

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 22, 2022; 7:00 P.M.  
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Teresa Adkins, Mayor  
Laura Taylor, Vice-Mayor  
Ben Conway  
Jeffery Dotson  
Caynor Smith, Jr.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION:**

Vice-Mayor Taylor led the Pledge of Allegiance. Adrian Dale, Town of Wise Street Superintendent, provided the invocation.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the February 22, 2022 regular Council meeting, the November 2021 Treasurer's Financial Report, the February, 2022 Police, Water Plant, and Fire Department Reports, and the March, 2022 Planning Department and Recreation Specialist Reports. Laura Taylor seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION:**

There being no one from the public audience wishing to speak, Mayor Adkins closed the public expression.

**RESOLUTION #6, 2022:**

At the request of Mayor Adkins, Coach Robin Dotson provided a brief summary of the 2022 ladies' basketball season. Coach Dotson stated the season was a "dream season". He added that experiencing the setbacks that the team had early on, ended up making the ladies stronger and led them to the Virginia State Championship. Following the summary, Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA COMMENDING THE 2021-2022 CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL LADIES' BASKETBALL TEAM". Ben Conway seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	"Aye"
Laura Taylor, Vice-Mayor	"Aye"
Ben Conway	"Aye"
Jeffery Dotson	"Aye"
Caynor Smith, Jr.	"Aye"

Mayor Adkins presented the team a plaque in recognition of their accomplishment. In addition, each player and coach were given a copy of the resolution.

**PROCLAMATION #1, 2022:**

Mayor Adkins informed that University of Virginia at Wise Football Coach Ramseyer was being recognized for his devotion to the UVA Wise football program through adoption of the proclamation under discussion. Councilman Dotson made a motion to adopt “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA PROCLAIMING APRIL 3, 2022 AS BILL RAMSEYER DAY” with a second by Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor. The motion carried 5-0.

**RESOLUTION #7, 2022:**

Town Manager Beverly Owens informed that a “Request for Bids” for pavement marking was recently advertised with only one company submitting a proposal. She provided a written list of the streets to be striped in the fiscal year 2021-2022 paving striping schedule. Vice-Mayor Taylor made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AWARDED A CONTRACT TO CLATTERBUCK PAVEMENT MARKINGS, INC. FOR THE 2021-2022 PAVEMENT STRIPING”. Ben Conway seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Laura Taylor, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:**

- **Updates to Town of Wise Sports Complex** – Caynor Smith, Jr., Chair, briefly reviewed updates currently taking place at the Town of Wise Sports Complex. He informed that opening day of the Cal Ripken/Babe Ruth leagues would be held on April 2, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. Smith stated that the guest of honor would be Natasha Chandler, widow of Officer Michael Chandler of the Big Stone Gap Police Department, who would throw the ceremonial first pitch. He invited everyone to attend the event.

**CLOSED SESSION:**

On a motion made by Jeff Dotson and a second by Laura Taylor the Wise Town Council moved to convene into closed meeting for the purpose of and including:

*Personnel – 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 as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A) (1).*

**OPEN SESSION:**

Councilman Smith made a motion to reconvene in open session. Vice-Mayor Taylor seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION – CM RESOLUTION #1, 2022:**

Robin Meade, Town Clerk/Treasurer, read Closed Meeting Resolution #1, 2022, “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:

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

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Councilman Jeff Dotson congratulated the Wise Water Treatment Plant for the achievement of maintaining an optimal fluoride concentration range during the twelve-month period in 2020, as recognized by the Department of Health’s Office of Drinking Water.

Councilman Caynor Smith, Jr. stated that he would like for the Town’s staff to continue working on the Town of Wise Sports Complex gate in the hopes that it could be completed prior to the opening date of April 2nd.

**STAFF/MANAGER COMMENT:**

Town Manager Beverly Owens advised that the first draft of the budget would be delivered to each Council member by April 1st.

Assistant Town Manager Laura Roberts reminded that Council needed to schedule a budget workshop meeting. Following a brief discussion, Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion that a budget workshop meeting be held on April 12, 2022 at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Wise Municipal Building. Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Town Attorney Leonard Rogers informed Council that the next logical step in moving forward with the Town’s desire to pursue a walking trail around the Bear Creek Reservoir would be to hire Thompson & Litton to establish boundary lines around the lake, determine if easements would need to be secured, and to determine when the lake would be at its peak. Rogers stated that using a plotter to establish the lines would be as accurate as possible outside of a physical survey. Vice-Mayor Taylor requested that an estimate of the cost be obtained from Thompson & Litton and presented at the April Council meeting.

Following a discussion regarding the increased volume of traffic on Addington Avenue due to the

Norton Road construction, Council requested the Town Manager determine the steps needed to temporarily close Addington Avenue or to make the road one-way only. Council requested the item be placed on the April agenda.

**APPOINTEE REPORTS (Informational Purposes Only) – Acknowledgement of Receipt:**

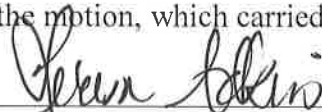
Jeff Dotson made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Cumberland's Airport Commission report from the February 17, 2022 regular meeting. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

**ADDITIONAL COUNCIL COMMENT:**

Jeff Dotson discussed problems with litter. He mentioned that he was not only talking about roadside litter, but rather residences covered in junk and trash. He requested that Leonard Rogers research any action that could be taken regarding this. In addition, Dotson stated that the Town should contact volunteers, civic organizations, or hire additional summer help to keep litter and trash under control. Leonard stated that he, Chris Kent, and Laura Roberts had joined efforts regarding trash on private property and planned on presenting their findings and recommendation at the April meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no additional business to come before the governing body, the meeting was adjourned on a motion made by Laura Taylor. Caynor Smith, Jr., seconded the motion, which carried 5-0.

  
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Teresa Adkins, Mayor

  
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Robin R. Meade, Town Clerk/Treasurer