

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 26, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

There Were Present:

Mayor: L. Benjamin Green

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; Jackie Brown, Bookkeeper; Brittany Harris, Treasurer; Chastiddy Bryant, Community Development Specialist; Christopher Mathias, Police Sergeant; Dion Tomer, Fire Chief

Town Attorney: Tessie B. Bacon

Those Absent:

Mayor Green called the June Council Meeting to order.

Councilwoman Williams delivered the Invocation.

Mayor Green led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Green said he would be adding a Closed Session tonight under Administration, Town Attorney.

MINUTES:

Councilman Nash made a motion to dispense with reading and approve as presented minutes from the Continued Meeting on May 3, 2023, the Special Called Meeting on May 9, 2023 and Regular Council Meeting on May 15, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

VISITORS:

1. Ms. Kim Neal – Proclamation Presentation

Ms. Neal thanked the Mayor and Council for the recognition of her grandfather through the Proclamation. She thanked the former mayor, Mayor Coleburn, who worked with her since the summer of 2021. She thanked Ms. Chastiddy Bryant and Ms. Ellen Eppes for the inclusion of her grandfather’s bench in the Juneteenth Celebration. She said those that knew her grandfather, knew he spoke very few words, much like her father, who was Dexter Neal. She said her grandfather believed in inclusion of everyone, and did not see anyone by the color of their skin or ethnicity. She said he was a biracial man himself, and never talked about race in the household. She believed the Proclamation was an example of how we should move forward as a community, State and Country.

Mayor Green presented the Proclamation for Mr. John Neal to his granddaughter, Ms. Kim Neal.

2. Ms. Sara Allen

Ms. Allen thanked Council for earmarking money for Taylor Bottom. She said Taylor Bottom is full of hard working people, and they don’t get the credit and positive attention they deserve.

Ms. Allen said Nottoway County is part of the Crossroads Community Services Board area, and they serve several locations, with Nottoway being the only County without a satellite office. She presented a box, that works with suicide prevention, and is free. She said she would like Blackstone to provide a space for Crossroads Community Services Board. She said she did not work for them, but knew Nottoway was in need of mental health services. She said the box can hold medications from people that may be suicidal, and if you get into the box, it is full of resources and pamphlets for people to call. She said larger boxes are available for handguns as well. She said we need to do better by our people, one of her degrees was in addiction and recovery, and there is a large problem in this area. She asked Council to reach out to Crossroads, and provide a space for them to do a presentation for the community that do not know how to get help.

3. Ms. Mae Tucker – 336 Tucker Drive, Blackstone, VA

Ms. Tucker thanked Council for their participation in Juneteenth, it was a big success. She thanked Ms. Chastiddy Bryant, and her committee.

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked Ms. Allen if Nottoway didn't have a satellite office or a service provider. Ms. Allen said Crossroads works in Cumberland, Prince Edward, Lunenburg, Charlotte, and Nottoway, with Nottoway being the only area that does not have an office for Crossroads. Manager Vannoorbeeck said years ago when he worked in Amelia, they based those on funding contributions. Ms. Allen said if you invite them, they will come do a presentation.

Councilwoman Williams asked Ms. Allen to provide a contact person. Ms. Allen said you would need to contact Crossroads Community Services Board in Farmville.

4. Ms. Beverly Ambs

Ms. Ambs said she came before this Town Council on March 20th and brought up the fact that Mr. Christopher Page suggested to Ms. Julie Krake to use a third person, non-profit, to reserve the Town Square for her Second Saturday Art Walks for seven months. By doing this the Town of Blackstone loses \$700.00 in income based on the rental of \$100.00 per usage for the seven months of events. She said I told you then that I did not think a Town official should offer this information as it takes away income from the Town. She said she understand that DBi has entered into an agreement with Ms. Krake for the use of the Town Square. She said Ms. Krake and Mr. Page are both on the Board of Directors for the Chamber, and that was what he was referring to. She said this seems interesting when the previous council felt that for-profit businesses should pay a fee for the use of this property, if this council is going to allow this type of action, why charge at all?

Ms. Ambs said I will again bring Mr. Christopher Page to task for suggesting the Chamber of Commerce come before Council again to ask for additional funds for the Fireworks on July 1st. She said he also advised them to only ask for \$9,999.00, not the full \$10,000.00, which was reduced by Council to \$9,000. She said to Mr. Page, when you are seated as a Town Council member, are you putting the At-Large population (who voted you into that seat) first or are you serving as a member of the Board for the Chamber of Commerce? Please make up your mind. She said others have sat as Town Council members without trying to benefit other organizations they are affiliated with, and have sat up there and worked to support and represent those who voted them into those seats.

Ms. Ambs said also, while I am on the Fireworks, if the Town of Blackstone is supplying \$9,000.00 towards the Fireworks, why are they not taking full credit for the event. She said having organized this event in the past, the Chamber should be well aware of the expenses involved and thus budgeted for their investment in this event. She said she appreciated the Fireworks and what they can mean to the community, but does this Council feel that it has to bail out every group who cannot budget their events? She said this money was not requested back in March as set by the Town Council, so why should it be making an exception to the processes set forth in the past. The fireworks can never be a fund-raiser for the Chamber until monies can be charged for admission, and parking and holding the event at Wigglesworth Sports Complex will not help make that happen. She said if the Town is giving the Chamber almost \$10,000.00, and now has a tourism employee, then the Town should take over the Fireworks and get full credit for the event.

Ms. Ambs said speaking of budgeting for events, The Town of Blackstone Juneteenth Celebration Committee needs to assess their budget and expenses for their event as well. She said if the Town is going to continue paying \$5,000.00, or even \$10,000.00, now that the Chamber is receiving close to that for the Fireworks, the Juneteenth Committee will be asking for the same, the Town needs to take over that event as well. She said you have hired a full-time employee for tourism and economic growth, let them take over these events. She said on the Juneteenth's Facebook page they challenged the classes from Luther Foster High School to compete in fundraising for the non-profit Town of Blackstone Juneteenth Celebration Committee, has anyone seen their 501(c)(3) determination letter? Mayor Green interrupted and said he had a copy at this desk. Ms. Ambs thanked Mayor Green. Ms. Ambs said as we are using Town funds to support them, the Town should have a copy of it and there should be an audit by a certified public accountant, of their books on record as well. Ms. Ambs said in 2021, the first Juneteenth event was conceived, and the Town blessed them with \$5,000.00 in seed money to get it started. This money was designed to create the business plan and operating expenses of the event and this committee should have become self-sufficient after that first year, as long as they budgeted correctly and the Town should have stopped bankrolling this event unless it was going to take it over. This committee has continued to receive \$5,000.00 in 2022 and 2023.

Ms. Ambs said she had nothing against celebrating Juneteenth, she just celebrated it in Lawrenceville, and they did their event on a minimal budget, and it was a great event. They didn't close down Main Street, block businesses, or close down access around town. They had local politicians running for office available to answer questions, community resources explaining their impacts, free food, music, other vendors and Congresswoman Jennifer McClellan and Mayor Levar Stoney as speakers. There were give-a-ways and even some dancing. She said everyone there had a great time from babies to senior citizens and it closed down naturally after about four hours. This committee did not ask the Town or County for funds, they did it on their own, she said they spent \$2,400.00 and gave out gift cards.

Councilman Page said he already addressed the Art Walk issue, it is a business in Town, and he does represent those businesses. He said he was asked to find a solution, and after speaking with agencies in Town and other people, they thought it was a route to go. He said as for the fireworks, the request was put in by the deadline, but believed the paperwork was lost. He said asking for a \$1.00 less was because enough people were not here to have a 2/3 vote. He said it was held at Wrigglesworth carrying on Ms. Ambs legacy. Ms. Ambs said it was held at Wrigglesworth because of COVID.

Councilman Page said it may end up being a Town event, he did agree with Ms. Ambs on that. He said Ms. Ambs was trying to create a conflict, which the State of Virginia says is not a conflict. He said if a business needs representation, he is going to represent them. Ms. Ambs said you are taking funds from the Town. Councilman Page said he did not remember the last time someone was charged to use the Town Square.

4. Ms. Emma Wright – DBi

Ms. Wright said this was her first official report to Council, with her start date being Monday, June 12, 2023. She said since her start, three businesses have received \$21,000.00 for façade improvements, 312 S. Main Street, 120 E. Broad Street and the 300 block of S. Main Street. She said in the month of June, they received an extra \$20,000.00 towards the façade improvement grant. She said one of her goals was to find more businesses that need façade improvements.

Ms. Wright said on June 14th she spent the day with Mr. Zachary Whitlow, of Virginia Main Street for training. She said the DBi Board Members chose an applicant for the Feasibility Study, 114 S. Main Street, with Summit Design and Engineering Services. She said a stakeholder meeting would be held in July and the grant consists of \$25,000.00.

Ms. Wright said they recently had an intern from Nottoway High School, and her main focus was to upgrade the websites. She said they would be hosting a Rev Up Session for Virginia Main Street in September, at 101 S. Main, and take roughly four hours, to include tours.

Ms. Wright said she was contacted to assist with the Governor's Summit, which will be held in October at the Officer's Club in Ft. Barfoot, and is hosted by the Virginia Rural Center.

Ms. Wright said there would be four new board Members starting in July, Mandy Kendrick from JL Surveying, Kaela Hagaman from KMs Gems, Dianna Lester from the Inn at Blackstone, and Dale Hinton from Snowie RVA.

Mayor Green asked about the Feasibility Grant, had it already been awarded. Mrs. Field Green replied yes, and have chosen the contractor. Ms. Wright added she was in contact with the realtor to get access to the building.

Councilman Page asked if the new members were expanding the Board or replacing members. Ms. Wright replied, replacing members.

Councilman Gormus asked about the date for the Rev Up. Ms. Wright said she would email Clerk Daniel with the date.

5. Ms. Micah Lacks – Pickett Court

Ms. Lacks said there were a few people in the audience from Pickett Court inquiring about the bumpers. She said she was here for her family and the kids on Pickett Court. She said she appreciated what was done, but was promised regular bumpers, and they want what was promised. Manager Vannoorbeeck said you just need to wait. Ms. Blackwell said people were still speeding, and some people go around them.

Mayor Green assured Ms. Lacks that we believe her, and he has talked to Manager Vannoorbeeck several times about this issue, and he was doing the best he could. He suggested getting license plates and provide to the Town. Ms. Lashawn Blackwell said there needed to be a speed bump at the entrance and as you go around. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he could install two more of the newer speed bumps in Pickett Court.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the new paving contractor does not want to do speed bumps, so the original ones will not be added to. He said he could get somebody here, but it is going to take longer.

Mayor Green asked to leave your phone number with Clerk Daniel and the Town Manager and himself would be in touch. He believed by what he was hearing, there may also be an enforcement issue, the speed limit is only 15 MPH through there.

Councilman Miller, Mayor Green and Manager Vannoorbeeck agreed to ride to Pickett Court on Wednesday around 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Lashawn Blackwell from Pickett Court said the hole behind her house, something needs to be done. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is on private property, but is a result from replacing culvert that ran between some homes. He said Mr. Jason Walker stopped at the property line, but we need to go further and create more of a creek bed.

Mayor Green referred this issue to the Street & Light Committee, and said the three of them would look at this issue on Wednesday as well. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this issue is behind Community Convenience in the alleyway.

Ms. Lacks asked if when they come Wednesday, to check their storm sewer, it smells nasty. She added, her grandmother Mrs. Jean Lacks said they pay taxes and should get what they want. Mayor Green said we are trying.

Ms. Blackwell said on the exit side of Pickett Court, it is hard to get through, what can be done. Manager Vannoorbeeck said a few years ago Council discussed posting no parking signs on the inside, and nobody liked that idea. He said another idea was because the Town owns a 50' right of way, to move the inside curb in 8', and would widen it one car length. He said the Town talked about providing driveways.

Mayor Green referred widening Pickett Court to the Street and Light Committee.

FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Tomer said the radio system bids were opened and the committee will meet in July to review with the vendors. He believed the new system would be installed by 2025/2026. He said the committee reviewed the technical parts and the prices will come later.

Chief Tomer said they received a schedule for the Tower, and should hit the production line the first week of August, with completion in November, then delivered to Richmond for its first service, and then to Blackstone.

Chief Tomer said they were provided an intern, Lauren Fulford, with Nottoway Public Schools, who has been helping with administrative work. He said they had been transitioning to a new reporting system and Ms. Fulford had been working very hard to help.

Chief Tomer said the rodeo was a huge success. He said the Junior program was expanding, it was developed in the 1970s. He said their next event would be the Cow Bingo in August at Wigglesworth, and they have received their ABC license, and food trucks are already booked.

Chief Tomer said they would be having a Blood Drive June 30th, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and have 20 open spots. He said walk ins are accepted, and the American Red Cross has been pleased with the turnout.

Chief Tomer said they would be holding a Stop the Bleed Class on July 17th. He said they are now saying you should stop the bleed before clearing any airways.

Chief Tomer advised of the firefighter anniversaries. He said Jonathan Repollet started recruit school today with Chesterfield County.

Mayor Green said in Chief Tomer's report, it says there are five Junior Firefighters to be tabled, what does that mean. Chief Tomer said they are tabled for 30 days for an investigation process, and then voted on. He said there is no cap on volunteers in Junior Fire Department, and once they turn 18, they usually move up to the Seniors.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we are near the end of the month, and have not received the apparatus money for the year. He asked Chief Tomer to check into this.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Mayor Green stated the bills that have already been paid are in the amount of \$702,720.00.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the bills that have already been paid in the amount of \$702,720.00. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Williams.

Councilman Miller asked about the \$2,895.00 to Rodriguez at 415 Oak Street. Manager Vannoorbeeck said that is from the sale of the lot, and after the Town collected its expenses, the difference was returned to the Rodriguez family.

Councilman Nash pointed out that of the \$702,000.00 being approved in bills, a lot is pass through. Mayor Green added the amount not being reimbursed is \$66,154.00.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

Mayor Green stated the bills not yet approved, and to be paid, are in the amount of \$180,340.73.

Councilman Miller made a motion to approve as presented, the bills not yet paid in the amount of \$180,340.73. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

APPROPRIATIONS:

There were no appropriations this month.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Account & Finance – met 5-17-23 – minutes included in June’s Council Packet

FY24 BUDGET

Councilman Nash said the Committee had been reviewing the Budget, and Council has met since this meeting.

Mayor Green said he would be continuing the meeting tonight to Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

2. Employment & Police – met 6-20-23 – minutes included in June’s Council Packet

CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL – SALARIES & TRANSIT DIRECTOR INTERVIEWS

Councilman Miller said the Committee asked to bring to Council, hiring a Human Resource Officer. Mayor Green asked to have this on the Agenda for next month. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this needs to wait a month to come up with a job description. He added he had been trying to find a consultant, and had no luck.

Councilman Nash said his concern was adding positions outside the Budget.

Councilman Page asked how much money was set aside for HR Consulting. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, \$20,000.00.

Councilman Miller asked to let the Employment and Police Committee meet again to finalize details, but it will not be a part time position.

CONSENT AGENDA:

There were no Consent Agenda items.

Mayor Green said he had reservations about a Consent Agenda, and he originally brought it to Council. He believed things were more transparent without a Consent Agenda. Manager Vannoorbeeck added this item is not in the Code.

Councilman Nash made a motion to remove the Consent Agenda from the Regular Council Meetings. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Business License Penalties

Attorney Bacon said she was asked to look into what can be done for lack of business licenses. She said the State Code says if you are operating a business; you need to have a Business License. She said the State Code provides a Uniform Ordinance that the Town may want to adopt. She said one part of the Ordinance said in order to issue a Business License a Town can pass an Ordinance ensuring that all taxes and fees are paid. She said the Code is very clear, that Business Licenses are collectible as a tax, and are allowed penalties and interest.

Attorney Bacon said being local government there are different things that can be done, such as seize assets or put holds on certain things without going through a court procedure. She said in the State Code that it shall be unlawful to operate a business without a Business License. She added some localities go by the catch all, and any violation not specified in the Town Code is punishable as a Class 1 or 4 Misdemeanor, and other localities enforce as a local tax, which includes the possibility of taking a person to court.

Attorney Bacon recommended the Town adopt an additional Ordinance that gives the Town authority to collect on any outstanding taxes, prior to issuing a Business License. She also suggested mirroring the model Ordinance that is already in the Code. She recommended to Council determining what they want and the penalties, a misdemeanor or collecting through taxes.

Mayor Green suggested Attorney Bacon provide Council with a brief, with the maximum amount of action Council can take, and the range of penalties. Councilman Nash asked to provide the additional Ordinances as well.

Councilman Page asked Mayor Green if he wanted this referred to Health and Ordinance. Mayor Green said it was already at Council level and would leave it with Council.

Clerk Daniel asked if an option was to close the business down. Attorney Bacon said she could look further into that.

Mayor Green asked to have this information by the week of July 10th for Council to review.

2. Culvert Installation Policy

Attorney Bacon said she was asked to look at the Policy about a 2/3 vote regarding appeals to Council. She believed the Policy needed to be revised to specify what dollar amount the actual appropriation is for. She said the Town Charter states anything over \$10,000.00 must be 2/3 vote of Council. Mayor Green asked if there were only four members present, can they vote. Attorney Bacon said she would check on that.

Mayor Green said quorums are defined by the members elected. Attorney Bacon said the Virginia Code states anything over \$500.00 would be a simple majority vote. She said expenditures over \$10,000.00 requires 2/3 vote, and under \$10,000.00 is a simple majority vote.

3. Award Bid – Planning & Consulting Services

Manager Vannoorbeeck said an RFP was issued for planning and consulting services to mainly update our Zoning Ordinances and get in State Compliance. He said the last time this was done was 2017. He said we want to bring ourselves up to date with Gaming and Marijuana sales and consumption in Town. He said we received one proposal from Summit Engineering, who was Community Planning Partners.

Councilman Nash made a motion to authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to begin negotiations with Summit Engineering and bring a contract to Council next month. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

4. Proposed Water Rates – Town of Crewe

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the enclosed spreadsheet was provided to Crewe, but made sure they knew it was not yet approved by Council. He said the figures are based on 500,000 gallons a day usage and prepared by Mr. Mac Bugg of B&B Consultants. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed Crewe was producing closer to 600,000 gallons per day. He said these figures were prepared in hopes that USDA would lend a significant amount of money, and will include two large capital improvements. He said one would only be needed if the Town of Crewe connects on with Blackstone in the amount of \$9,671,000.00, with Crewe paying \$523,000.00 annually, if USDA finances for 40 years at 4.5%.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the second project is to upgrade the raw water line and the intakes at the Reservoir in excess of \$12 Million. He said the Town would pay for this project, with Crewe paying a prorated share. He said the spreadsheet included does not include the 4% water and sewer rate increase. He said the bulk water rate to the Town of Crewe would be \$8.63 per 1,000 gallons. He said before he goes any further, he wanted Council to endorse these rates, or ask any questions.

Councilman Allman said in these meetings he and Manager Vannoorbeeck have attended, they did more listening than talking. He said the figures being presented, we made sure Blackstone citizens would not be paying for somebody else's water line, as well as getting a rate of return on any debt. He said Crewe had been pushy about lowering the rates, but he spoke as one of seven, but we did not want to sell water to Crewe, cheaper than our own citizens. He added the Town would be selling water to Crewe as wholesale, we would not be taking on their lines, it would be one big tap, with one big meter. Mayor Green said the Town would not enjoy the benefit of any tap fees.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we cannot chase Prince Edward's lie. He said they misled the State, Prince Edward cannot sell water for \$9.00 per 1,000 gallons.

Mayor Green asked about the 4%, is there a prepayment penalty. Manager Vannoorbeeck said we never sign a prepayment penalty.

Mayor Green said in October there is a Governor's Conference here in Town, he said we would be pressing palms.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he wanted to tell Crewe that we are at \$8.63 per 1,000 gallons, plus 4%.

Councilman Allman made a motion that the rates to be presented to Crewe would be \$8.63 per 1,000 gallons, plus 4%, and no lower than the citizens of Blackstone. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there will be a profit because we will be selling them more than 500,000 gallons per day.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

ON-GOING PROJECTS:

1. Dilapidated Buildings

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the judge had signed the order for 806 Falls Street, and Attorney Bacon asked to wait 21 days, so the demolition would start the first full week of July.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was asking to hold a Public Hearing to declare 301 N. High Street blighted. He said two sets of correspondence had been sent over a year, and no improvements have been made. He said there is structural damage and the house is occupied.

Councilman Nash made a motion to advertise for Public Hearing on July 17, 2023, to declare 301 N. High Street blighted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was a letter included from Attorney Bacon in reference to 114 S. Main Street. He said the Town's bona fide offer of \$42,500.00, which was the appraised value, made to Courtland Coffey, expires on July 1, 2023. He said he nor Attorney Bacon had received any communication from the letter.

Mayor Green asked if the next step was in the Circuit Court of Virginia. Attorney Bacon replied correct. He asked for a report at the next Council Meeting.

2. Meals Tax / Lodging Tax

Treasurer Harris said the delinquent Meals Tax is from a business that has closed.

Treasurer Harris said there are 276 active businesses, and of them 275 have current Business Licenses.

Councilman Nash said with Business Licenses, if they have not gotten one in the past, is that water over the bridge. Mayor Green asked if we can do something with these licenses as retroactive. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it can still be collected; some are with TACS now.

3. Street Improvement Projects

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town has entered into contract with Whitehurst Paving. He said he had to finish patching before tar and gravel could begin.

Councilman Miller said he gets complaints about the paving. He said they have one piece of equipment, and that's all they use all day long. Manager Vannoorbeeck said we accepted the low bid, and they are a one man, one crew company.

4. Wrigglesworth Sports Complex

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he would like to meet with the Parks & Rec Committee, to discuss scoreboards, the concession stand, and the T-Ball field. He said they plan to cut the T-Ball field back to the dirt. He said he also wanted to talk about playgrounds.

5. East End Neighborhood Project

Manager Vannoorbeeck said they were still working on the asphalt. He said the contracts with Superior Builders had been signed for the last house on Harris Street.

6. Taylor Bottom Block Grant

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was a deadline for a TAP Grant, June 30th. He said the Town would be applying for as much as \$2,350,000.00 of grant funds. He said there is a minimum 20% match from the Town, and also includes anything additional and cost overruns. He said this would include sidewalk and drainage improvements along High Street and Carver Street, and is only one phase.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was asking Council to support an application, but funds would not be made available until FY2027. He said Council can turn this down, it does not obligate the Town.

Councilwoman Williams made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented for the Taylor Bottom Sidewalk Project. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Councilman Nash asked if there was any progress on S. Main Street sidewalks. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, very little. Councilman Nash asked if grants had been looked into for this project. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied yes, Revenue Share. Community Development Specialist Bryant said the grant application had already been submitted. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was for \$2 Million, and a 50/50 deal.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

7. Armory

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the contractor is continuing to abate the lead based paint in the Armory. He said sealed bids were continued from June 23rd to June 29th, and hope this comes in under budget.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we have received from DHCD, the Industrial Revitalization Fund Agreement, and asked for authorization to execute.

Councilman Nash said this would allow the Town to start drawing on the grant that had already been awarded.

Councilman Nash made a motion authorizing Manager Vannoorbeeck to execute the IRF ARPA Agreement between DHCD and the Town for the Armory, in the amount of \$1 Million. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

8. Weatherization

Manager Vannoorbeeck said residents at 309 Patterson Street have moved back into their home after completing the final Weatherization Project this year. He said the Town has \$50,000.00 from the Electric Fund that will be transferred into the Weatherization Fund for this year, and expects the County to provide another \$40,000.00.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. DMV License Agent Agreement

Manager Vannoorbeeck said included are some changes in blue, but this agreement is boiler plate. He said if we want to have a DMV Select, we were obligated to sign this Agreement.

Councilman Allman made a motion to have Manager Vannoorbeeck execute the annual DMV License Agent Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

2. Water/Sewer Utility Bill Adjustment

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Pastor Hogg was out of Town tonight, but had received a \$1,200.00 utility bill for his Church on Pickett in the LRA area. He said it was a confirmed toilet overrun. He said Pastor Hogg was asking for some help with the utility bill.

Councilman Nash said as it has been done in the past, the water was used, but we have removed the sewer portion of the bills.

Councilman Allman said since it is a church, is it nonprofit. Councilman Miller replied yes, he believed it was part of the Vietnam Veterans.

Clerk Daniel said Pastor Hogg only goes to the church on Sundays, and when they received the bill, that's when they knew to check the toilet. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed they used the minimum every month.

Councilman Gormus said there have been similar cases, like with the barber shop, when the gentleman passed away, Council cut the bill from \$549.00 to the minimum charge. He said another case was with Mr. Listman, he has an annual issue.

Councilman Miller made a motion to remove the sewage portion of the bill. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Councilman Page made a secondary motion to reduce the utility bill to \$350,00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Councilman Gormus believed setting a precedent is for compassion, they meet four times a month.

Councilman Page amended his substitute motion to reduce the Restoration Ministries utility bill to the previous month's bill in the amount of \$152.62. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Councilwoman Williams said she likes helping everybody, and understands he is a Veteran and loves that, but asked if we will do the same for the next person that comes. Councilman Page believed this Council was compassionate, and suggested looking at these on a case by case basis. Councilman Gormus did not believe people would abuse this.

Councilman Miller said we cannot do this for everybody, we need to specify for 501c3s.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

3. VRSA Insurance Renewal

Manager Vannoorbeeck said VRSA is our current carrier, and we have received a renewal. He said VRSA is offered through the Virginia Municipal League for municipalities. He said the annual premium, which this insurance also includes Workers Comp is \$241,897.00, and is a \$22,000.00 increase from the current fiscal year. He said it was explained to him, this went up due to higher payroll and new positions.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this renewal starts July 1st. He said the County had already advertised for next year.

Councilman Nash made a motion to renew the Town’s Property, Casualty, Liability and Workers Comp insurance with VRSA in the amount of \$241,897.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.

Councilman Nash asked if the increase was included in the Budget. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he was not sure, but would get Bookkeeper Brown to inform Council. He said if not, he would adjust from another line item. Councilman Nash said this needs to be bid out in advance.

Manager Vannoorbeeck suggested having the Insurance Committee meet and come up with and RFP, or use a consultant.

Mayor Green referred the annual Property, Casualty, Liability and Workers Comp insurance to the Insurance Committee.

Councilman Allman asked if the same people would bid with the County. Manager Vannoorbeeck did not know, but believed there were only two players, VACo and VRSA. He added we can look into health insurance as well.

Councilman Allman suggested getting insight from the County once they get their bids.

Mayor Green asked to discuss again at the September Council Meeting.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

4. Resolution – Armory – Southern Virginia Program

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Town applied for a \$247,000.00 grant, for upgrades in technology and to finish the kitchen for Virginia Union and Virginia State. He said USDA advised the Town had to have a historical review of the property, but previous Council made a conscientious decision not to use historical tax credits because it increases the cost of the project. He said USDA did not support putting a standing seam roof on the Armory.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there was a Resolution included to the Southern Virginia Program with the Virginia Tobacco Commission in the amount of \$247,217.00.

Councilman Nash made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented and authorizing Mayor Green to execute the document. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Councilman Page asked if this would affect any other funding for the project. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied no, it will enhance it. He said the historic review was done, but he recommended not proceeding with that.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

5. *Virginia State Police – Waste Collection Agreement*

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is no change to this Agreement, because the rates and terms stayed the same. He said the State does request the Town sign an Agreement with them every year.

Councilman Page made a motion to approve the Virginia State Police Waste Collection Agreement as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this Agreement allows the Town to pick up trash at the State Police Training Center on Ridge Road.

6. Request for Bid – Annual Concrete Work

Manager Vannoorbeeck recommended bidding out the concrete work this year, there may be additional bidders in the market now.

Councilman Nash did not think it was necessary for the Town Manager to ask Council to bid out this work.

Mayor Green said by Common Consent to let the Town Manager do his duties and bring opportunities and bids to Council.

Councilman Page asked if this work is bid out, does it end the current contract, and do we lose the chance to extend if it is a lower price. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it would be the same contractor, and would say thank you, but no thank you.

Councilman Nash made a motion to allow the Town Manager to seek grants and proposals that does not encumber the Town for funds. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

7. Police Department – Surplus List

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Police Department has provided a surplus list, to include a spike strip system, and would like to donate that to the Town of Crewe and the Town of Burkeville.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the surplus list as presented, and donate the spike systems to the Towns of Crewe and Burkeville. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Councilman Gormus believed the computers could be for kids in school. He asked if they could be donated instead of auction. Manager Vannoorbeeck said we could contact the schools.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Nash said the computers would be at the discretion of the Town Manager.

Councilman Allman asked Sgt. Mathias how old the computers were. Sgt. Mathias replied, at least 5 years old.

8. Award Annual Bid – Exterminating

Councilman Nash asked why there was such a difference in price. Clerk Daniel said she did not know, but Central Virginia Exterminating had been doing the service for a few years now. She added Councilman Nash asked to start including termite inspection this year.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the annual exterminating services to the low bid from Central Virginia Exterminating in the amount of \$1,933.00 plus the annual termite inspection in the amount of \$1,800.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Mayor Green thanked Ms. Chastiddy Bryant and her committee for all the work they did for Juneteenth. He recognized Ms. Bryant for her outstanding contribution and her good work.

9. Award Annual Bid – Lawn Maintenance

Councilman Nash made a motion to move forward with Alvis Landscaping, the current contractor for \$100.00 more, because the Town properties look good. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Manager Vannoorbeeck did not think a bid could be awarded to a higher bidder without justification.

Councilman Nash said last year All About Grass was the low bid, but declined after two weeks of service.

Clerk Daniel said All About Grass has had the bid in previous years.

Councilman Nash withdrew his motion.

Councilman Gormus made a motion to award the annual lawn maintenance to the low bid from All About Grass in the amount of \$12,900.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

10. Award Annual Bid – Welcome Signs/Downtown Planters

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the low bid is from Edgerton Flower & Gifts, and it appears it includes the downtown planters and the four welcome signs.

Councilman Gormus made a motion to award the annual plantings and maintenance for the Welcome Signs and Downtown Planters to the low bid from Edgerton Flower & Gifts in the amount of \$3,100.00, subject to a conference with Manager Vannoorbeeck. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

Councilman Miller questioned the price difference. Clerk Daniel clarified, this was the first year of including the downtown planters, but when the bid was submitted to her by Edgerton, they understood it included plantings and maintenance. Councilman Gormus confirmed everything was included.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

11. Award Annual Bid – Turf Management

Manager Vannoorbeeck said turf management is for the football field, baseball fields, Fire Station, Medical Center, Town Square and Seay Park.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the annual turf management to the only bidder, Lawn Solutions in the amount of \$14,475.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

12. Award Annual Bid – Garage Door Maintenance

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we have been bidding this out for a few years. He said this is for preventative maintenance.

Councilman Nash made a motion to award the annual garage door maintenance at the Fire Department, Police Department and the Bus Shop to the low bid from Amelia Overhead Door in the amount of \$2,590.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

13. Award Annual Bid – Irrigation Systems

Manager Vannoorbeeck said this is to maintain the irrigation systems at the Medical Center and Fire Department. He said one proposal was received.

Clerk Daniel said the systems had already been started up, but this would include maintenance, such as wet checks, inspections, backflow testing and winterization. She said this was the first year of bidding this.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the Medical Center portion could be reimbursed.

Councilman Miller made a motion to award the annual irrigation meter maintenance bid to the only bid received, Richmond Irrigation in the amount of \$2,535.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

14. Award Annual Bid – Janitorial Services

Manager Vannoorbeeck said four proposals were received, but the Town had a part time employee before this. He said the low bid is in the amount of \$24,612.00.

Clerk Daniel explained, when Mr. Fitzgerald retired earlier in the year, Manager Vannoorbeeck asked to advertise for a cleaning service through this fiscal year, who was Robert's Janitorial, but he was not the low bid this time.

Councilman Nash made a motion to approve the low bid from Jan-Pro for annual cleaning services in the amount of \$24,612.00, at the Town Hall, Police Department, Fire Department, Bus Shop, Public Works, WTP/WWTP, Library and the Carriage Museum, plus Schwartz Tavern, Wrigglesworth Bathrooms and the Fire Training Grounds as needed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Councilman Nash asked about additional services. Clerk Daniel said it is just as needed, such as the bathrooms at Wrigglesworth when the season opens.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Nash asked if this was included in the budget. Manager Vannoorbeeck replied, yes.

15. Alleyway Abandonment – E. Broad Street

Manager Vannoorbeeck said included was a letter from Ms. Ruby Love asking that an old alleyway be abandoned close to her house. He asked to advertise for a Public Hearing.

Councilman Miller suggested riding by this property on Wednesday, while looking at the Pickett Court area.

Councilman Nash made a motion authorizing Manager Vannoorbeeck to advertise for a Public Hearing for the alleyway abandonment request. The motion was seconded by Councilman Miller.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

COMMITTEE REFERRALS:

There were no referrals.

MAYORS MINUTE:

Resolution – Nottoway County School Board

Mayor Green said the second Thursday of the month, the School Board met. He said he sent a letter requesting they vacate the lease and surplus the old school property to the Board of Supervisors. He said they did so with a 5-0 vote, and he did offer utilities or a pad area, but would not offer the pads.

Mayor Green said there was a meeting with the EDC on Thursday night, and he spoke with the newly appointed Chairman, Mr. Roark, and that Mr. Roark saw no problem with the surplus of the old school property to the Town at their next meeting. He said he would ask Council to review the plan for the area, and believed there was money in the budget to tear a building down.

Appoint Annual Committees

Mayor Green said there would be no changes.

Mayor Green said again how thankful he was for all of those that helped with Juneteenth. He said he was grateful to Council and their monetary support. He gave a big shout out to the Police Department, and Sgt. Mayton and the State Police for monitoring at the ballfields.

Councilman Miller asked to thank the one employee, Mr. Edward Thompson who helped with Juneteenth.

Councilman Nash thanked the tireless volunteers at the ball field over the weekend, and added if not for Mr. Dan Martin and Mrs. Marcia Martin they would have nothing.

POLICE REPORT:

Councilman Nash said he would like the Town to continue to enforce the Noise Ordinance, and asked about the signs.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mayor Green said in the informational packet there was a nice letter from Ms. Verna Rhoades of Epes Street, thanking the Town for the curb and gutter.

Councilman Page said since the attorney fees are going up to \$200.00 an hour, he suggested issuing an RFP. Mayor Green said we will be talking to Attorney Bacon in Closed Session tonight.

Mr. William Clarke – 420 Sullivan Street

Mr. Clarke asked for more information on the project starting on High Street. Manager Vannoorbeeck said they are applying for a TAP Grant, which is the same as we applied for with curb and gutter around Wrigglesworth. He said we are only eligible for \$2.3 Million so we can only do half at a time. He said the first phase will include curb, gutter and sidewalk on High Street, starting at Division Street, and then on Carver Street. He said this would include curb and gutter on both sides, but sidewalk on the west side.

Mr. Clarke suggested another area due to people not being able to walk safely. He said he moved to Taylor Bottom when he was 12 years old, and had been paying for a Business License since 1998. He said this Council was going in the same footsteps as previous Council, putting Taylor Bottom third, fourth and fifth. He said he was here tonight as a business man and William Clarke, and believed he deserved better. Mayor Green said we are applying for \$2.5 Million, and is all the money we can apply for right now. He said we cannot do it all at one time, but the wheels are in progress. He asked to celebrate that Council has obligated \$2.5 Million.

Mr. Clarke said he should have been more vocal in years past, and then maybe they would not have been overlooked.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said in 1997, the Town did its second community block grant. He said Manager Palmore liked to focus on housing, but he likes to also include curb and gutter.

Councilwoman Wynn said as Mr. Clarke's representative, she does bring up issues to the Council, but there is parliamentary procedure, and as part of a new Council. She said while she is serving, she would present the needs for her Ward.

Councilman Page asked Mr. Clarke if he was suggesting the area being started in Taylor Bottom was the wrong area, it should start in another location. Mr. Clarke said yes, and explained about another area.

Mayor Green told Mr. Clarke, we will keep you in the loop, and nothing would be done without a Public Hearing.

Ms. Beverly Ambs

Ms. Ambs said to finish what she started earlier; the funds being given away by the Town to these entities for events need to be reassessed for other usage. She said amounts up to \$20,000.00 can be used to benefit other groups like our children who excel at something outstanding, and competing at State, Regional and National levels. She suggested emergency funding for our First Responders; some type of catastrophic event resources. She said to keep using Town financial resources for these types of events when the organizers should be able to budget their expenses without Town support does not show good stewardship with our funds. We do not teach our children how to appreciate and use money frugally, if we show them, they just need to ask and it will be given to them. We do not show value to our citizens, if we just keep upping the Towns expenses to support poor money management by these groups.

Mrs. Tyler Scott – 811 Brunswick Avenue

Mrs. Scott said she had lived here for five years. She said she used to be a fundraise, and loved this Town, but has noticed people can actually fundraise with churches or friends. She said she was part of the group trying to stop industrial solar sites in Nottoway, she said we did not come to the government, they passed hats and paid for their signs. She reminded citizens, you can fundraise. She said with the Armory, she would have gone after private grant and National Guard money.

CLOSED SESSION:

Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711

- 1/ Personnel – Salaries, Transit Director Position & Town Attorney
- 3/ Disposition of Real Property

Councilman Gormus made a motion to go into Closed Session for Discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body and Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Gormus 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 Wynn.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Page made a motion to increase Attorney Bacon's hourly rate from \$150.00 an hour to \$200.00 an hour. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Miller made a motion to hire Ms. Alexandra Davis as the Transit Director for \$22.00 an hour, effective July 1, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wynn.

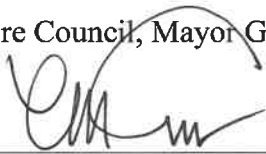
Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Mayor Green continued this meeting to Wednesday, June 28, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. to adopt and appropriate the FY24 Budget.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Green adjourned this meeting at 10:45 p.m.


MAYOR
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

August 21, 2023 APPROVED AND ADOPTED


TOWN CLERK
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA