – 4<sup>th</sup> of July Motorless Parade / Dog Park*

Councilman Wilkinson said these are two different things.

Councilman Wilkinson said the Motorless Parade was scheduled for July 5<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10:00 a.m., from Tavern Street to Seay Park.

Councilman Wilkinson said the Rotary was awarded a \$5,000.00 grant from the District, for a dog park. He said he talked to Manager Vannoorbeeck previously about putting it by Wigglesworth. He said it would be roughly 100'x50', fenced in.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the Motorless Parade on July 5<sup>th</sup> starting at 10:00 a.m. from Tavern Street to Seay Park. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Mayor Coleburn asked if anyone had talked to the Recreation Association. Councilman Wilkinson replied no.

Councilman Wilkinson said he was thinking about on the school property, not at Wigglesworth. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the School Board would have to weigh in. Councilman Nash did not want to see it near the parking lot, because it was already an issue.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed there may be additional space on the Jackson Street side, once the fence was moved for the Gators. Councilman Nash suggested parking be in the school parking lot.

Mayor Coleburn asked if there would be rules in a dog park, and who would enforce them. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the Town would provide the poop bags and the Town's Ordinance would apply.

Mr. Jake Allman suggested checking on the liability.

Mayor Coleburn said we pay VRSA \$239,000.00 a year. He said at the last Board of Supervisor's meeting, the County said they were switching from VRSA to VACOR, raising their deductible and will save \$65,000.00 a year. Manager Vannoorbeeck was not sure if the Town was eligible if this was for counties. Mayor Coleburn said he was told the Town was eligible.

Manager Vannoorbeeck will present the dog park to the County.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### *1. VUMAC – Revenue Anticipation Note*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Resolution enclosed would finalize the borrowing of the \$600,000.00, to assist with the improvements at VUMAC. He said also enclosed is the Note Purchase/Loan Agreement, prepared by the Town's bond counsel, Mr. Howard Estes. He hoped with the Revenue Anticipation Note, it would be compensated back to the Town through USDA, in the form of an Industrial Revitalization Fund. He said this would be financed with Citizens Bank and Trust at 3%.

***Councilman Morgan made a motion to execute the Resolution of its Revenue Anticipation Note, along with the execution of the Note Purchase/Loan Agreement in the amount of \$600,000.00 to assist with improvements at VUMAC. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

#### *2. Industrial Development Authority Clarification*

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### *3. Juneteenth Celebration*

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### 4. Skilled Gaming

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this was informational, but believed what he had read, the Sadler's were going to seek some kind of injunction. He said the State has now declared the skilled games illegal as of July 1, 2021.

Mayor Coleburn asked where the games were in Blackstone. Manager Vannoorbeeck was only aware of games in the Race In. Sgt. Mayton added they were at Chubby's also.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Attorney Bacon wants direction on who should enforce the civil actions. Councilman Morgan suggested talking with the Commonwealth Attorney Watrous, to find out where she stands.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Attorney General can handle the civil process.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would contact Commonwealth Attorney Watrous.

#### 5. Armory – Insurance Visit

Mayor Coleburn said there was a visit that included Councilman Wilkinson, the report is in the packet. He said this would apply to Arts & Crafts. Clerk Daniel added, the Christmas Tree Event has inquired as well. Mayor Coleburn believed they were going to do something different; he would contact Ms. Sue Yeatts.

Councilman Wilkinson said the meeting went well, and Mayor Coleburn showed up as well. He said they primarily talked about Arts & Crafts because that was the only big thing going on. He said based on what we are trying to do, something should be getting started on the Armory by November.

Mr. Michael Bagley asked if the Grant Committee had been formed yet. Mayor Coleburn said that would be discussed later in the meeting.

Councilman Nash asked Manager Vannoorbeeck for a cost estimate of the nine items VRSA has recommended be completed. Manager Vannoorbeeck said anyone cleaning up over there will have Tyvek suits and possibly respirators.

Councilman Nash believed items 1-3 needed to be done according to the list provided by VRSA.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to rescind the motion previously made on April 19, 2021, to close the Armory until renovations were completed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

***Councilman Wilkinson made a motion to allow the Chamber to use the Armory for the Arts & Crafts Festival on September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Councilman Nash said this would only include the main floor area of the Armory.

Councilman Miller asked for clarification, after Arts and Crafts there will be nothing, we will be working on getting the Armory going. Mayor Coleburn replies yes.

Mr. Allman asked what about before Arts & Crafts. Mayor Coleburn said that would be Council's decision.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Councilman Nash said we have taken one request; how do we turn down others. Councilman Morgan said his biggest concern was from what the insurance company reported.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed Council voted to wait 12 months before starting renovations to the Armory. Mayor Coleburn said we did agree to wait, but this budget would have an RFP included, but at Manager Vannoorbeeck's request, the tax increase was being held off. He said the Town Manager had identified potential new revenue for the Armory.

Manager Vannoorbeeck did not believe November was a reasonable expectation for construction.

6. First Fridays – Outdoor Dining

Mr. Justin Sarafin said let's call it Fourth Fridays. He said he consulted with Manager Vannoorbeeck and the main restaurants about participating and came up with the following dates, July 23<sup>rd</sup>, August 27<sup>th</sup>, and September 24<sup>th</sup>.

Councilman Nash asked how many restaurants would be participating. Mr. Sarafin said three confirmed and would be in front of their restaurants. Mayor Coleburn clarified, the Brew House, Corner Kitchen and Herb Cottage, so two blocks.

***Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve Fourth Friday Outdoor Dining on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, August 27<sup>th</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup>, street closures from Elm Street to Tavern Street, with a truck detour at Dinwiddie Avenue and paying town staff or have volunteers for the street closures. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hasbrouck.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Sgt. Mayton asked to keep traffic going along Broad Street.

7. USDA Funding – Ladder Truck

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

8. Fire Department LED Sign Display

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

## **ON-GOING PROJECTS:**

### **1. Dilapidated Buildings**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Oak Street would be the next focus.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he hoped the action tonight would spur the demolition of the house on Church Street.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would be working on two houses on Falls Street that have been condemned.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we have begun the process for a nuisance yard on Falls Street. Councilman Nash said this clean-up has been done several times and he hated to keep spending tax payer dollars to keep doing it every few years. Mayor Coleburn suggested having neighbors write letters to the court.

### **2. Meals Tax / Lodging Tax**

There were no new outstanding Meals Tax, nor outstanding Lodging Tax.

Mayor Coleburn said Treasurer Harris suggested including Lodging Tax information for Council every month.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the number of lodging places may be 5, to include the Wedgwood.

Mayor Coleburn clarified, if someone stays under 30 days, Lodging Tax is charged, over 30 days there is no Lodging Tax.

### **3. Street Improvement Projects**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said from the Corporate Limits to at least College Avenue on Church Street, was going to be repaved. He said this would include milling out 2" and repave. He said Colony Construction would be doing the work.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said some sidewalk work had been done on High Street, as part of coordinating with the owners building the mini storage, in order for them to get their fence adjacent to it.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said within the next week or so he was going to have B&B Consultants start the design work for the East End project.



4. Wrigglesworth Sports Complex / TAP 21

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the fencing bids came in higher than estimated, and he would present to Council next week.

5. East End Neighborhood Project

Manager Vannoorbeeck said B&B Consulting recommended the low bid from KCH Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$742,830.31. He said this was actually under budget.

Councilman Nash said please make sure all connections are connected to the sewer line.

***Councilman Morgan made a motion to award the bid to KCH Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$742,830.31, for water and sewer improvements for the East End Phase II project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

6. Weatherization

There was nothing to report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Patriot Square – Tourism Zone Request

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this project will be 93 residential units. He said the first 27 units do have a building permit submitted. He believed the permit was close to \$2 Million.

***Mayor Coleburn recognized Ms. Mary Murphy as the new Transit Director.***

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. Herbert Fitzgerald was asking for the first three years of the improvements on the real estate taxes be abated and 25% or \$1,000.00 reduction in the tap fees. He said the 25% reduction in tap fees equates to about \$3,200.00.

Councilman Nash asked if Mr. Fitzgerald had paid the tap fees. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed this was a tourism related activity, because it would be providing hospitality.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the Tourism Zone request for Mr. Herbert Fitzgerald of Patriot Square. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

## **2. Virginia State Police – Trash Collection Agreement**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said every year the State Police likes to have a contract signed with Town for their garbage collection services. He said the percentage increase for garbage was figured into their contract.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the Virginia State Police’s annual garbage collection contract in the amount of \$415.20 per month. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Councilman Nash asked if any eVA charges were incurred, and if so, that they be included in the contract amount. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, the Town would not pay any fee, and has never been asked to.

3. Lakeview Cemetery – Headstone Placement Request

Mayor Coleburn said there was a request to offset a headstone.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said according to the email from McMillian Funeral Home, the request is to offset the headstone by one space. He said it would be in line with the north/south, but not east/west.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the headstone request from Carol Nelson to offset one space in Lakeview Cemetery. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

4. DMV – License Agent’s Agreement

Mayor Coleburn said this is approved every year, but he was getting a lot of people asking when DMV would go back to walk-ins. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, when the State of Virginia allows walk-ins. He added the Town’s DMV has never shut down, but when it was walk-ins, there was chaos and people coming from all over.

***Councilman Morgan made a motion to renew the annual DMV License Agent’s Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

5. Award Bid – Exterminating

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was one bid received and increased from last year by \$100.00.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to award the annual exterminating bid to Central Virginia Exterminating in the amount of \$1,723.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

6. Award Bid – Lawn Maintenance

Manager Vannoorbeeck said three bids were received and the low bid was from BL Davis Lawn Care in the amount of \$12,800.00. He said last year's bid was \$13,750.00. He said this bid includes the Fire Station, Medical Center, Schwartz Tavern, Carriage Museum and the Armory.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the low bid from BL Davis Lawn Care for the annual lawn maintenance in the amount of \$12,800.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

7. Award Bid – Welcome Signs

Manager Vannoorbeeck said two bids were received, with the low bid being from Clay's Garden Center in the amount of \$2,900.00. He said last year's bid was \$2,580.00.

***Councilwoman Jones made a motion to award the low bid for annual welcome sign plantings to Clay’s Garden Center in the amount of \$2,900.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Hasbrouck.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Abstain
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

Councilman Nash said he hoped the Town would start back collecting for the signs.

**8. Award Bid – Turf Management**

Mayor Coleburn said this bid includes Wigglesworth, the Fire Station, the Medical Center, Town Square and half of Seay Park. He said the low bid was \$11,025.00 from Lawn Solutions 4 U, LLC. He said last year’s bid was \$10,600.00, and this year there was only one bid.

Councilman Nash said he loved seeing someone get a bid that is a town resident.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to award to low bid to Lawn Solutions 4 U, LLC in the amount of \$11,025.00 for the annual turf management. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.***

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

9. Lester Street Project

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this property was previously owned by Frankie Williamson and next to Mrs. Hardaway. He said the property has now been sold and thought it was fair to bring to Council. He said this property was not done as a Conditional Rezoning, which means the new owner is only limited by the standards in the R-3 District. He said R-3 would permit more than the original 73 units that were presented by Mr. Williamson previously. He said the new owner was intending to do 90-100 units.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this was just informational.

10. American Rescue Plan Act Funds

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked that this be referred to the Account & Finance Committee. He believed it was a certainty the Town would be getting \$3.5 Million in American Rescue Plan money, of which he was certain water, sewer and stormwater were permissible activities. He said the Armory was the question, can we pay for the renovation of the Armory using this money. He believed there was a caveat, that if it included hospitality and tourism.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town should receive a wire in the amount of \$1.75 Million by the end of the month. He said it would be put in a CD and draw 2.5% interest for six months. He said a second payment would be received this time next year.

Mayor Coleburn referred this to the Account & Finance Committee, but asked that we look really hard, be creative, because the Armory has to get done. He said this would be the ticket without raising taxes.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would also like to finish replacing the water meters and finish the South Main Street project to Tenth Street.

11. Town Square Rental – Request to Waive Fee

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Abernathy's have requested to waive the \$100.00 fee for a birthday party.

***Councilman Nash made a motion to approve waiving the fee for the Town Square for a birthday party on August 7, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Councilman Nash said there would be no alcohol. Mayor Coleburn said it would be from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 30 people expected.

Manager Vannoorbeeck advised there is no bathroom.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

12. Armory Grounds Request – Republican Committee

Mayor Coleburn said this could not be done in Seay Park because of the non-political bylaws.

***Councilwoman Hasbrouck made a motion to approve use of the Armory grounds for the Republican Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.***

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Wilkinson	-	Aye
Councilwoman Hasbrouck	-	Aye
Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Thompson	-	Aye

**COMMITTEE REFERRALS:**

There were no Committee Referrals.

**MAYORS MINUTE:**

1. Scheduling & Public Notification of Committee Meetings

Mayor Coleburn said he had some citizens complain and maybe some saw it on Facebook. He said, when we can, and we are required by law, there are to be 3 business days' notice for meeting notifications. He said the date of the meeting is included as a day. He said with committees, if there will be an afternoon meeting, call the citizens if there is going to be an issue.

Mayor Coleburn said at 1:00 p.m. at the Juneteenth Celebration, he would be making a presentation for the Town's inaugural Black History Heroes Program. He said he had the plaques done locally and this would take place in the Town Square.

### **POLICE REPORT:**

Mayor Coleburn said he has heard complimentary things, even from people that have been stopped and ticketed, for police interactions.

Mayor Coleburn believed the Police Department had their own internal performance review, and the officers did not get any extra credit whether they write a ticket or not.

Councilman Nash enjoyed seeing the laws being enforced.

Sgt. Mayton said you can use a cell phone at a stop sign.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Ms. Beverly Ambs said the Chamber would like to do a Job Fair on July 24, 2021. She asked if they could use the bay areas at the Fire Department. Councilman Morgan did not believe that area could be used, because if there was a fire call, there would be too much going on. Councilman Nash added, it is different if the Fire Department hosts it because members are there.

Ms. Ambs asked if the conference room at the Fire Department could be used. Councilman Nash said that would be a Chief Tomer question.

Councilwoman Hasbrouck asked if the purpose and grant funding for the Armory would be brought up with the Account & Finance Committee.

Manager Vannoorbeeck did not believe DHCD would be used for grants for the Armory, because they were being used for VUMAC, perhaps wait until the next cycle. He believed there may be some grant opportunities with the Tobacco Commission.

Councilman Miller asked Manager Vannoorbeeck if he had heard anything from Averitt College. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he had some conversations, but was not sure if there was enough interest.

Mr. Bagley said, prior to the vote, it was said taxes would not be raised and the Town would try to use as many grants as possible to renovate the Armory.



Mayor Coleburn said the first proposed budget had a dramatic increase in personal property and real estate taxes. He said this Council held off, at Manager Vannoorbeeck's request, to wait a year before we get to spending money, we could do this without a dramatic tax increase. He said we found out tonight, we might be able to do the Armory without a tax increase at all.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we need to find out who we ask if these funds can be used to renovate the Armory. Mayor Coleburn said sometimes it is better to ask for forgiveness.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Coleburn continued this meeting to Monday, June 28, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

This meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

  
MAYOR  
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

July 19, 2021

APPROVED AND ADOPTED

  
TOWN CLERK  
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

