

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 15, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

There Were Present:

Mayor: Lafayette Dickens

Council Members: Wesley Gormus, Lloyette Wynn, Christopher Page, Carolyn Williams, Nathaniel Miller, Eric Nash, Jake Allman

Town Staff: Philip Vannoorbeeck, Town Manager; Jennifer Daniel, Town Clerk; Sam Murphy, Police Chief; Devin Foster, Deputy Fire Chief; Lee Williams, Assistant Fire Chief; Chastiddy Bryant, Community Development Specialist; Jeremy Ruppert, Police Corporal

Town Attorney: Julian Harf - Zoom

Those Absent:

Mayor Dickens called the June Council Meeting to order.

Dr. Allen thanked Mrs. Damon for her five minutes of fame, and delivered the Invocation.

Mayor Dickens led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Conditional Use Permit – 123 S. Main Street

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BLACKSTONE

*The Blackstone Town Council shall hold a public Hearing on June 15, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. in the Blackstone Town Council Chambers, 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Virginia. The applicants, **David and Renee Cannon** are requesting a Conditional Use permit as required by Section 8-2.6 of the Blackstone Zoning Ordinance. The request, if granted, would permit residential use on the first floor of an existing structure. The Conditional Use Permit request specifically applies to property known as Nottoway County Tax Map Number 50A27-1-X-10 and is also known as 123 S. Main Street. This property is currently zoned G-B, General Business. The Town Council may act on this request following this Public Hearing. Any individual desiring to address the Town Council should attend the Public Hearing at the above stated date and time.*

Mayor Dickens opened the Public Hearing.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this request was specific to residential on the first floor at 123 S. Main Street. He said the request was for a single unit, and the Planning Commission recommended approval if they comply with a 25% commercial storefront. He said the Planning Commission along with some downtown businesses did not want to see bedrooms in the storefronts.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this proposal would include 544 square feet for residential in the rear of the building.

Councilwoman Williams entered the meeting.

Councilman Page said he was confused by this request because first floor residential approval is needed, but Air BNBs and hotels are commercial and require a business license. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the request was specific to nonresidential, non domicile.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the IRF requires 30% of floor space to be reserved for commercial, but they have agreed Air BNBs and short stays qualify as commercial.

Councilman Page asked if that is what the Ordinance says. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Ordinance does not address this. Councilman Page said if a hotel wanted to purchase the Dillard Crawley building, they would have the right to open on the first floor. He said it is zoned General Business and an Air BNB requires a business license. He asked why are we even meeting on this.

Councilman Nash believed it was wise to do it this way, in case their residents stay over 30 days.

Councilman Allman said he did not have an issue with this specific request, but the general guideline of 25% is vague. He gave an example of a 650 square foot building, 25% would not cover that application. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that was just a condition the Planning Commission provided.

Mayor Dickens asked if it would be 25% or a minimum amount of floor space. Councilman Allman believed it should be a minimum requirement or 25%. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was discussed for a building under a certain size, could not have first floor residential.

Mayor Dickens closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit request from David and Renee Cannon to allow residential use on the first floor of Nottoway County Tax Map Number 50A27-1-X-10, also known as 123 S. Main Street per the drawing provided.

Councilman Nash said there was still work to be done on total square footage, and perhaps create tiers.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Nay
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

2. CDBG – Taylor Bottom – Phase I

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby issued that the Blackstone Town Council will convene a public hearing at the town office on June 15, 2026, at 7 P.M., for the Community Development Block Grant proposal for Taylor's Bottom Improvement- Phase I. This hearing is a requisite step for securing funding from the Department of Housing and Community Development and other funding entities.

This public hearing will discuss the proposed housing rehabilitation project and drainage system in the area referenced above. All residents, interested parties, governmental agencies, and organizations are invited to provide their insights and comments.

Maps, drawings, and other relevant documents will be available for public viewing upon request from the Community Development Specialist. Individuals interested in the project's design, location, construction, and housing are encouraged to attend and voice their opinions. Written statements may be submitted either before or during the hearing.

Please be advised: For projects necessitating a Finding of No Significant Impact Statement, the National Environmental Policy Act mandates a 30-day notice for noncontroversial projects and a 45-day notice for controversial projects. For projects that qualify for a categorical exclusion environmental statement, the department may mandate a public hearing, with advertisement timing needing to align with state law.

Comments and grievances can be submitted in writing to the Town of Blackstone at 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, VA 23824, or by phone at (434) 292-7251 until June 14, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. If you plan to attend and have any special needs requirements, please call the number listed above.

Mayor Dickens opened the Public Hearing.

Community Development Specialist Bryant said this is for the Taylor Bottom Phase 1 Carver Street project. She said this included getting updated pricing from Southside Outreach and Howerton Inspections for the homes. She said she spoke to the Grant Administration and was told two public hearings needed to be held. She said they are accepting the one Public Hearing held last September and tonight's Public Hearing will be the second.

Community Development Specialist Bryant said the Town is requesting from DHCD \$1.4 Million with the Town match being the same as before at \$660,000.00. She said this would include housing renovations, stormwater improvements and demolition. She said the Town's match includes one Workforce House and legal assistance for their properties. She said the grant would be submitted by the end of this month. She said she would be doing door to door surveys on Saturday.

Councilman Miller asked how many phases this project would be. Community Development Specialist Bryant replied two, Carver Street will be first, then apply again for Sullivan and Taylor Streets.

Mr. Timmy Gray asked about the heir properties. Community Development Specialist Bryant said the Town was including funds to help with legal assistance for the heir properties. She said work cannot be done if someone living in the house is not legally on the deed.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said instead of trying to transfer a deed, it may be a lifetime right document. Mr. Gray said he had talked to everyone involved and they were agreeable to sign.

Councilwoman Wynn asked Community Development Specialist Bryant what time she would be doing her door to door. Community Development Specialist Bryant replied 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mayor Dickens asked if a Spark Plug had been decided on to replace Mr. Eric Paul. Community Development Specialist Bryant said only two were needed, and they are Ms. Rachell Maddux and Ms. Theresa Lawson. Mr. Gray offered to help if needed.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if you are a recipient, you are not supposed to be a Spark Plug.

Councilman Miller suggested Ms. Ernestine Frisby as a spark plug.

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked when the deadline was for the application. Community Development Specialist Bryant replied, June 30th.

Mayor Dickens closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Miller made a motion authorizing the Town to submit a grant in the amount of \$1,406,130.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

3. FY27 Budget

*Town of Blackstone
Budget Summary
July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027*

Town staff is inviting all citizens of Blackstone 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 15, 2026 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 12, 2026.

Mayor Dickens opened Public Hearing.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the balanced budget was advertised at \$23,191,834.00.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there will be an increase in the fuel adjustment, which is already in place. He said there would be a pass through increase of 3.8% in the base rate for electric. He said there is also a 4% increase in sewer for Williams Pond Pump Station.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we have included money to widen S. Main Street, as a result of Tractor Supply coming. He said this will be \$650,000.00, with \$200,000.00 being provided by Tractor Supply. He said we have \$515,000.00 for the Dillard Crawley Building, which are grant funds from the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and DHCD. He said the developer is proposing over \$4 Million in construction.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said also included is the design for the Forest Drive Force Main and the Raw Water Line. He said we have a \$1,351,000.00 grant that is paying for the design and environmental services for the Raw Water Line. He said construction money was not included because we are still determining the direction. He said the Town has applied for several sources, to include the Health Department through our state senators and house of representatives for \$3 Million. He said we have also asked Senator Warner and Kaine to include in their appropriations for Congressional Direct Spending. He said we reported last month it was at \$1 Million, but is now a request for \$3 Million.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said also included is \$1.6 Million for water improvements at the Air Technology Park, which was an estimate in February, the cost is now \$3 Million. He said we will need assistance to make this project work.

Councilman Gormus asked if there was a fire pump in place now. Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is nothing there now. He said there are water lines throughout the Airport, but the lines do not have enough pressure for a sprinkler system.

Councilman Gormus questioned the diesel fire pump, is electric not an option. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that may be a generator, he did not think it would be diesel to run all the time. Councilman Gormus suggested getting another estimate for electric fire pump.

Councilman Nash said this may only initiate when there is a fire. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would check into this.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the budget does include a 2% raise for the employees, and a 7% increase in health insurance. Councilman Allman asked why the increase in health insurance. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know, but would ask for an explanation.

Councilwoman Wynn asked about Attorney Gee's insurance proposal. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was included in everyone's paystubs. He said this program would be started because five employees did sign up. He believed it would start July 1, 2026.

Mayor Dickens closed the Public Hearing.

Clerk Daniel said this meeting will be continued to Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. to adopt and appropriate the Budget.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION:

1. USDA – Raw Water Line

NOTICE OF INTENT TO FILE APPLICATION

The Town of Blackstone intends to file an application for federal financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Rural Utilities Service. The project includes improvements to the water distribution system. Any comments regarding this application should be submitted to the Town of Blackstone at 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, VA 23824 at the Regular Council Meeting on June 15, 2026 at 7:00 PM.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said USDA has provided a letter of commitment for the Raw Water Line project in the amount of \$9,334,000.00 in loan funds. He said this would be a 40 year amortization at 2.875% interest. He said at this time it does not include any grant funds.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if we take the Health Department Grant, likely they will want us to take their loan. He said we may have a blend of USDA and Health Department sources. He said the Town was still pursuing Congressional Direct Spending.

There were no questions from Council or the public.

MINUTES:

Councilwoman Wynn made a motion to dispense with reading and approve as presented the minutes from the Special Called Meeting on May 6, 2026 and the Regular Council Meeting on May 18, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

VISITORS:

1. Mr. Ronald Frisby

Mr. Frisby said he is officially running At-Large for Council. He said he was running in hopes of bringing unity and having everyone work together. He said his military experience taught him if we work together, we can make things happen. He said he grew up in Taylor Bottom, and currently lives on Fourth Street. He said he hears the cries of everybody, and wants to be their voice.

2. Mrs. Daphne Cole

Mrs. Cole was not in attendance.

3. Mrs. Debra Damon

Mrs. Damon asked if the increase in the Budget from last year is 11%. She said if so, is that standard? Councilman Nash said we have some big projects that inflate the budget. Mrs. Damon asked how much of the percentage is coming from the citizens. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the predominance will be coming from other sources. He said he would send her the information.

Councilman Allman said we are not raising taxes.

Councilman Nash said it was a \$2 Million increase from last year.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Deputy Chief Foster said the VDFP Grant for \$75,000.00 they received for turn-out gear were starting to come in. He said they applied for an RASF Grant for \$36,000.00 for a machine to go on the Rescue Truck.

Deputy Chief Foster thanked Council for approving the Food Truck Rodeos. He said their second one was Friday. He said 8 junior firefighters graduated from high school this past month, and will become active senior members in the future. He said Chief Beares just graduated from the Metro Richmond Leadership Academy.

Deputy Chief Foster announced the years of service.

Deputy Chief Foster said the fire department had secured \$367,000.00 in grant funding over last year.

NEW BUSINESS:

5. Fire Department – FEMA Grant – Fire Sprinklers

Assistant Chief Williams asked for permission to apply for a grant through FEMA to install fire sprinklers in the fire station. He said when the fire station was built, there were not enough funds to install sprinklers. He said currently there is \$9.5 Million of apparatus in the fire station. He said everything in the building is computer/electronically driven. He said the sprinklers would include the apparatus and living quarters.

Assistant Chief Williams said they would like to apply for \$100,000.00, but what gets authorized will likely be less. He said anything over the grant funded amount would be the responsibility of the Town. He said the estimates he has received range from \$75,000.00 - \$187,000.00.

Councilman Nash made a motion to authorize the Blackstone Fire Department to apply for \$100,000.00 through the FEMA Grant for a sprinkler system at the Blackstone Fire Station. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

Councilman Page suggested Manager Vannoorbeeck look at other Town facilities that may need a sprinkler system.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

ALREADY PAID:

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the bills that have already been paid in the amount of \$1,492,332.63. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Councilman Miller asked if the Town purchased a new bush hog. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no, we purchased a new cherry picker, and paid cash.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Nay
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

TO BE PAID:

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve as presented; the bills not yet paid in the amount of \$167,253.59. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Councilman Gormus pointed out the attorney fees at \$3,700.00 for the lawsuit.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

APPROPRIATIONS:

Appropriation #1 – Airport = \$659,568.50

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town had closed on the Airport property, and was now titled in the Town's name. He said the purchase was for \$659,568.50, and included closing costs, but was not included in the budget, he used Reserve Funds.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the appropriation as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

There were no committee meetings to report on.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. School Buildings – Asbestos Bid

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the one bid received last month was more than expected. He asked Council to reject the bid received and requested to rebid the project.

Councilman Nash made a motion to reject the only bid received from Modulus, LLC in the amount of \$202,495.00, and rebid the project. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Nay
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Nay
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

2. Virginia Business Ready Grant

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this application had been submitted because the deadline was June 1, 2026. He said the application was for \$3 Million to the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Building Ready Sites Program. He said this is for the water improvements at the Airport Technology Park. He said this will also include any other property that does not already have a booster pump.

Councilman Nash believed the Tower and new Fire Station aren't occupied yet because of this. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was not sure about the Fire Station, but was certain about the Tower.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town will have \$1 Million by the next fiscal year through the monies increased with Pickett's rates.

Councilman Page asked if we could do the large water projects in phases, to see some short term benefits. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, maybe. He said we will also be asking the Tobacco Commission and the Department of Aviation for assistance.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town's match was covered by the purchase of the property and the \$82,000.00 for engineering reports.

Councilman Allman asked if this included the new construction and the federal side. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes.

Councilman Nash made a motion to ratify the submission of the Virginia Business Ready Grant application for \$3 Million. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

3. TRC – B&B Consultants – Task Order #6

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is for widening a portion of S. Main Street for the Tractor Supply project. He said this Task Order is in the amount of \$55,000.00 for the design of turning lanes and widening S. Main Street.

Councilman Page made a motion to authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to execute Task Order #6 in the amount of \$55,000.00 for widening a portion of S. Main Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

4. Fort Avenue Sewer – B&B Consultants – Task Order #7

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this work had already been done, but a task order had never been signed. He said DEQ needs a copy for the loan work.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there would be a Pre-Construction Meeting tomorrow morning, with the contractor, Brock Construction. He said this will be loan eligible and will be reimbursed when the loan closes.

Councilman Allman made a motion to ratify the expenditure for Task Order #7 for the Fort Avenue Sewer project in the amount of \$80,500.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

5. Reconductoring Work

Manager Vannoorbeeck said River City continues to replace electric lines. He said the Taylor Bottom and S. Main Street portion is completed. He said Mr. Dan Martin would like to add additional work while the contractor is here. He said this would include Center, Stokes and Scott Streets.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the original project was under budget and requesting Council authorize a change order based on a daily rate for 10 days of work. He said this would be in a not to exceed amount of \$120,000.00.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the original amount was supposed to be \$650,000.00, but the bids came in at \$325,000.00. He said with the change order we would still be under budget by \$200,000.00. He said if the contractors finish in under 10 days, there would be some work on Velma, Gravatt, Maben and Courthouse Road.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said because this represents more than 25% of the original bid price, this requires Council approval.

Councilman Page asked how much more in material will this cost. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know.

Councilman Nash asked if the savings had already been allocated for something else. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no, this is being paid for with a loan, and will only draw down what is needed.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the Change Order with River City in the amount of \$120,000.00 for reconductoring work on Center, Stokes and Scott Streets. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Councilman Nash asked if the rate being provided was a better deal than if they were to just come back. Manager Vannoorbeeck said they provided a daily rate.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

6. Industrial Development Authority – Nominations

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we may have a project that is requesting assistance through the IDA. He said he was contacted by the Tobacco Commission about the Town's IDA, he told them yes, we have an IDA, but was not sure if all vacancies had been filled.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Ms. Daphne Williams and Mr. Morgan Quicke have offered to serve.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve Ms. Daphne Williams and Mr. Morgan Quicke to the Industrial Development Authority. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

7. Police Department – Starting Salary Adjustments

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we do not have to adjust the budget for this. He said at one time the Town surpassed the County in salary, but is not the case now. He said the current starting salary is \$47,000.00, with an increase to \$48,800.00 upon completion of the Academy.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Chief Murphy is requesting starting salaries for police officers be raised to \$55,000.00. Councilman Page asked if this was reflected in the budget. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no. Chief Murphy said it would apply to three officers this year.

Chief Murphy said there is one person in the Academy currently, and graduates this month, and would get the biggest jump to \$56,000.00. He said for all three employees effected; it will cost \$5,000.00 extra. He said the raises have the officers where they need to be, but now he would not have to adjust anyone at the bottom. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this will include those already hired.

Chief Murphy said the County is at \$56,000.00, so he wanted to match them.

Councilman Miller asked if the request was for \$56,000.00 and in five years be at \$59,000.00. Chief Murphy replied yes.

Chief Murphy said the steps are starting salary, year one through five increase, then a ten year increase.

Councilman Allman made a motion to approve the Police Department salary adjustments as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

ON-GOING PROJECTS:

1. Dilapidated Buildings

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we have a Court Order for 819 Falls Street. He said he has ordered the asbestos abatement to be done. He was expecting Town staff to tear the house down. He said he did show this to Chief Beares, and he did not have a problem with burning it.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is nothing to report on 915 Falls Street.

2. Meals Tax / Lodging Tax

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is still a delinquency for a restaurant in Town. He said Treasurer Stith and he spoke to TACS and this restaurant is not 90 days in arrears yet. He said the Treasurer's Lien had been attempted, but their checking account could not be found.

Councilman Gormus said he did not see a figure owed. Clerk Daniel said according to Utility Billing Clerk Williams, they did an estimate from the past six months. She said what they estimated for March is \$96.79 and April is \$105.41. Council believed those figures were low. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the correct amount would be collected.

Councilman Nash asked if they were filing currently. Clerk Daniel said they had not turned anything in.

Councilman Miller asked if they were still operating. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes.

Councilman Gormus asked if the taxes paid previously were paid with a check. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know.

Councilman Page suggested staff talk to them again to get them back on track.

3. Street Improvement Projects

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Commonwealth Transportation Board is scheduled to meet on June 17, 2026. He said included in the Six Year Plan; it is being recommended to fully fund the TAP 21 Project. He said this will include curb/gutter and sidewalk on the west side of College Avenue, between Fourth and Eighth Streets, then from College to Brunswick to tie into the existing curb and gutter. He said the second project is N. Amelia Avenue, between Barbara's Bridge and Amelia Avenue. He said this will include curb/gutter on both sides and sidewalk on the west side, and an overlay of pavement.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if these are approved, he will provide documents to Council. He said this will require roughly \$300,000.00 of Town match for both projects. He said we will have four years to save for the match.

Councilman Gormus asked if VDOT Funds could be used for this. Councilman Nash said if we wait four years, the prices will go up.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said in the money market account we set aside VDOT funds for construction projects. He said if the S. Main project for Tractor Supply stays in budget, he will have \$200,000.00 set aside for College Avenue. Councilman Gormus said we get \$300,000.00 a quarter from VDOT.

Councilman Nash believed we could just widen shoulders and do this project cheaper.

4. Wigglesworth Sports Complex

Councilman Miller asked about the status of lining the field. Manager Vannoorbeeck said nobody had talked to him.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he spoke with Ms. Wilson last week and asked her where she wanted the scoreboard. Councilman Miller said he would check with them on lining the football field.

5. Dillard Crawley Building – 114 S. Main Street

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Planning Commission was scheduled to meet July 6th for a Conditional Use Permit. He said the Public Hearing for Council will be at the August meeting.

Mayor Dickens said the commercial storefronts will have one way in and one way out. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that is what shows on the drawing. Councilman Nash believed Building Code would take care of this.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. McCormack is aware of the Cannon's request, but he is offering less than the 25% for the nonresidential portion.

Councilman Nash asked to be provided the breakdowns in percentages for residential and nonresidential.

6. Weatherization

There was nothing to report.

7. Workforce Housing

There was nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. MOA – State Police Driving School – Annual Waste Services Agreement

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is required by the State Police, and prepared by them. He said garbage rates were not raised this year.

Councilman Allman made a motion to approve the annual State Police Driving School Waste Services Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

2. VAcorp Insurance Renewal

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is specific to the Town's Liability, Property/Casualty and Worker's Comp insurance. He said the premium has increased by \$11,109.00.

Councilman Nash made a motion to renew insurance with Vacorp in the amount of \$231,380.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.

Councilman Nash questioned the premium increase. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know, but would find out.

Councilman Allman asked about the claim for the generator at the Reservoir. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the Town would be getting a check.

Councilwoman Williams asked if the Town had a lot of worker's comp claims. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, not really, but the police department is a large component of the worker's comp.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

Councilman Nash said the insurance company recommended increasing deductibles to save money. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the current deductible is \$500.00.

3. Armory Rental Request – 11-7-26

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. Nathaniel Miller is requesting to have his birthday party at the Armory on November 7, 2026. He said the request includes a DJ and alcohol will be consumed on the premises. Mr. Miller said it will not be BYOB.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said an ABC License and alcohol insurance will be required.

Councilman Gormus asked if the 10:00 p.m. requested is to end at 9:00 p.m. and an hour to clean up. Councilman Miller asked what the policy was for cleaning the next day. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would be ok with cleaning the next day.

Councilman Gormus said we don't know what the schedule would be the next day. Councilman Nash added whatever the Policy says that is what you follow.

Council suggested checking the schedule for the next day.

Councilman Page made a motion to approve the Armory Rental Request as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

4. Statement of Qualifications – Architectural Services

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town received 8 statements of qualification, but do not include a dollar figure. He said the Town is currently using HDH Architecture, and the term has expired. He asked if the Buildings, Property & Cemetery Committee would like to interview a short list.

Councilman Nash said he would like to see dollar figures. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed that was more during the interview process.

5. Fire Department – FEMA Grant – Fire Sprinklers

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

6. Award Bid – (2) Pad Mounted Transformers

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we received 12 bids for 300kVA transformers. He said the Town will be purchasing 2, one for Tractor Supply and the other as a spare. He said the Town's engineer prepared the specs. He said the engineer's recommendation is to purchase the transformers from WEG in the amount of \$33,818.00.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we are wanting to order now because of the lead times.

Councilman Nash asked if both would be paid for by Tractor Supply. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed it was fair to charge them for only one.

Councilman Page asked about the other bids not meeting qualifications. Manager Vannoorbeeck one didn't include a bid bond, and one included a reconditioned product. He said they do a load evaluation and the efficiency of equipment over a period of time.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the bid to WEG in the amount of \$33,818.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

7. Award Bid – WTP – Aluminum Sulfate

Clerk Daniel said Mr. Edward Harris bids this out annually per wet pound price. She said the low bid is from Chemtrade at \$0.0708 per wet pound. She said the low bid last year was \$0.07.

Councilman Allman made a motion to award the low bid to Chemtrade in the amount of \$0.0708 per wet pound for aluminum sulfate at the Water Treatment Plant. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed he purchases sulfate monthly.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

8. Award Bid – Janitorial Services

Manager Vannoorbeeck read the bid tabulation, and said staff approached him about hiring a part time employee. He said with an \$8,000.00 increase this year in bids, he was requesting to reject the bids received and asked to hire a part time person.

Councilman Miller made a motion to reject the janitorial bids received, and hire a part time custodian. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

9. Award Bid – Exterminating

Clerk Daniel said only one bid was received, and is the current company the Town is using. She said last year's bid was \$4,366.25, and this year's bid is \$4,446.00. She said the total price includes termite inspections for each building.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the bid to Central Virginia Exterminating in the total amount of \$4,446.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

10. Award Bid – Hood Extinguisher Maintenance

Clerk Daniel said this was the first time bidding, and this request came from the fire department, and may be used at the Armory. She said no bids were received.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we will have to find someone that can do these inspections.

11. Award Bid – Welcome Signs

Clerk Daniel said only one bid was received, and is the current company the Town is using. She said this year's bid from Clay's Garden Center is \$3,600.00, with last year's bid at \$3,500.00.

Councilman Allman made a motion to award the bid to Clay's Garden Center for the Welcome Signs in the amount of \$3,600.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Abstain

12. Award Bid – Turf Management

Clerk Daniel said only one bid was received, and is the current company the Town is using. She said this includes Wigglesworth, Seay Park, Fire Department and the Medical Center. She said last year's bid from Lawn Solutions 4 U was \$14,180.00, with this year's bid being \$14,665.00.

Councilman Allman made a motion to award the bid to Lawn Solutions 4 U for the turf management in the amount of \$14,665.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

13. Award Bid – Preventative Maintenance – Garage Doors

Clerk Daniel said the current company is Commonwealth Garage Doors at \$2,600.00. She said that included two visits annually at the Fire Station, Police Department and Bus Shop. She said no bids were received this year.

Councilman Nash asked if anyone called the vendors. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know.

Councilman Nash asked if Commonwealth Doors would continue with the price from last year. Clerk Daniel said we can check on that.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the Garage Door bid to Commonwealth Garage Doors if they will honor last year's price at \$2,600.00, if not, rebid the project. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

14. Award Bid – Irrigation Maintenance

Councilman Gormus asked if this included backflow prevention testing. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no. He said they do have backflow preventors and need to be inspecting them, but got hung up last time we discussed this.

Councilman Gormus believed we needed a list of where backflow preventors are located in Town.

Clerk Daniel believed the company that Mr. Edward Harris presented was going to do all the work.

Mayor Dickens referred this to the Fire and Water Committee.

Clerk Daniel said only one bid was received, and is the current company the Town is using. She said their bid was for \$2,855.00, with last year's bid at \$2,665.00.

Councilman Page made a motion to award the bid to Richmond Irrigation for maintenance at the Fire Station and Medical Center in the amount of \$2,855.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

15. Surplus List

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Transit Director Wilkinson prepared this for the 2007 International Cherry Picker. He said the new Cherry Picker was here.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the surplus list as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

16. Armory Rental Request – National Night Out – 8-7-26

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Blackstone Police Department was hosting the countywide event this year. He said they would like to have National Night Out on August 7, 2026 in the Armory.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the banner has sponsorships, and realized it was preprinted by the National Night Out group. Chief Murphy said the ads would be removed, and the sign has to be altered because it has the wrong date.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve National Night Out at the Armory on August 7, 2026, hang the banner at the Post Office, minus the ads, and waive the fee, and close High Street from Dinwiddie Avenue to Tavern Street. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

Councilman Miller asked when the community cook-outs would start. Chief Murphy said usually August or September.

17. Town Square Request – DBi – Music on Main Event – 6-17-26

Executive Director Glenn said DBi would like to host Music on Main in the Town Square. She said gates open at 5:30 p.m., with a DJ from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. She said they will be selling beer, wine, water and soft drinks. She said the cost is \$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for military, with kids 12 and under free.

Clerk Daniel clarified the date as June 17, 2026.

Councilman Miller said he and Executive Director Glenn talked and he thought the event was going to be in July. He said the public was not properly notified. Executive Director Glenn said it has been posted on Facebook; they don't have advertising dollars.

Councilman Miller said previously we had 30 days' notice, and requested in the future to provide notice. Executive Director Glenn said due to the litigation we have been going through; it put them behind. Councilman Allman said we will make sure next year to give 30 days.

Executive Director Glenn said they will be scheduled for the third Wednesday of each month for June, July, August and September.

Councilman Nash made a motion to waive the Noise Ordinance, no street closure, and allow beer and wine in the Town Square for June 17, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

18. Juneteenth Party – Falls Street – 6-20-26

Clerk Daniel said Mr. Wilburn contacted her about a Juneteenth party. She said he informed her they were not associated with the Juneteenth Committee. She said they are requesting to have the party on Saturday, June 20, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Clerk Daniel asked Mr. Wilburn to let the neighbors know. She said Mr. Wilburn's request was to close Falls Street from 711 Falls Street to Freeman Street.

Councilman Nash said if there are issues that have arisen before an event, Council would like to know.

Councilman Nash made a motion to waive the Noise Ordinance and close Falls Street from 711 Falls Street to Freeman Street from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 20, 2026. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

19. Dept. of Criminal Justice – Byrne Justice Grant – Police Department-K9

Manager Vannoorbeeck said included is a notice of award in grant funds for \$24,981.00. He said the local match is \$8,325.00, which will be in kind services. He said the purpose of the grant is to begin a K9 Patrol Narcotics Program. He said Mr. Jesse Marlow will be the assigned officer to lead the effort.

Manager Vannoorbeeck requested authorization to execute the documents and accept the award.

Councilman Page made a motion to authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to execute the grant award in the amount of \$24,981.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

20. Rotary – Motorless Parade – 7-4-26

Councilman Nash said this would be Saturday, July 4, 2026 starting at 10:00 a.m. He said it typically takes 20 minutes for the public to walk from the monument on Tavern Street to Seay Park.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve the request as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

COMMITTEE REFERRALS:

Mayor Dickens referred backflow preventors to the Fire & Water Committee.

Councilman Page said if we are going to stop General Business activities in the General Business area on first floors, this needs to be in the Town's ordinance clearly stated. He said we also need to iron out the percentages for first floor commercial. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this would need to go to the Planning Commission.

Mayor Dickens referred architect interviews to the Buildings, Property & Cemetery Committee.

MAYORS MINUTE:

Mayor Dickens read some words that were not his own. He said a Christian married a Muslim, and had a daughter who grew up Christian, and later married a Jew. He said she later converted to Judaism, and had a son Noah Epstein. He said in Mr. Epstein's 2026 Harvard University commencement speech, spoke these words "the counter to division isn't necessarily agreement, it is understanding". There are two sides to every story, argument or disagreement. He said as you can imagine his family disagreed on a great number of things. He said many differences were never resolved, but they never allowed their ideological differences to become a point of division. Yet somewhere in between their generation and ours, Noah pointed out something in the conversation shifted, the debate got louder, the noise got louder, the listening stopped, it got harder in the news on your timeline at the dinner table. People speaking without listening, and arguing having already decided their allegiances. People debating not to understand or to learn, but to win, to humiliate, to be right. Somewhere along the way, the person sitting across the table stopped being a person and became an obstacle. Some would say there are in fact people in this world for whom understanding isn't even owed or worth the attempt. People whose unredeemable actions or dialogue have indeed become obstacles to the greater good, and maybe that's true, but because these people are human, one should ask how did they arrive at their conclusions.

Peace through understanding can survive conflict, while peace through agreement only lasts as long as people keep agreeing. In most cases understanding is difficult, sometimes you have to fight for it, sometimes you have to fight yourself and own beliefs before you can achieve it, it takes effort. When you encounter those whose opinions you don't agree with, certainly stand up for what you think is right, but ask them why they have the opinion they have, listen as though you might be wrong. It is not a weakness or a betrayal of your own ideals, that is the hardest and most important thing that you can do in a world that is constantly telling you pick a side. In a time this complicated and divided, understanding and a genuine willingness to look at bit deeper is how those divisions start to heal.

Mayor Dickens played a clip from his phone. Receive God's Mercy Deeply.

POLICE REPORT:

There was nothing reported.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mr. William Clarke

Mr. Clarke asked about the power structure between the Town and DBi. Councilman Nash said his understanding is Council has no power over DBi. Councilman Allman added power of the purse. Councilman Nash said an employee is paid by the Town, but we have no say over what the Board does.

Mr. Clarke asked how many members are there employed by the Town. Councilman Gormus said one, Mrs. Sallie Glenn is the Director. Councilman Page said Ms. Chastiddy Bryant was on the Board. Councilman Allman said she is not a voting member. Councilman Page added, Councilman Allman.

Ms. Teresa Gilcrest – 610 E. Broad Street

Ms. Gilcrest thanked Manager Vannoorbeeck and all those that helped her get in her new home.

Ms. Gilcrest asked if it was legal for dogs to run rampant, and do their business in a yard. She said if we know the owners, are they responsible for cleaning up.

Councilman Page said the Town has a strict animal control Ordinance. Ms. Gilcrest said there are dogs on Viewbank Street, and owned by those that were arrested. Councilman Miller said he was aware of this, and working on it, and the Police Chief is aware. He said the only thing left to do it get animal control involved.

Councilman Page said someone's dog relieving themselves in someone else's yard is disrespectful. He suggested installing a ring camera and show it to the police officers.

Mrs. Damon said she was still coming up with 11% plus for the budget, and asked Councilman Nash how he came up with 7%. Councilman Nash said he was still coming up with 7.5%.

Ms. Pamela Hawkes

Ms. Hawkes was concerned about the residents that live at Magnolia Place parking on Church Street. She said coming from Amelia Avenue to go over the bridge, she cannot see. Councilman Nash suggested moving parking back at least two spaces.

Chief Murphy said he would check into this.

Ms. Daphne Williams

Ms. Williams said she has residences on Second Street and Nottoway Avenue. She said the grass across from her on Second Street needs to be cut. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it is the hill outside the fence at Magnolia Place. He said Magnolia Place cut it for years, but has now stopped.

Ms. Williams asked to get the alley behind her cut. She said there is trash everywhere on Tunstall in the field behind Nottoway Manor, and the grass needs to be cut.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we do not need to go into Closed Session for Personnel matters tonight.

CLOSED SESSION:

Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711-A

- 1/ ~~Personnel~~—Administration
- 7/ Legal Matters

Councilman Miller made a motion to go into Closed Session for (7) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Dickens asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Aye
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

Councilman Nash made a motion to certify that to the best of each member's knowledge only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened, were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Certify
Councilman Gormus	-	Certify
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Certify
Councilman Page	-	Absent
Councilwoman Williams	-	Certify
Councilman Miller	-	Certify
Councilman Nash	-	Certify

Mayor Dickens said we need a motion to accept the settlement offer as presented and discussed in Closed Session concerning Christopher Page and the Town of Blackstone, Jacob Allman, Sallie Manson Buchanan Glenn and DBi collectively.

Councilman Allman made a motion to authorize Mayor Dickens to sign said Agreement. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Dickens asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilman Allman	-	Aye
Councilman Gormus	-	Nay
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Aye
Councilman Page	-	Absent
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye

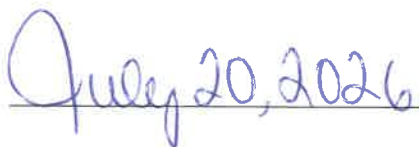
Mayor Dickens said before he signs, he wanted to emphasize #2, Denial of Wrongdoing, which reads as follows:

It is understood that this Agreement constitutes a compromise of disputed facts and claims. The Town, DBi, Mr. Allman and Mrs. Glenn expressly deny any liability or wrongdoing on any basis. Neither this Agreement nor this compromise shall in any way be construed as an admission by any party of any unlawful or wrongful acts whatsoever, and the Town, DBi, Mr. Allman and Mrs. Glenn, specifically disclaim any liability to or wrongful acts against Mr. Page individually or collectively.

Mayor Dickens continued this meeting to Thursday, June 25, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Dickens adjourned this meeting at 10:00 p.m.

 MAYOR
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

 APPROVED AND ADOPTED

 TOWN CLERK
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA