

WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019; 7:00 P.M.  
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293

Minutes

**Members Present:**

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor  
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor  
Laura Taylor-Baugh  
Billy Bartlett, Jr.  
Caynor Smith, Jr.

**Members Absent:**

None

**Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation:**

Boy Scout Troop #630, led by Scout Master Chad Greear, was in attendance to earn a "Citizenship in the Community" merit badge. Boy Scout Tavish Stratton led the Pledge of Allegiance. Boy Scout Jesse Greear provided the invocation.

**Consent Calendar:**

Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the Tuesday, February 26, 2019 regular meeting, the February 2019 Financial, Police, and Water Plant reports, and the February-March 2019 Fire Department Reports. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

**Public Expression:**

Chip Brickey, President of the Wise Little League, requested that Council agree to co-sponsor an opening day parade on April 13<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:00 a.m. Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to co-sponsor the Wise Little League parade as requested. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

**Resolution #9, 2019:**

Beverly Owens advised that the resolution under discussion was recommended by the Town's Attorney as a means of keeping the official town resolutions correctly identified and recorded. Laura Taylor-Baugh moved to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA, RENUMBERING 2019 RESOLUTIONS." Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	"Aye"
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	"Aye"
Laura Taylor-Baugh	"Aye"
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	"Aye"
Caynor Smith, Jr.	"Aye"

**Resolution #10, 2019:**

Town Planner Laura Craft provided a brief summary of the Norton Road Pedestrian Improvements Project - Phase I. Following the discussion, Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA, APPROVING A CONTRACT WITH THOMPSON & LITTON, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE NORTON ROAD PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT-PHASE I". Teresa Adkins seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	"Aye"
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	"Aye"
Laura Taylor-Baugh	"Aye"

Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Resolution #11, 2019:**

Laura Craft provided a brief summary of the East Main Street Pedestrian Improvements Project Phase II, which exceeded available funding in the amount of \$74,538. She advised that Virginia Department of Transportation was able to secure additional funding for the project and the resolution under discussion, was Council’s acceptance of the funding. Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA, ACCEPTING ADDITIONAL FUNDING AND COMMITTING ADDITIONAL REQUIRED LOCAL MATCH FUNDS FOR THE EAST MAIN STREET PEDESTRIAN IMPROVMENTS PROJECT PHASE II”. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

Councilman Smith thanked the Town’s staff and the Virginia Department of Transportation for the additional assistance in getting the project underway.

**Resolution #12, 2019:**

Laura Craft, Town Planner, provided a summary of the bid openings for construction of the East Main Street Pedestrian Improvements Project Phase II. Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA, AWARDED A CONTRACT TO KEN CONSTRUCTION, INC. FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE EAST MAIN STREET PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT PHASE II”. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Closed Meeting:**

Laura Taylor-Baugh moved to convene into a closed meeting for the purpose of and including:

*Legal Matters – Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel as permitted by Virginia Code §2-2-3711(A)(8);*

Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

**Regular Session:**

Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to reconvene into the regular session. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

**Certification of Closed Meeting – CM Resolution #4, 2019:**

Town Clerk/Treasurer Robin Meade, read Closed Meeting Resolution #4, 2019, “Resolving and certifying that to the best of each member’s knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully

exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applied, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Town Council of the Town of Wise,” and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Public Meeting for Public Comment and Discussion of the Proposed Financial Assistance from the USDA Rural Development to Purchase a Loader:**

Beverly Owens stated that at the suggestion of Council she approached the USDA Rural Development to inquire about the possibility of funding for the purchase of a new loader and asphalt paver. She explained that in order to obtain assistance the USDA required a public meeting be held.

Mayor Dotson opened the public meeting for public comment. There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, the public meeting was closed.

**Resolution #13, 2019:**

Following the public meeting, Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A WHEELED LOADER”. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Public Meeting for Public Comment and Discussion of the Proposed Financial Assistance from the USDA Rural Development to Purchase an Asphalt Paver:**

Mayor Dotson opened the public meeting for public comment. There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, the public meeting was closed.

**Resolution #14, 2019:**

Laura Taylor-Baugh moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE TO OBTAIN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF AN ASPHALT PAVER”. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Resolution #15, 2019:**

Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA REAPPOINTING TOMMY ROBERTS TO SERVE ON THE COEBURN-NORTON-WISE REGIONAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT AUTHORITY”. Teresa Adkins seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Jeffery Dotson, Mayor	“Aye”
Teresa Adkins, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor-Baugh	“Aye”
Billy Bartlett, Jr.	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**Authorization to Award Surplus Property Bids:**

Town Manager Beverly Owens presented the list of high bidders from the recent surplus property sale and requested that Council award purchase contracts to those listed. Owens noted in a memorandum to Council that items for which no bid was received would be donated to area high schools or public service groups, where appropriate, and the remainder of items would be disposed of. There being no additional questions or comments, Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to accept all surplus property bids as presented and authorized the distribution of the surplus property. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

**Appointee Reports (Informational Purposes Only) – Acknowledgement of Receipt:**

Laura Taylor-Baugh made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Cumberland Airport Commission report from the March 21, 2019 meeting. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

**Council Comment:**

Caynor Smith, Jr. commended the Town of Wise staff for the 97% water accountability shown on the monthly utility report.

**Staff / Manager Comment:**

Beverly Owens stated that a special-meeting would need to be held to award contracts for the loader and paver bids. Following a brief discussion, Council decided to discuss the contract awards, prior to the budget discussions at the continued meeting on April 9<sup>th</sup>.

Laura Craft mentioned the UVA-Wise Student Government Association’s Day of Service was scheduled for Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at Big Glades. She also noted that the Wise County Great American Clean-Up event would be held on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at Big Glades.

Police Chief Danny French reported that he had spoken with Robert Mullins, Wise County School Superintendent, regarding the traffic issues at the Wise Primary School. Chief French stated that Mullins advised that the student pickup program was designed to limit access to inside the schools. He also noted that the school had assigned varying times for different grades for the student pickup in the afternoons. Chief French added that Mr. Mullins had basically stated the new program would not be altered. Chief French noted that a police officer had been onsite before 3:00 p.m. to address parents getting in the pickup line. Councilman Smith responded that traffic should not block town streets. He added that when an emergency occurred and emergency vehicles could not respond, he feared the Wise Town Council would be blamed. When asked for suggestions to the problem, Town Attorney Leonard Rogers stated the Town Police should enforce the traffic laws.

Mayor Dotson suggested the Fire Department discuss alternate means of access considering the current issues with school traffic.

Mayor Dotson noted that the Wise County Chamber of Commerce 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala was scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Continuance:**

There being no additional business to come before the governing body, Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to continue the meeting until April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

  
Robin R. Meade, Clerk of Council

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Jeffery W. Dotson, Mayor