

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2020; 7:00 P.M.
WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS
501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293**

Minutes

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Ben Conway

Pledge of Allegiance / Invocation:

Caynor Smith, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance. Pastor Phillip Bates, of the Trinity United Methodist Church, provided the invocation.

Consent Calendar:

Caynor Smith, Jr., made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the September 22, 2020 regular Council Meeting, the July, 2020 Treasurer's Financial Report, the September, 2020 Police, Water Plant, and Fire Department Reports, and the September-October Planning Department Report. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that passed 4-0.

Public Expression:

There was no one from the public audience wishing to comment.

Resolution #27, 2020:

Jerry Kilgore, Public Works Superintendent, provided a written memorandum outlining the procurement procedures followed for the purchase of a new dump truck. Following a brief discussion, Councilman Dotson made a motion to adopt "A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AWARDDING A CONTRACT TO WORLDWIDE EQUIPMENT, INC. FOR A NEW SINGLE AXLE DUMP TRUCK." Vice-Mayor Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

Recreation Committee Meeting:

Coordinator for Dotson Park- Caynor Smith, Jr., Chair, provided a brief summary of the Recreation Committee meeting held on September 30, 2020, to discuss the Town's need for a coordinator for Dotson Recreation Park. He added that participating in the meeting was Doug Bates, of the UVA Wise athletics program, who had expressed an interest in providing these services. The Committee was supportive of entering into a contract with Bates considering his experience and ties to the community. Councilman Smith further stated that the Town does not have staff with the experience or time to handle the duties needed at the park. He added that Bates indicated that he would be willing to work on a contract basis for a fee of \$6,000 for the first year. Smith reviewed the Committee's recommendation for Council:

- 1) *Endorse the plan to retain a recreation coordinator for Dotson Park for the 2021 recreation season, and*
- 2) *Direct the Town Attorney to draft a contract (with renewal options) for review by Mr. Bates and for approval by Town Council at the next meeting of the governing body.*

Doug Bates, who had served as a pitching coach at UVa-Wise for fourteen years, who was a high school

baseball standout at J.J. Kelly High School, and who was drafted by the major league Atlanta Braves in 1983, stated that he was excited to serve in the capacity of Coordinator for Dotson Park. He added that he had spent most of his life working with youth baseball and felt confident he would not disappoint the Town Council.

Following the discussion, Councilman Dotson made a motion to approve the committee's recommendation to endorse a plan for a coordinator for the 2021 season and direct the Town's Attorney to draft a contract for review by Mr. Bates and approval by Town Council. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

Closed Session:

On a motion made by Caynor Smith, Jr., and seconded by Laura Taylor-Baugh, 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-Baugh seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

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

Certification of Closed Session – CM Resolution #10, 2020:

Town Clerk/Treasurer Robin Meade, read Closed Meeting Resolution #10, 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:

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

Discussion of Christmas Events and Employee Christmas Dinner:

Mayor Adkins asked if there had been any decision made regarding the annual tree lighting event. Town Planner Laura Roberts responded that an actual public tree lighting ceremony would not be possible due to the "Forward Virginia – Phase III" regulations (in regard to COVID-19), but added that Council would be notified when the date for the lighting of the tree would occur, which was usually after the

Thanksgiving Holiday.

Mayor Adkins informed that instead of the Employee Christmas Luncheon being held at the Wise Fire Department Bingo Barn as in years past, the restaurant that normally catered the luncheon (Piggy Went a Smokin') would be providing a boxed lunch for each employee at their respective office. She noted that the cost savings would be spent on shirts and Food City gift cards for each employee.

November Council Meeting:

Vice-Mayor Laura Taylor-Baugh, on behalf of Councilman Ben Conway, requested that the November Council meeting be rescheduled to the week of November 16th – 20th due to conflict with the November 24th meeting, which was scheduled two days prior to Thanksgiving Day. Following a brief conversation, Laura Taylor-Baugh made a motion to reschedule the November 24th meeting to Tuesday, November 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Wise Municipal Building. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

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

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

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Cumberland Airport Commission report from the regular meeting held October 15, 2020. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

Council Comment:

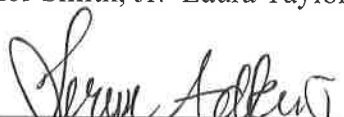
Councilman Smith suggested the current meeting be continued until November 5th for the finalization and adoption of the Dotson Park Coordinator Services Agreement. The other members of Council concurred.

Councilman Dotson encouraged everyone to support local businesses who were struggling as a result of the pandemic. He congratulated Town Planner Laura Roberts for completion of project inspection training. He also commended former employee Tommy Roberts and current employee Mike Fields on Water Treatment Plant awards.

Mayor Adkins informed that she and others from the Town of Wise had recently attended a strategic planning for the future meeting at UVA-Wise.

Continuance:

There being no additional business to come before the governing body, the meeting was continued until Thursday, November 5th at 7:00 p.m. on a motion made by Caynor Smith, Jr. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion, which carried 4-0.


Teresa Adkins, Mayor


Robin R. Meade, Clerk of Council