

Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Council of the Town of Blackstone, Virginia, held in the Council Chambers, located at 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Virginia on Wednesday, February 8, 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

Town Attorney:

Those Absent:

*Special Called Meeting of the Council of the Town of Blackstone, Virginia for 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2023.*

*Pursuant to the authority vested in me as Mayor of the Town of Blackstone, I call a Special Meeting of the Council of the Town of Blackstone, Virginia, to be held in the Town Council Chambers, located at 100 W. Elm Street, Blackstone, Virginia at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 8, 2023, for the purpose of considering the following:*

1. *Animal Control Ordinance*
2. *Town Manager will report on County Meeting*
3. *N. West Avenue Ditch*
4. *Closed Session – Personnel – DBi Position*

**1. Animal Control Ordinance**

Mayor Green said the Committee met today, and asked Councilman Page if he would like to report.

Councilman Page thanked the Committee and said they had spent a lot of time on this. He also thanked staff.

Councilman Page said the Committee is recommending the Ordinance go to Public Hearing on February 27, 2023. He said the Ordinance addresses everything Council talked about, along with stiffer penalties for violations. He said it talks about an Animal Control Officer, and its power and duties. He said it talks about multiple animal shelters. He added it establishes licenses in order to identify the animals.

Councilman Page said with shelters, the Town is not building one, but we would designate the County, and if there is an overflow, have agreements with other counties. He said there is a tentative Agreement with Nottoway County for access to the Animal Shelter. He said a lot of the Ordinance is administrative. He added this Ordinance addresses tethering of dogs, and would outlaw more than one hour in a 24 hour period.

***Councilman Page made a motion to advertise a Public Hearing for the Ordinance as presented for February 27, 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.***

Councilman Page said the advertisement would include the Ordinance going into effect immediately, with the exception of licensing, which would go into effect November 1, 2023.

Councilman Miller asked about the February 1, 2005 section, about keeping more than the number of dogs and cats. Councilman Page said if someone had 5 dogs in 2004, they are allowed to have 5 because they would be grandfathered in. He said once a dog passes, they cannot add another dog.

Councilman Nash asked if Attorney Bacon had weighed in on this at all. Manager Vannoorbeeck said no, it would be sent to her tomorrow morning.

Councilman Allman said the general consensus for Special Called Meetings and Emergency Meetings are for a time basis. He said he was under the impression we were meeting about the DBi position; he thought the Ordinance was more informational.

Mayor Green believed when a Special Called Meeting was called, Council could take up any items they want. He said when all seven members are present, we can take up anything. He said if he has a chance to trim an Agenda item on a meeting, then we don't have to be here until 10:30 p.m.

Councilman Page said when the Special Called Meeting was called, the Animal Ordinance was included on the Agenda, and the proper three day notice was given. He added Council did make this their number one priority.

Councilman Allman agreed it was a number one priority, he was just concerned that if we are having a meeting on a night that is not normally scheduled and a Special Meeting, maybe we should save the things for public input that are not of special or emergency nature. Mayor Green believed that is what a Public Hearing was for.

Mayor Green said he would like to see Council comfortable enough to move forward towards that, but if Councilman Allman wants to wait because he has more questions, that is fine. He believed what we were doing tonight was neat and in order.

Councilman Nash asked about the November 1, 2023 date. Councilman Page said State Law says with the licensing fee, when it is enacted, people have 90 days to get the licensing. He said we need time to get an Animal Control Officer and trained, which we believe is going to be a police officer, so November should be enough time to get the tags and have an officer trained.

Councilman Page said by using November 1, 2023, that goes by the State and license fees are due by January 31<sup>st</sup>, so that is the 90 days.

Councilman Allman said in Section 14-56, Spaying and Neutering, does the County already have a rule for animals that end up in the shelter, are they going to do this. He said he didn't want the Town to take on any additional costs. Councilman Page said this is State Law and the County gets around it by giving an SPCA Certificate.

Councilman Allman said if it is already State Law, does it need to be included in the Ordinance. Councilman Page said yes if we are going to have an adoption program. He said for the Animal Control Officer or staff, do we want them to have to go through local, county and state to find something, or have it all in one place for review.

Councilman Allman said his hesitation was we are charging someone with a Town Ordinance, that puts the legal costs on the Town. Councilman Page said that is an administrative code, nobody can be charged for that.

Councilman Allman asked if the Town or County would have the adoption process. Councilman Page gave an example of sending an inmate to jail in Prince Edward, he is there under Town Code. Councilman Allman said that was what he was trying to avoid, if we are charging someone under our Code, is the Town going to be incurring the cost of spaying and neutering. Councilman Page said when you impound an animal under Town Code, it becomes the Town's animal if not picked up in 5 days, then that's when the adoption process begins.

Councilman Allman asked if the plan was for the Town to have their own adoption policy and Animal Control Officer. Councilman Page said we as citizens pay the County for Animal Control, but only for County and State Laws, they do not have the power to enforce the Town's Ordinances. He said the licensing will help identify the animal and our Animal Control Officer can return it to their owner, but if an animal cannot be identified, then Animal Control will take it to the Shelter. He said if nobody claims the animal after five days at the shelter, then it becomes the Town's property, so then we have to decide if we will find it a home, give it to a rescue or put it down.

Mayor Green said he and Manager Vannoorbeeck met with Chairman Bowen, Supervisor Roark and County Administrator Costin and what he perceived was have a 1-5 for the Town and 6-10 for the County, so we would partner together.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said those things that are County and State, the County would continue with that. He said the Town was still going to enforce running at large, and the big change is this Ordinance will not allow people to chain their dogs up in their yard. He added another change is the \$10.00 fee for tagging an animal. Councilman Page added \$5.00 for 55 and older. He said there is a microchip exception if people don't want to have a collar. Councilman Page said Prince Edward does the microchipping, and you don't have to be a resident of the County.

Councilman Allman asked Councilman Page how he envisioned the enforcement of the tags working. Councilman Page said we will not be kicking in doors, but if we come across a dog that does not have a tag, and trying to return it to their owner, this Ordinance will have the owner prove it is licensed. He said if a dog is not licensed, they will have to get the license right then.

Councilman Allman said it sounds like Councilman Page is envisioning more dogs at large, rather than someone walking their dog down the street. Councilman Page said we would not stop and check someone walking their dog, but if the dog doesn't have a collar, Animal Control has the right to pull over and investigate. Mayor Green said walking a dog on a leash with a collar, he did not think someone would be pulled over for that. Councilman Page added, that the dog would be under care and control, but under this law, Animal Control could stop someone.

Councilman Miller said tag fees would be \$10.00. Councilman Page added, anyone over 55 it would be \$5.00. Councilman Miller asked with the thousands of cats in Blackstone, how is it going to be enforced. Councilman Page said the plan is to work with outside agencies, to spay, trap and release. He said we don't want to pick up your cat and it goes missing for two weeks and comes back spay or neutered. He said that is why it is important to have your cat tagged or microchipped, the cat can be scanned when picked up, and released if they know the cat has been spayed or neutered.

Councilman Nash said there is a cat issue, but his concern was the monetary liability when we get 60 cats in traps. Councilman Page said that is why we will work with nonprofits, but the Town, by law, cannot put traps out.

Councilman Nash asked if it would be the Town's responsibility to pay for the spay or neutering, if a nonprofit traps a cat. Councilman Page said non profits get funding from other places, we would try to work with them. He said when cats are spayed or neutered, it keeps feral cats away, and the population declines.

Councilman Nash asked if the one police officer that was interested in Animal Control, would this be his full time position, or would he still patrol the streets. Manager Vannoorbeeck said it was his understanding that he would still be a patrol officer as well.

Councilman Nash said his concern was the Town's responsibility, and was not sure we could take it all on. Manager Vannoorbeeck said after talking with Chief Kuzmiak, his caveat was adding another officer. He said there were discussions to advertise for another police officer position that would start in July.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed in the beginning there would be more time going towards animal control. He said with this spay, neuter and release, you still have cats running around. He said the County Shelter has not been declared a no-kill shelter, but by standard they adhere to no-kill standards, with 90% of the animals being adopted out. He said Administrator Costin said access to the Shelter is predicated on whether there is room. He said the Shelter does not take feral cats.

Councilman Nash said having an existing police officer and animal control is \$6,200.00 more. Councilman Page said that would be covered by licensing fees. Councilman Nash said hiring a new police officer would cost \$61,000.00. He asked if the Animal Control Officer could take over the duties of Code Enforcement as well. He believed Chief Kuzmiak would have an officer that will be idle a lot more than what the taxpayers really pay for. Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the budget would dictate how many can be hired.

Councilman Page believed an Animal Control Officer was a totally different field than Code Enforcement. He believed a Code Enforcement Officer and Police Officer could be merged. Councilman Page said the position for the Ordinance is the Town would be covering the increase in salary with the licensing.

Councilman Allman asked what would be the cost of providing the tags, are we just breaking even at \$10.00. Councilman Page said \$10.00 is the maximum you can charge in the State. Councilman Allman said if we are just breaking even, then what is the point of the tag. Councilman Page said the tags are cheap and already come with a serial number.

Councilman Allman said we are essentially double taxing constituents, since they are already supposed to be paying County taxes. Councilman Page said they are not paying taxes to have local laws enforced.

Councilman Allman said if we can do this with a combination of an existing police officer, then are the tags more trouble than they are worth. Councilman Page said this would make the officer's life easier, by being able to identify the animals. He said when people come to get their tags, they have to show they are vaccinated, then the officer knows this as well.

Councilman Miller asked how this Ordinance effects those that have been attacked. Manager Vannoorbeeck said this Ordinance does not deal with dangerous dogs. Councilman Page said the Animal Control Officer is more a prevention.

Councilman Nash asked if the new Ordinance would help with, for example, the instance that happened at the Garden Center, where the individual gets tickets, but then they got thrown out. Councilman Page said the current Ordinance, to a judge, is not written well, but the new Ordinance has administration practices and penalties.

Councilman Miller asked if this Ordinance makes the people responsible for their dog biting someone and their injuries. Councilman Page said they are already responsible statewide, but the dog bite itself would be under dangerous dog and would be handled by the County. He said our Animal Control Officer would be able to write a ticket for the dog running at large, care and control, and maybe nuisance as well. He said all three come with stiff penalties, and get worse every time.

Councilman Allman said if people are being irresponsible and letting their dogs run at large, what makes you think they will get a tag at will. Councilman Page said that is a violation too.

Councilman Allman said what he was trying to avoid was double taxing citizens that already follow the law, because he was sure those would be the only people that will voluntarily get a tag. He asked if the small amount of money that will be collected for tags would be worth the trouble of a citizen to have to get them. Councilman Page said this is why there will be an Officer out seeing the animals, and see if there are no tags, then confront the owners, or seeing dogs running at large, it is called being proactive.

Councilman Allman said so they will be stopping people walking their dogs without tags. Councilman Page said if an animal does not have a tag, the Officer has a right to pull over and ask if the dog has a license.

Councilman Gormus believed the main purpose of the tag was to help identify the owner when an animal is running at large. Councilman Page added, and to make sure their dog has their shots, to prevent a rabies outbreak.

Councilman Nash said with the situation at the Garden Center, the owners forfeited the dogs, so then in that case they become Town property. He said the \$10.00 they did not pay; the Town gets nothing out of this and stuck with three dogs. He was concerned about an influx of animals. Councilman Page said under the Ordinance, the Town is charging \$35.00 to take the dog to the Shelter, and because it was a dangerous dog, that will fall under the County, but if the Town were to write under dangerous dogs, the Town could recover its costs.

Councilman Allman said he liked a lot in the Ordinance and thought it was really good work, but he was not quite comfortable advertising, since it was the first time, he was seeing it after being approved. He said we are talking about a tax increase at a Special Meeting.

Councilman Page said he and Councilman Allman had discussed this Ordinance several times and told Councilman Allman he took some of his advice into consideration. Councilman Allman said he appreciated that, and again he thought it was great work, but this is the first time he has seen it in final form, and we are asking for a vote on the same night.

Councilwoman Williams said the material looked good and thorough, and her only concern was we need to be fair to all citizens, we can't stop one and not stop the other.

Councilman Nash said the pooper scooper Ordinance was included in this, and we need to make sure it is enforced.

Mayor Green said he appreciated Councilwoman Williams' concerns and said he had made a commitment to see that Ordinances that are passed, Policies that are set, and Council's will be carried out. He said it was a great point, we have to treat everyone equal.

Mayor Green asked Councilman Allman if he had reservations. Councilman Allman replied, correct.

Mayor Green asked Councilman Page if he would like to withdraw his motion or let it stand. Councilman Nash said his reservation on this was waiting to hear what Attorney Bacon's comments would be.

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

## **2. Town Manager will report on County Meeting**

Mayor Green asked Manager Vannoorbeeck to please speak at the podium for future meetings, he said citizens cannot hear him, nor can he when he is listening to the tape. He said he wants the Town Manager to be heard.

Mayor Green said the Town Manager will now report on a meeting with the County, that Council authorized. He said it included the Chairman of the Board, Supervisor Roark and Administrator Costin.

### Water:

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the meeting was on Friday morning at 9:00 a.m. He believed this meeting opened the lines of communication with Animal Control, because we had been running into headwinds with the County about using the Shelter.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there were several items on the Agenda, with one being water, and countywide water. He said he did not know where we were at, he said he and Councilman Allman would be meeting again on February 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Crewe Airport, to include someone from Crewe and the County, he was not sure if anyone from Burkeville would be there. He believed the County did not want to have closed session talks about water authorities.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said he did not know where Crewe stood, they are the crucial decider on what they want to do. He said Blackstone has a resource, we have water and are blessed. He said we have a permit that would allow up to 9 million gallons a day as a safe yield. He said the Town of Blackstone is doing less than a half of million gallons a day, so there is plenty of capacity long term.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the State Facilities indicated they needed 600,000 gallons a day of water resources. He said the State's intention was to bypass the Town of Crewe, but we indicated the Town of Blackstone would not participate in something that would bankrupt the Town of Crewe. He said Prince Edward does not have those same ethics perhaps, and jumped on this when the State Facilities indicated they would be interested in going with Prince Edward County, with the same effect to the Town of Crewe.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the County Administrator indicated the parties involved had asked the County to take the lead, and Blackstone agreed, but the lead did not say anything about a Regional Water Authority. He said the lead was to begin work with legislators and the Department of Health to help undo what Prince Edward County and the Department of General Services has already done, as far as getting water from Prince Edward. Councilman Allman agreed, there was no talk about a water authority. Manager Vannoorbeeck said he knew the Town of Crewe was not interested in this.

Manager Vannoorbeeck believed the Department of General Services was intending to go to Prince Edward County for ultimately a million gallons of water per day, for a nonexistent water facility. He said Prince Edward does not have a water intake, a permit or a water treatment facility, and has no pipes.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said in the tens of millions of dollars, Prince Edward would take out resources that are available for legitimate water operators, like ourselves, the Town of Farmville, and other places, they are asking for funding opportunities, when they don't even have a customer.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said Prince Edward has swooped in and offered a very low rate. He said our engineers have said it is absolutely impossible. He said the Town of Blackstone quoted the Town of Crewe a rate of roughly \$11.47 per thousand gallons to transmit it, based on the capital cost of making the upgrades, and does not include running the line to Crewe. He said it was an expectation that the State would pay for that, because they proposed to pay for it at one time.

Mayor Green said he went to a Board of Supervisors meeting last month, and said some may have read in the newspaper, that Supervisor Roark wanted to take the water issue off of the Closed Session Agenda and put it on the Regular Session Agenda, but did not think it was taken up. He said during the conversations Chairman Bowen made the comment that he did not want to go forward with a Water Authority if the Towns did not want it. He said he made it clear to Chairman Bowen that he could not understand why the Town of Blackstone would want to be part of a Water Authority, that we would not participate in, but pay the bulk of the expense.

***Councilman Nash made a motion that the Town of Blackstone with the signature of the Mayor, present a letter to Nottoway County, that we are not interested in any Water Authority, but are interested in being a part of the solution as a water source. The motion was seconded by Councilman Allman.***

Mayor Green said when we left this meeting, we both felt like there was a spirit of partnership and cooperation. He said he was moved with the attitude.



Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

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

Boundary Adjustments:

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there have been discussions in the past about expanding the Town's boundaries. He said when we were talking about the water line on Cox Road, some of the Board of Supervisors suggested the Town ask for a boundary adjustment, so the mandated connections could be by Town Council.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said we already have an agreement with Nottoway County that the Town can take in the Nottoway Commons property at a time of its choosing. He said this is from negotiations when the County sold property that could not be served with sewer capacities. He said Nottoway Commons is next to the Bowling Alley. He said the County sold 70+ acres to a gentleman from Miami, Florida, who was a developer. He said this gentleman was going to build a 400 room hotel, multiple single family, townhouses and retail. He said years later, there is nothing, and the County did not put any restrictions on what he could do.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said the County forgot a few things, such as the Town has to approve out of town connections. He said the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant is a two million gallon a day facility and was permitted at two million gallons. He said when it was given to the Town of Blackstone, the Federal Government reserved 1.5 million gallons of the flow, with the Town only having 500,000 gallons, and were already using roughly 450,000 gallons a day. He said Nottoway Commons' request would have taken us in excess of the 500,000 gallons. Manager Vannoorbeeck said as a result of this, the Town's engineer came up with recirculation pumps to increase the capacity by 10%, to 2.2 million gallons. He said this came with cost because the Town had to change the permit and is now required to do additional sampling and testing. He said there is an agreement in place that the Town can boundary adjust to the main gate at Pickett on the south side of Route 40.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said there is a gentleman, Mr. Eric Paul on Courthouse Road, that would like his property brought into Town limits. He said Cole Harbor has been discussed because they struggle with the road out there. He said it is not a Town problem, and if brought into the Town limits, the property owners would have to pay for the road.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said at VUMAC, the frontage where the houses have been built, this property also includes 40 acres on Hungarytown Road. He said the Planning Commission has rezoned 25% of that property that lies within the Town to R2. He said it had been zoned Public and Open Space. He said there is access to water and sewer in the portion that is in the County, and it would be on the Town's electric.

Councilman Nash said with Cox Road, this would have been wonderful two years ago, when construction costs were far less. Manager Vannoorbeeck said taking it in now, the cost for the water line would be \$3 Million.

Mayor Green said by Common Consent, Council would authorize Manager Vannoorbeeck to put together maps and data to help decide what Council wants to do.

Mayor Green said Supervisor Roark has asked the Town not to overload the County, to take one project at a time.

Councilman Nash would like figures for Cole Harbor as an example. He said we would lose the 50% cost for being out of Town, but gain taxes.

Councilman Nash said if the County wants a Water Authority, we may want to set boundaries, but maybe they will work with us.

Councilman Gormus asked if there was a plan in place to proactively maintain the water and wastewater system long term. Manager Vannoorbeeck said Capital Improvement Plans are submitted every year from Mr. Edward Harris and Mr. Andre Hicks, but didn't think it touched the tip of the iceberg.

Mayor Green said another item discussed with the County was the school properties, and this would be added to Closed Session tonight, and hopefully the last time in Closed Session.

### **3. N. West Avenue Ditch**

Manager Vannoorbeeck said included in tonight's packet was a cost estimate, to get to the rear of Mr. Somerville's property would be \$54,700.00. He said this would add another 60' of 30" pipe to what was recently installed. He said for the most part the ditch is not on Mr. Somerville's property, but on the adjacent property owner. He said this would include a drop inlet and 60' of additional pipe.

Manager Vannoorbeeck suggested rebidding this in the upcoming year. He recommended this be part of the Budget process, and if approved, he would set the money aside and bid out the project. He said he was not recommending this work be a Change Order. He said there is a family on Dillard Street that has expectations pipe will be installed there as well. He said we can bid them both at the same time, and together it will be about \$200,000.00.

Councilman Miller said we told the Armes' family we would look at it again and do it, then put a two year moratorium on ditches.

Councilman Gormus asked if what was done, was what was said was going to be done. Manager Vannoorbeeck said, Mr. Somerville will tell you no, and he said the record reflects Manager Vannoorbeeck saying it may go to the railroad tracks, he said he misspoke. Manager Vannoorbeeck said the contractors and engineers did exactly what they were told, which went past Mr. Somerville's house and stopped. He said the same as what we did for Mr. Evans.

Manager Vannoorbeeck said if Council wants to do it now, it can be done as a Change Order immediately, but he would have to scramble around and find the cash.

***Councilman Miller made a motion authorizing Manager Vannoorbeeck to get the engineering process started for the N. West Avenue ditch to extend to the rear of Mr. Somerville's property, with the cost and bidding in the upcoming budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Gormus.***

Councilman Nash asked about the shed relocation and replacement. He believed the Town may be taking on costs they shouldn't be. Mr. Somerville said the shed was not on his property.

Mayor Green suggested having Town staff remove trees and any other things staff can do.

Manager Vannoorbeeck asked to allow him to get the engineer's cost estimate and a contractor's estimate and be prepared to have in the Budget. Council agreed.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

#### **4. Main Street Grant**

Mayor Green said at Council's desk is an endorsement for a Main Street Grant that DBi has asked for. He said this would support the MUMS Program for 114 S. Main Street, the old Dillard Crawley building. He asked for authorization to sign this for the Feasibility Grant in conjunction with the MUMS Grant the Town Manager was working on.

***Councilman Nash made a motion authorizing Mayor Green to sign the Virginia Main Street Program Financial Feasibility Grant 2023. The motion was seconded by Councilman Page.***

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

**5. Resolution for Mayor Coleburn**

Mayor Green said included in the packet is a Resolution honoring the service of Mayor Coleburn. He said it was his intention to have this done in the form of a plaque.

***Councilman Miller made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented, and have it in the form of a plaque to be presented at the February Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilman Nash.***

Mayor Green said Mayor Coleburn served for 16 years in the prime of his life. He said he could not say enough for what he did for this Town and the sacrifices he made.

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

Councilman Page said he would be abstaining from the DBi portion of the Closed Session.

**6. Closed Session**

Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711

1/	Personnel – DBi Position
3/	Acquisition/Disposition of Real Property – School Properties

***Councilman Miller 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 Councilwoman Williams.***

Mayor Green asked all in favor or opposed:

VOTE:

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

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

Mayor Green asked for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTE:

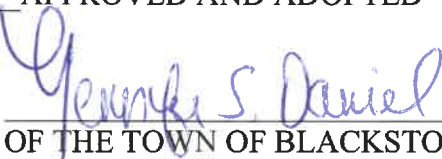
Councilman Gormus	-	Certify
Councilwoman Wynn	-	Certify
Councilman Page	-	Certify
Councilwoman Williams	-	Certify
Councilman Miller	-	Certify
Councilman Nash	-	Certify
Councilman Allman	-	Certify

Mayor Green said there was no action to be taken on anything discussed in Closed Session.

There being no further business to bring before Council, Mayor Green declared this Special Called Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MAYOR  
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA

March 20, 2023

APPROVED AND ADOPTED  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN CLERK  
OF THE TOWN OF BLACKSTONE, VIRGINIA