

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020; 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
Billy Bartlett, Jr.
Laura Taylor-Baugh
Caynor Smith, Jr.

Members Absent:

None

Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation:

Mayor Dotson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilwoman Teresa Adkins provided the invocation.

Consent Calendar:

Laura Taylor-Baugh made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the April 28, 2020 regular meeting, the May 6, 2020 continued meeting, the April 2020 Treasurer's Financial Report, Police Report, Water Plant Report, and Fire Department Reports. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

Public Expression:

There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, the public expression was closed.

Public Hearing – Proposed FY 2020-21 Town of Wise Budget:

There was a public hearing held on the proposed fiscal year 2020-21 Town of Wise budget. There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, Mayor Dotson closed the public hearing.

Proclamation #4, 2020:

“A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA DESIGNATING JUNE 7-13, 2020 AS “NATIONAL GARDEN WEEK” was approved on a motion made by Billy Bartlett, Jr. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion, which passed 5-0.

Resolution #13, 2020:

Following a brief discussion, Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT NUMBER ONE TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WISE AND WISE COUNTY SCHOOLS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A HIGHWAY SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FUNDED BY A GRANT FROM THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION”. 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 #14, 2020:

Mayor Dotson reported that the Administrative Committee met to discuss inconsistencies with gifts for retiring employees, deaths, and other issues. Following a brief discussion, Teresa Adkins moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA

ESTABLISHING A POLICY FOR PURCHASE OF GIFTS WITH MUNICIPAL FUNDS.” 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”

Discussion of Special Events and Recreation Activities:

Following a discussion of the various events planned for the summer months and the executive orders issued by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam intended to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, Councilman Caynor Smith, Jr. moved that the Town of Wise cancel all events scheduled through July 31, 2020, including opening of the municipal pool. Councilman Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion. 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 Session:

Billy Bartlett, Jr. moved to convene into a closed session 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).

Real Property – 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, as permitted by Virginia Code §2.2-3711(A)(3);

Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

Regular Session:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to reconvene in open session. Billy Bartlett, Jr. seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

Certification of Closed Session – CM Resolution #5, 2020:

Town Clerk/Treasurer Robin Meade, read Closed Meeting Resolution #5, 2020, “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”

Council Comment:

Caynor Smith, Jr. recognized Tommy Roberts, Chief Operator at the Water Treatment Plant, on his upcoming retirement effective July 1st. He voiced his disappointment with having to cancel all summertime activities.

Billy Bartlett, Jr. encouraged Council in the future to take a look at needs in areas of town other than East Main Street, especially West Main Street.


Teresa Adkins and Laura Taylor-Baugh reiterated comments regarding the cancellation of summer events.

Laura Taylor-Baugh and Mayor Dotson agreed with the need for improvements in other areas of town.

Mayor Dotson made a motion that hangers and banners be ordered for poles that would accommodate banners on Norton Road at Gateway Garden and the Wise Inn (with their permission). Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

Adjournment:

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


Robin R. Meade, Clerk of Council


Jeffery W. Dotson, Mayor