

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, May 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

There Were Present:

Mayor: William D. Coleburn

Council Members: Annie Scott, Shelia Jones, Lonnie Morgan, Carolyn Williams, Nathaniel Miller, Eric Nash

Town Staff: Philip Vannoorbeeck, Town Manager; Jennifer Daniel, Town Clerk; Brittany Harris, Treasurer; Jennifer Hardy, Finance Director; Dion Tomer, Fire Chief; Nicholas Kuzmiak, Police Chief

Town Attorney:

Those Absent: Jake Allman

Mayor Coleburn called the May Council Meeting to order.

Mayor Coleburn delivered the Invocation.

Mayor Coleburn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. Floodplain Ordinance

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF BLACKSTONE

The Town of Blackstone Town Council shall hold a Public Hearing on May 16, 2022 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 Zoning Ordinance Amendment that would establish a Flood Plain Overlay District along with terms and conditions applicable to construction within the proposed district. The Town Council may act on this proposed ordinance following this public hearing. Any person desiring to speak for or against the request should attend the Public Hearing at the above stated date and time.

Mayor Coleburn said this Public Hearing was to ratify adopting a Floor Plain Ordinance. He said Manager Vannoorbeeck had explained to Council that there is only about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre that is eligible for Federal Flood Insurance, however, if the Town did not adopt this Ordinance, it could hurt the Town's chance of getting FEMA money after severe storms.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this had been advertised and the Planning Commission had already met because this is a Zoning Ordinance modification. He said there are two locations for flood plains, one being on Jason Walker's property and the junction of Highway 460, and the second location is a creek bottom called Rocky Bump, near Route 40.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said public hearings were scheduled, but he and the Mayor received phone calls saying May 3, 2022 was the deadline. He said the Town still had \$283,000.00 pending with FEMA from the ice storm.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Council had already adopted this Ordinance on May 2, 2022, so this is the ratification.

Mayor Coleburn opened the Public Hearing and asked if there was anybody here to speak for or against this proposed Ordinance.

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing.

Councilman Nash made a motion to ratify the previously adopted Flood Plain Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

2. Ward Boundaries / Polling Places / Plan 1b

LEGAL NOTICE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT
May 4, 2022

In accordance with Volume 5A, Title 24.2, Elections, of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended and pursuant to Sections 24.2-129 and 24.2-306, the Blackstone Town Council hereby gives notice of certain proposed amendments to the Code of the Town of Blackstone regarding the voting ward boundary lines and the location of certain polling places. In order to correct population deviations in the election wards as determined by the 2020 decennial census, some lines in each of the five voting wards are proposed to be modified. If approved, the changes to each ward would be as follows:

Ward A: *Areas along Sullivan Street, Mann Street and Cryors Road shall move to Ward E, areas along South Main Street shall move to Ward C and areas along West Entrance Road shall be added to Ward A;*

Ward B: *Areas along Tenth Street and College Avenue shall move to Ward C and areas along South Main Street and Lunenburg Avenue shall be added to Ward B;*

Ward C: *Areas along South Main Street and Lunenburg Avenue shall move to Ward B and areas along South Main Street, Brown Street, Tenth Street and College Road shall be added to Ward C;*

Ward D: *Areas along Maben and Gravatt Avenues shall be added to Ward D;*

Ward E: *Areas along Maben and Gravatt Avenues shall move to Ward D and areas along Sullivan Street, Mann Street and Cryors Road shall be added to Ward E.*

Additionally, the five current polling places at: Blackstone Police Department located on West Elm Street, Nottoway County Music Building located on South Harris Street, Nottoway County Rescue Squad Building located on Third Street, Blackstone Public Works Building located on Church Street and Blackstone Town Hall located on West Elm Street are proposed to be consolidated into two polling places which would correspond with Nottoway County's two current polling places. These being the Blackstone Police Department and the Blackstone Primary School.

The Town Council intends to adopt this plan during its regularly scheduled meeting on May 16, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the Blackstone Town Hall, 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, VA.

Copies of the above files and full text of the proposed amendments are also available for review in the Blackstone Town Hall.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the public comment period expired on April 24, 2022, and Town staff has not received comments or complaints regarding the proposed boundary adjustments. He said if approved, the proposed Map and Ordinance would go into effect on June 4, 2022, which is 30 days following the published date of the attached legal notice.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the proposed map to be adopted is the Blackstone Redistricting Plan 1b. He said the Ordinance has been rewritten to include the new boundaries and polling places.

Mayor Coleburn said every 10 years there is a Census to be taken, and this time we lost some population in 2020. He said the most important thing this year and for the first time, this year's Town elections will be in November because of State legislature. He said what is being proposed tonight, and if you live in Blackstone, you will either vote at the Police Station or the Primary School. He said the County was going to make sure at both of these buildings in Town, that there are 5 different ballots.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said once this is finalized, he would work with Mr. Reynolds at the Registrar's Office.

Manager Vannoorbeeck pointed out Wards C and D would vote at the Police Station, with Wards A, B, and E voting at the Primary School.

Mayor Coleburn said there will be some outliers, so the Registrar will have to be prepared with ballots. He said what we don't want to do is tell people on Election Day in November, you get to go to two different locations to vote, because they will only go to one location.

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

Mayor Coleburn closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Coleburn said the Town has 5 Wards and 2 At-Large, with the Mayor being At-Large as well.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the Ward Boundaries, the Polling Places and Plan 1b as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

VISITORS:

VML Essay Winner – “If I Were Mayor”

Mayor Coleburn said if a small Town can't honor its children who do great things, then we ought to quit being a small Town. He said every year the Virginia Municipal League sponsors an essay contest called “If I Were The Mayor”. He said this is for 7th Graders Statewide. He said he goes to Nottoway and Kenston Forest every year and explains the essay, but more importantly, what mayors do in various town, including Blackstone. He said Ms. Cam Williams has had 3 winners in the past six years, from Region 4 and 8. He said Kailey was virtual the day he attended, but did not need to be in the room, she asked phenomenal questions, and one of the things that was dear to her heart is litter in Blackstone.

Mayor Coleburn said Kailey is 12 years old and the daughter of Matthew and Ashley Krotzer Oaks of Blackstone.

Ms. Bulova said with this year's essay, the students were asked to identify a problem in their community and talk about it with another person, then propose a solution. She said it was a very competitive year, with hundreds of submissions, and thought Kailey did the best job from Region 4.

Ms. Josette Bulova from VML, presented the “If I Were Mayor” Certificate and Button to Kailey Krotzer. Ms. Bulova said a copy of Kailey's essay would be posted in VML's May Magazine.

Ms. Julia McCleod – 711 Second Street, Blackstone, VA

Ms. McCleod asked what could be done about the cats that have taken over their neighborhood. She said last year she called and was told to call Nottoway, when she called Nottoway, they told her to call Burkeville, and when she called them, they told her to call Farmville. She said she did not pay taxes in Prince Edward County; she pays to Nottoway and Blackstone. She said cats are multiplying. She believed the cats were coming from the Manor, and they do not feed them.

Mayor Coleburn said Blackstone in 1995 adopted an Ordinance that says if you own a cat, it must have a collar with identification, otherwise it is deemed by law enforcement as a stray. He said the Town has identified an officer that wants to work in Animal Control, but we have to have after hours and weekend accessibility to the County shelter.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the agreement had been sent to the County, but they did not like it, it was one sided towards the Town.

Councilman Nash said the Town would be doing a County function, at the cost of our taxpayers, so it should be one sided.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he did not know the policy for cats, but dogs running at large are not illegal in Nottoway County, but it is in Blackstone. He did not think the County was enforcing dogs at large, unless there is an attack.

Mayor Coleburn said, increasingly as a society, we are animal lovers, but years ago if a cat was picked up and not claimed in 10 days, it was humanely destroyed, but now the Shelter is a no-kill, but nobody is inquiring to adopt a cat.

Mayor Coleburn said to Ms. McCleod, the passion she was showing here tonight, people also have to go to the courthouse and show the same passion. He said as the Mayor of Blackstone, he would next Thursday night, get on the Agenda, and relay Ms. McCleod's concerns and others to the Board of Supervisors. He said the Town does not have a department of animal control, but the County does. He invited Ms. McCleod to attend the Board of Supervisors meeting with him. Ms. McCleod said she would not be in Town.

Mrs. Jean Lacks – Pickett Court

Mrs. Lacks said she would be at every meeting until she gets what she wants. She asked when she would be getting the speed bumps and asked for 4.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said according to the Town's recently adopted Policy, we had the 10% of citizens needed in the audience at the last meeting. He said this has been presented to B&B Consultants, the Town's engineers, and we are waiting on their plan of where to place them and how many.

Mayor Coleburn said if you live in Blackstone and have a speeding problem in your neighborhood, and you want a speed bump where you have to drive over it yourself, that is a powerful argument.

Mrs. Lacks said there are lots of kids in the Pickett Court area. She said people that live in the area speed. Mayor Coleburn asked Chief Kuzmiak if he would run radar in the area.

Ms. Micah Lacks said Pickett Court needs 4 speed bumps, and people drive the wrong way.

Mr. Asher Maddox

Mr. Maddox said there are speeders on every street in Taylor Bottom. He said they come down Carver Street and then speed up Taylor Street, and he was tired of it. He said there had been a lot of gun shooting on Carver Street.

Mayor Coleburn asked Mr. Maddox if he was in favor of speed bumps in his area. Mr. Maddox said put anything there you want to slow people down.

Mayor Coleburn asked to add Carver and Taylor Streets to the list of traffic calming devices. He asked Chief Kuzmiak to do more patrolling on these streets.

MINUTES:

Councilman Nash made a motion to dispense with reading and approve as presented minutes from the Continued Meeting on March 9, 2022, the Regular Council Meeting on March 21, 2022 and the Special Called Meetings on April 4, 2022, April 12, 2022, May 2, 2022 and May 9, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Tomer said the Fire Department's Golf Tournament was a great success.

Chief Tomer said the County was looking at adopting a Statewide Fire Code, and then may trickle down to the Town. He said this will allow a Code to be in place for the Building Inspector to enforce. He said one of the issues was fireworks, and no Town Code could be found.

Chief Tomer said Engine 3 was here and currently had a representative from Pierce training individuals on the truck. He said the final Push In would be June 18, 2022 at 1:00 p.m., and then would be officially in service.

Chief Tomer said ladder testing was done on Friday, and is one of annual tests between air packs, ladders, hose, nozzles and pumps.

Chief Tomer said the Corner Kitchen did a luncheon yesterday for fire department members in appreciation for helping with their fire.

Chief Tomer said multiple members are doing training, and regrettably it is outside of Nottoway County.

Chief Tomer said the new engine has a device inside for Waze users, and if it is on the side of the road, it automatically alerts drivers.

Chief Tomer said the Town of Crewe has their fire hydrants flow tested to ensure the quality of water and fire flow. He said water flow depends on the size of the water main that goes to it. He said on Main Street, the most flow actually comes from High Street. He said NFPA Testing color codes the hydrant by flow. He said the current hydrants in Town were painted by members and painted by the size of the main that feeds the hydrant.

Mayor Coleburn referred hydrant flow to the Fire and Water Committee.

Manger Vannoorbeeck said he and Finance Director Hardy had a conference call with Ms. Tara Delaney. He said she did not provide a definitive on the grant portion, but they were discussing going back to a larger award. He said this would help outfit the truck.

Chief Tomer said some were scheduled to go in September for the prebuild of the Ladder Truck. He said the Town of South Hill just purchased a Rescue Truck at \$1.8 Million. He said things are expensive with replacements, but hoped with Mr. Hyde working for the County, there may be discussions of a tax levy, with the goal being to have a Capital Improvement Plan through the County as well for apparatus replacement.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Mayor Coleburn stated the bills that have already been paid are in the amount of \$738,309.00.

Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the bills that have already been paid in the amount of \$738,309.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Councilman Nash asked about expenses for patrol bikes for the Police Department. He asked if bike patrols were going to start again. Chief Kuzmiak replied yes.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Mayor Coleburn stated the bills not yet approved, and to be paid, are in the amount of \$221,508.11.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve as presented, the bills not yet paid in the amount of \$221,508.11. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Scott.

Councilman Nash asked about bunk room supplies, is this a pass through with ARPA money. Finance Director Hardy said if it was not requested prior, then no, the money was already sent back from CARES Funds.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

APPROPRIATIONS:

There were no appropriations this month.

Mayor Coleburn said Mr. Bobby Thomas has donated so much of his time and expertise to the history of this Town. He said we recently had 40 visitors from Wyoming that were passing through Blackstone on their way to a National Conference. He said Mr. Thomas and Mr. Sarafin gave guided tours.

Mayor Coleburn implored Council, in the upcoming budget, to have at least two positions so the museums are staffed. He said promises were made, and the Town has lived up to the legal agreement, but morally we have let the Thomas family down, we need to give this a try for at least 2-3 years, with ideal museum hours being Thursday through Sunday.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said in the budget this year, is a full time position, and he believed this person would be responsible for the museums. He said this position would pay \$50,000.00 a year, plus benefits. Mayor Coleburn said there could be some internships that won't cost a dime.

Mayor Coleburn said Mr. Thomas knows the history.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this position would also have a role with the Armory. Councilman Nash added DBi as well.

Clerk Daniel asked if this employee would handle the tours. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes, he would expect them to, or coordinating people for the tours. Mayor Coleburn said there would have to be some volunteers.

Mayor Coleburn said this is the right thing to do, not just for the Thomas Family, but for Blackstone, the time is now.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AIRPORT & TRANSPORTATION – MET 4-28-22 – MINUTES INCLUDED IN MAY'S COUNCIL PACKET

Mayor Coleburn said the Committee toured the Airport Facility.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town received a \$458,000.00 Grant to redo the taxiway and fueling apron. He said the project includes a final grade, then two shots of tar and gravel, then an asphalt overlay. He believed this project would be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

Councilman Nash asked if the Airport Committee could look into Town hangar rent, \$100 is quite antiquated. Finance Director Hardy believed lease agreements were needed for the hangars because of new auditing requirements.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if new hangers are needed, the Town would have to pay, the State does not pay for hangers. He said the current hangers in comparison to others, the Town's don't have concrete floors, we don't have bird proof tops, so we are lacking a few things.

Mayor Coleburn said he would like this Council to have a social event, and the prelude to breaking bread together would be a tour of the museums by Mr. Bobby Thomas. He asked that a date be set at the June Council Meeting.

BUILDINGS, PROPERTY & CEMETERY – MET 4-28-22 – MINUTES INCLUDED IN MAY'S COUNCIL PACKET

Roofing Projects - Update

Mayor Coleburn said the roof work at the Library and Medical Center was nearly done. He said there was a \$2,800.00 Change Order, to install a flat fascia board and remove the ornamental board that was going beyond the gutters.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said included in the upcoming budget was \$115,000.00 for roof repairs at the Fire Station. He said the roof replacement at Schwartz Tavern was in the budget as well. He said he would like to get assistance from Mr. Brian Green, on the historical aspect of the building for repairs.

Seay Park

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Committee was going to visit Seay Park for ideas.

Armory

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he had met with Virginia State, and they have said verbally they are interested in having a hospitality presence in the Armory.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he formally received notice for the \$250,000.00 Grant for abatement.

Clerk Daniel said in the Committee Meeting, Mr. Eric Paul mentioned Virginia Tech may be a contact, and may have more funds to help with kitchen equipment.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Virginia State has not committed any monies, nor has the Town asked for any.

Mayor Coleburn asked to add under Ongoing Projects, the Armory.

Sprinkler Systems

Councilman Nash clarified this should be irrigation systems, they are already at the Medical Center and Fire Station. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he did not think Dorin Landscaping was interested. He said he would bid it out.

Plaque – Mr. John Neal

Manager Vannoorbeeck said a bench and plaque were discussed for Mr. Neal. He said Ms. Carol Lyons obtained quotes for benches, which range from \$1,017.00 to \$1,600.00. He said the Town would be looking at not exceeding \$2,000.00.

Mayor Coleburn asked if Council wanted to have a Memorial Committee.

Councilman Miller made a motion to establish a Memorial Committee that will honor past and present citizens.

Councilwoman Williams believed the families should come to Council, and then look at it on a case by case basis.

Mayor Coleburn said the Neal family was easy to determine, and then gave an example of someone requesting a plaque for “uncle Jethro” coaching for 16 years, and who will say no, it is a slippery slope.

Councilman Nash asked this go back to the Committee for the Neal bench. He said they discussed a place for bricks and can memorialize more people and not be so costly.

Mayor Coleburn said he did not hear a second to Councilman Miller’s motion, but did hear a willingness from Council to be receptive to those that approach us, and use a measure of history, with the facts to back it up.

INSURANCE – MET 5-4-22 – MINUTES INCLUDED IN MAY’S COUNCIL PACKET

VRSA – Worker’s Comp / Liability / Auto Insurance Renewal

Councilman Morgan said the Committee met and discussed the renewal with VRSA and recommended going with the existing plan in the amount of \$219,557.00. He said this included the Town’s Worker’s Comp, Liability and Auto Insurance.

Mayor Coleburn said it had decreased from last year.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said option 2 was cheaper, but had a higher deductible. Finance Director Hardy said each occurrence is \$1 Million.

Councilman Morgan made a motion to renew Worker’s Comp, Liability and Auto Insurance with VRSA, using Option 1, in the amount of \$219,557.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

EMPLOYMENT & POLICE – MET 5-4-22 – MINUTES INCLUDED IN MAY’S COUNCIL PACKET

Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant Pay Scale

Councilman Miller said included in the packet is the proposed pay scale for the Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant. He said this will include a \$.75 raise for every 5 years. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this would take effect July 1, 2022.

Mayor Coleburn said the Town is getting poached, because our water and sewer operators are dually licensed. He said water is the most vital we do. Councilman Morgan said Blackstone is one of the few areas that have licensed operators for water and sewer.

Councilman Nash said he agreed with the step increases as you take classes, but someone can receive a raise and not do more. Finance Director Hardy said, that is after you have received your licensure, and is more a retention bonus. She said the Operator in Training pay scale is now starting at \$16.50, with the step raises being \$1.50 each.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the proposal for departments now is when you get your CDL or any licensure, you get \$1.50, instead of just \$1.00.

Councilman Nash said with the increases, is there a contract for the Water/Wastewater Treatment Plant operators. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Electric Department and Police Department have a contract, but he did not believe there was one at the plants.

Ms. Beverly Ambs asked if this was an educational opportunity to start at Vo-Tech. She said she would talk to Dr. Grimes.

Employment Opportunities / Update on Current Employment

There was nothing reported.

Update on Human Resources Consultant

There was nothing reported.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Back to School Party – Bucket Trucks Showcase – 8-15-22

Mayor Coleburn said Mrs. Marcia Martin has made this request, to perhaps build excitement for back to school. He said this would be on Monday, August 15, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the Bucket Truck Showcase on Monday, August 15, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Nottoway Complex. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

2. Street Closure – School Street – 5-28-22

Mayor Coleburn said on Saturday, May 28, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Mr. Melvin Hicks would like to have School Street closed for his daughter’s graduation.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve the street closure and waive the Noise Ordinance for Mr. Hicks on May 28, 2022 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Cox Road Waterline

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this was mainly informational, but because we have not heard back from the County, and the grant window with the Health Department Grant had passed, plus the cost has gone up appreciably, the letter enclosed was sent to the County. He said the Town did submit for Taylor Bottom, the Aeration System and replacement of the Raw Water Line.

Mayor Coleburn said he talked to his father, Mr. Doug Coleburn, a former councilman, and was asked by Mr. Coleburn, if you run the waterline, how does the Town or County legally make somebody connect to the line. Manager Vannoorbeeck said what was done in Amelia was there was a boundary for a sanitary district, and they went to the General Assembly to mandate connections.

Mayor Coleburn said for three years the Town has tried, he said there have been papers left on people's desks, but what he remembers most is in July 2019, asking for the County's blessing, he did not believe the Town got a reply for two years.

2. BABS Lane – Sale of Property

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was awaiting the appraisal. He said the Town received two submittals interested in the property. He said S. Walker Construction is still interested, but had not heard much from the gentleman that was proposing solar panels.

3. Board of Zoning Appeals Nomination

Mayor Coleburn said if Council did not have a name tonight, he wanted to verify a person and report at the next Council Meeting.

4. Private Property Ditches

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Councilwoman Jones had brought to Council's attention a ditch on N. West Avenue. He said he received a cost estimate and will include from the railroad track to N. West Avenue, and then beyond Mr. Robert Evans' house in the amount of \$87,650.00. He said this includes engineering and contingencies.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Council asked him to contact South Hill and Farmville. He said he believed their policies were, don't do it, but they indicated in particular instances they have gone on private property when requested. He said Clerk Daniel had VRSA provide an opinion, and they were not overwhelmingly in favor of going on private property.

Mr. Aaron Somerville said you all are saying it is private property, but there is stagnant water coming through there all the time, he removed 12 moccasins from his yard last year. He said he has an 8 year old daughter that cannot play in the yard because of rats, snakes, and mosquitos. He said it may be private property, but the Town is liable because the water is draining from somewhere, no neighbor built a ditch. He said the Town used to clean the ditch years ago. He said the ditch goes towards Mr. Evans' house and has washed his land away.

Mayor Coleburn asked how long the area asking to be repaired is. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, 225 linear feet.

Councilman Nash asked where the water comes from. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, above N. West Avenue and may come from Mr. Walter Mac Osborne's property.

Councilman Nash said the estimate for Dillard Street, \$51,000.00, that could not be for the whole ditch. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that is only 100' of the ditch.

Mayor Coleburn asked if ARPA money or VDOT funds could be used. Manager Vannoorbeeck said VDOT would not cover private property.

Mayor Coleburn said if the property is not Mr. Somerville's according to his survey, then whose property is it. Manager Vannoorbeeck said either Mr. Somerville or Mattie Neal's property.

Councilman Morgan asked if the ditch area could be cleaned until a decision is made. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was a narrow area and would be hard to get equipment in there. He said on Mr. Evans' side, there was nothing to be done except repairing it.

Mayor Coleburn said if Council says tonight, let's fix these ditches, what can the Town do to fund this project. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would have to scrounge around to find money, because there are already some commitments that need to be finished up this fiscal year. He said we can look at the upcoming budget and try to find the funding.

Mayor Coleburn said we need a list of the most pressing ditches that need repair, with 1 of 2 being done every year. Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. Evans' ditch is the most pressing.

Councilwoman Jones said if you are doing Mr. Evans' ditch area, you may as well do the whole area at the same time.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said an easement would be needed to enter the property, and should be a permanent easement in order to maintain it.

Councilman Nash said there are issues like this all over town. He said he was still against going on private property, but thought the Town could help Mr. Evans because it is affecting his house.

Mr. Robert Evans said his ditch is like a landfill, there are tires, bathtubs, barrels, etc.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he could get staff to take the mini excavator next to Mr. Sommerville's house to clean it out for now. He said Mr. Armes' ditch has some tree growing up in it, it is just a big hole.

Clerk Daniel mentioned ARPA Funds were being used temporarily for interim financing, and asked if the grant was awarded, would those ARPA Funds then be available for the ditch work. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that money was planned to replace meters, and did not think it could be used on private property.

Mayor Coleburn said if this request is approved, it will start a domino effect, he knows of 4 other families with a ditch request.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to move forward with repairing the ditches on N. West Avenue.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said \$87,000.00 was going to be a challenge to find now. He said maybe do one and then consider the next one.

Councilman Nash believed there should be some kind of leverage or agreement where some of the cost should be borne by the property owner. Mr. Somerville said the ditch didn't grow by itself; it comes from the Town.

Mayor Coleburn talked about Mr. May's property on Sullivan Street. Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. May paid \$800.00 towards the repairs. Councilman Nash said the Town went on Mr. May's property because the Town had a sewer line in there.

Councilwoman Williams seconded the motion.

Councilwoman Williams asked to clean the ditch out temporarily, while coming up with the funds. Councilman Nash believed that would be a moot point because the Town has the money somewhere, why waste time in temporarily fixing it. Councilwoman Williams said it is not going to happen in the next few weeks, so she was trying to be realistic. Manager Vannoorbeeck said getting easements will take the longest.

Clerk Daniel clarified; the motion includes the temporary ditch clean-up.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Nay
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

5. Leachate Rates

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Attorney Bacon has an Ordinance to be adopted, stating the Town, not only for the County, can accept septage from third party haulers. He said also included is an agreement that can be modified for each individual with septage. He said the current rate for accepting septage is \$.15 a gallon. He said currently the Town is charging eight tenths of a cent per gallon on half of the volume of leachate.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Committee had met with members from the County, and what has been verbally agreed upon is \$.01 for every gallon of leachate delivered.

Councilman Morgan made a motion to approve the Agreement presented, along with charging \$.15 per gallon of septage and \$.01 per gallon of leachate, this also includes advertising for Public Hearing the sewage and leachate Ordinance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Councilman Nash said this Agreement is only if the County agrees to keep their fees lower. Manager Vannoorbeeck said right now the County charges \$3.00 a head, and believed it was going to stay at that amount. He added the County is waiving the sludge disposal fees as part of the Agreement.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the County was going up on items, such as tires and construction debris.

6. Taylor Bottom Block Grant

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town had submitted a grant application to the Department of Health to replace water lines in the Taylor Bottom neighborhood. He said the purpose of applying for this is two fold, one being there is money available, and we can prove there is presence of lead because of the age and type of piping.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the Town could get as much as \$1 Million in grant for the water portion. He believed this would be the start of a Block Grant project. He said if awarded, this would be the Town's match.

Mayor Coleburn asked about curb, gutter and lighting. Manager Vannoorbeeck said curb and gutter yes, everybody likes that as long as it doesn't cost anything.

Councilman Nash said the bill for \$7,770.00 for Taylor Bottom Improvements, that was reimbursable, is that part of this. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that was for the preliminary engineering report, and ARPA Funds had been committed for this.

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked if everybody was in consensus with this project. Council agreed.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if you look at the East End, look what has come, in part because the streets look better, and can spur private investment.

Councilman Miller asked about paving in the East End. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it may have to be tar and gravel for the winter. He said the water and sewer contractors are done, except for digging out the trenches and putting asphalt back. He said the Town has a bid out currently for 400' of waterline that was not in the project, but Mr. Andre Hicks asked to have this looped. He said this would be about \$36,000.00 and the cash was on hand. Manager Vannoorbeeck said once this work was complete, he hoped to bid the curb and gutter.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there were 5 houses out for bid. He said paving would be last, maybe in the spring.

7. Reconnect Fee

Mayor Coleburn said Councilman Miller was passionate about this a few months ago. He said Councilman Miller's proposal would take the current \$12.50 reconnection fee and double it to \$25.00, with that money being put into weatherization. He said this was delayed because at the time bills were high.

Mayor Coleburn said when it was discussed previously, Mr. Lewis Johnson said the people that tend to be behind would be paying more.

Councilman Nash said he supported tabling the fee because of the outcry from the 1 or 2 audience members that night.

Councilman Miller said we have two choices, go with this or get money from the Budget Committee for weatherization.

Councilwoman Jones said this is giving people another extra cost, and they are already scrambling to make ends meet.

Councilman Miller said the \$12.50 paid on the 16th of each month, that be put towards weatherization.

Mayor Coleburn said it used to be \$25.00, but it was said the Town was taxing the poor.

Councilwoman Williams said it was perceived to raise the reconnect fee from \$12.50 to \$25.00. She said after the meeting, some of her ward members saw what was being proposed in the paper, and it was heated arguments.

Councilman Nash said the \$12.50 on the 4th of each month, he views that as the Town's insurance policy to help cover the cost of those that will never pay. He said he would be against taking the money from the 4th of each month.

Treasurer Harris believed 60% of the customers pay on the 15th of each month. Councilman Nash said the \$12.50 on the 4th of each month helps offset those that do pay on time.

Treasurer Harris said she could run a report on how much the Town receives for one month in reconnection fees. Clerk Daniel said the Town probably receives more \$12.50 fees on the 5th of each month, than on the 15th of each month.

Mayor Coleburn said by Common Consent, this would be cleaner and easier to do through the budget process.

8. VDH Grant – Financial Services

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is contingent only if the Town is awarded funds through the Department of Health. He said he would need assistance with the rate study because this will be a big lending. He asked for authorization to seek financial consulting services for the grant loan request that was previously submitted in April.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we need someone to engage the Virginia Resource Authority, who would be the Agency the Town makes payments to. He said this would make sure the General Obligation Debt load does not exceed statutory limits. He said there is also a Moral Obligation. He added if the funds are awarded, he would also need to get proposals for Bond Counsel.

Mayor Coleburn said by Common Consent, Manager Vannoorbeeck was authorized to seek RFPs.

ON-GOING PROJECTS:

1. Dilapidated Buildings

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was one less on Fifth Street. He said Attorney Bacon was working on the Oak Street project.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the 30 days has expired for 807 South Main Street, and there has been no work done. He said he received a phone call from Mr. Robert Wulff asking what the letter meant. He believed it was time to move on to step #2, which would be advertising an Ordinance to condemn.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he needed to send a letter to Mr. Wulff with a list of work to be done.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to advertise a Public Hearing declaring 807 S. Main Street blighted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

2. Meals Tax / Lodging Tax

Mayor Coleburn said everyone was in compliance.

3. Street Improvement Projects

Mayor Coleburn asked that we use Code Red in advance to the construction on South Main Street. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was expecting the work to begin the first of June on South Main, from Sixth to Tenth Streets. He said there would be no detours.

4. Wrigglesworth Sports Complex / TAP 21

Mayor Coleburn said the Gators concession stand was being built.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he met with the Gators about the grass for the football field. He said we may have to pick up some rocks, but the grass is growing.

Councilman Miller said the Gators had already made preparations to play at the school this year.

5. East End Neighborhood Project

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the bids were in for the five homes, and Mr. Earl Howerton would give recommendations to the Housing Rehab Board.

6. Weatherization

There was nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Budget Billing Policy

Mayor Coleburn asked how many were currently on Budget Billing. Treasurer Harris replied 30.

Treasurer Harris said added to the Policy was having the Utility Billing Clerk do an audit on the accounts every 90 days. She said if there is balance or credit of \$500 or more, they will be offered the option to be removed from Budget Billing or have their balance adjusted.

Treasurer Harris said another item added to the Policy is True-Up letters would be sent to every Budget Billing customer in April of every year, letting them know the status.

Councilman Nash asked how many of the 30 have credits. Treasurer Harris did not know.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed there needed to be some auditing done. He believed only 13 of the 30 budget billing customers were sent a letter. He said there had been some inconsistencies, there is no money missing, but some were told they had a credit, when really, they did not. Treasurer Harris said the accounting software was not working as it should have been. She said they were doing an audit now.

Councilman Nash asked where the figures came from. Manager Vannoorbeeck said Ms. Allison Payne sent them out. Treasurer Harris said the information Ms. Payne sent out came from Bright.

Councilman Nash thought there was a lot of auditing going on, and said there's too much that could be going missing.

Councilman Nash made a motion to adopt the revised Budget Billing Policy. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town was working on the utility information, and asked Council to allow him to find a consultant to assist Town staff with utility accounts. He said the Town submitted user information to USDA for water and sewer as part of a PER, and then resubmitted, but the system is not producing the same figures. He said the Town's auditor brought this to our attention.

Treasurer Harris said Bright did not submit a bid today for the accounting software.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the consultant would be by task, not retainage.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to seek bids for a consultant to review utility accounts. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Treasurer Harris said she had received lots of responses from her business license letters, and gave the delinquent businesses until May 31st. She said Attorney Bacon recommended going back 3 years.

2. Robinson, Farmer, Cox Engagement Letter

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he had already signed the letter, in order for them to begin their work.

Councilman Morgan made a motion to ratify Manager Vannoorbeeck's signature on the Engagement Letter. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Councilman Nash pointed out the fairly decent increase this year.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the auditors pointed out that because the Town's population by Census was now less than 3,500, there are less stringent auditing requirements. He said he and Finance Director Hardy both agreed the Town should continue to audit on the same standard that we currently do.

3. Police Department Surplus List

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

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Chief Kuzmiak asked that the surplus items be donated to Nottoway County Sheriff's Office. He said they currently use what the Town used to use, and Sheriff Jones has asked for them as spare units.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve donating the surplus items to the Nottoway County Sheriff's Office. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

4. Water Leak – Bill Adjustment Request

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this request is for Ben's House of Style. He said Mr. Ben Browder recently passed away, and there was a documented water leak at the property on West Entrance Road. He said this property is not on sewer. He said typically the water bill is \$24.00, and this particular bill was \$549.51. He said Mr. Browder's mother received the bill and is requesting a reduction back to \$24.90.

Councilman Nash said he would be in favor of cutting the bill in half.

Mayor Coleburn said it was tragic that Mr. Browder died at age 50, and his mom is in a bad spot personally, so he suggested reducing the water bill to the minimum cost.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to reduce the water bill to the minimum charge of \$24.90. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

5. Stormwater Project – Bird Road

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Treescapes received the contract for various projects from the Town a long time ago, but they will be completed by the first of July.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said one of the projects was a culvert on Bird Road. He said Clerk Daniel reminded him that the Town would enter the property one time for this project. He said he confirmed at the County that the Town received storm drainage easements from three of the adjoining property owners for the same project.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would like to pursue the same kind of easement for the Dalton's, prior to Treescapes entering the property.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to proceed with the easement for the Dalton family at 107 Bird Road. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Councilman Nash asked how much of an easement this would be for the ditch. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, the other easements have a drawing associated with it.

Councilman Nash asked if the contract price was still going to be the same since it was so long ago. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, absolutely.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

6. Adopt A Truck Policy

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the County landfill was trying to heal itself financially. He said County Administrator Costin contacted him, saying the County was having a hard time collecting landfill charges from residents in Blackstone, for materials being dumped from the Adopt A Truck. He said in 2018 the Town changed its Policy from charging \$25 for an Adopt A Truck to the Town providing the truck and the County charges the individual for the waste.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the new Policy will go back to charging \$25, but it must be collected up front. He said the Town will be charged for the waste, but the money will already have been collected.

Councilman Nash asked what happens if there are overages. Mayor Coleburn said the Town will just have to eat it; we cannot legislate everything. Councilman Nash said the Town already eats a lot.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the danger of not having an Adopt A Truck, the Town will pick it up for free on the side of the road. He said he would rather it go in the back of a truck.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to adopt the revised Adopt A Truck Policy as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

7. Airport Charging Stations

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he received this on Friday from Councilman Allman. He said he would like Attorney Bacon to review this. He said this would include an electric charging station for aircraft, at no cost to the Town.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Mr. Joe Allman believed this could be the start of a hub for delivery services to stop here to charge up.

Councilman Miller made a motion to proceed with the airport charging station, at no cost to the Town, pending legal review. The motion was seconded by Councilman Morgan.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

8. Cops Grant Application

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he and Chief Kuzmiak had been discussing ways to add to staffing without having to bear the brunt of the full cost. He said at Council's desk was information on a Community Oriented Policing Grant, which is offered by the Department of Justice. He asked for authorization to submit a grant, hire and pay a portion of the salary and benefits for 3 years, for one position. He said this would be a \$125,000.00 Grant over three years, with the local match of \$67,653.00 over three years.

Mayor Coleburn asked what happens after year three. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, he is the Town's.

Chief Kuzmiak said this person would be a regular patrolman, but there would be some other services. Mayor Coleburn said such as going to speak to kids.

Mayor Coleburn said currently the Police Department has the Chief and 11 officers.

Councilman Morgan said we need to start looking at Chief plus 14 officers.

Councilman Morgan made a motion to apply for the Community Oriented Policing Grant as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Jones.

Mayor Coleburn asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

Councilman Nash asked how this is determined, who needs it more than others. He said we need to fluff it up, include all the new developments.

COMMITTEE REFERRALS:

1. Tourism Director

Mayor Coleburn referred this to the Account & Finance Committee.

2. Weatherization

Mayor Coleburn referred this to the Account & Finance Committee.

3. Greenview Cemetery

Councilman Miller said the group that is working at Greenview Cemetery is planning a big day on June 11, 2022 starting at 8:00 a.m., and have asked if the Town could clear an area to park cars and use a Town truck to get brush up.

Councilwoman Jones made a motion to approve the requests for helping clean up Greenview Cemetery.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said it would be a day's work for a Town employee to run the cherry picker to get the brush up.

Mayor Coleburn asked if anyone was still looking at grant money, even though it is not in Town. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed Mr. Sherman Vaughan was pursuing it through the Commonwealth Regional Council.

The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Councilwoman Williams asked if schools and churches had been notified for volunteers. Councilman Miller said he was drafting a letter for the churches.

Mayor Coleburn asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

Councilwoman Jones	-	Aye
Councilman Morgan	-	Aye
Councilwoman Williams	-	Aye
Councilman Miller	-	Aye
Councilman Nash	-	Aye
Councilman Allman	-	Absent
Councilwoman Scott	-	Aye

4. Livestock / Fowl

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Councilman Nash has inquired about the use of goats or sheep to clear property. He said Councilman Nash has a wisteria issue, and there are several around Town.

Councilman Nash said his request is for two weeks for the wisteria issue, and the goats would be fenced in.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town allows four chickens in Town, but the current Ordinance would preclude 80% of people in Town from having them. He said chickens are supposed to be 200' from a property line.

Mayor Coleburn advised there was a goat on Academy Avenue.

Mayor Coleburn referred livestock and fowl to the Health & Ordinance Committee.

MAYORS MINUTE:

1. Museum Guides

This was discussed earlier in the meeting.

POLICE REPORT:

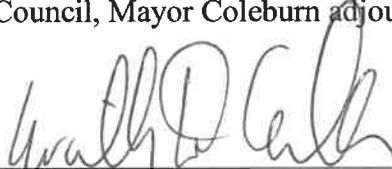
Mayor Coleburn told Chief Kuzmiak what a great job his officers did on Saturday during the pursuit. He said Officer Laith did a very good job of subduing the offender, he as very diplomatic. He said it was a 3 minute, 60 MPH chase, with everything ending calmly.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mr. Gormus asked about the slate that was on the roof of the Library, is it being sold. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was scraped off and most were broken. He said there were a lot of slates in Seay Park.

Mr. Gormus said if the BABS property ends up being a solar farm, to look into all the aspects of it, beneficial, as well as the challenges. Councilman Nash said the solar entity was non responsive, he said the appraisal of the property is to make sure the sale to Mr. Walker is correct.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Coleburn adjourned this meeting at 9:42 p.m.



MAYOR
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

July 18, 2022

APPROVED AND ADOPTED



TOWN CLERK
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA