

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 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:

Mayor Dotson led the Pledge of Allegiance. Wayne Hager, pastor of the Zion Family Ministries, provided the invocation.

Consent Calendar:

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the September 24, 2019 regular meeting, the August 2019 Treasurer's Financial Report, and the September 2019 Police, Water Plant, and Fire Department reports. Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

Public Expression:

There being no one from the public audience wishing to comment, Mayor Dotson closed the floor for public expression.

Discussion of Exotic Animals in the Town Parks:

Town Manager Beverly Owens advised that she had been contacted by a concerned citizen in regard to the different animal species, in addition to dogs, that had been seen at Dotson Park. She stated that the citizen suggested that Council consider prohibiting all animals except service animals in all of the Town's public spaces. Following Council member comments, Town Attorney Leonard Rogers stated that the ordinance adopted by Council prohibiting dogs from public parks could be revised to include all animals, with the exception of service animals. Mayor Dotson suggested the town's staff review the concern with animals in public parks and forward a recommendation to Council for consideration.

Closed Meeting:

Caynor Smith, Jr. moved to convene into a closed meeting for the purpose of and including:

Acquisition of 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);

AND

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).

Laura Taylor-Baugh seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

Regular Session:

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

Certification of Closed Meeting – CM Resolution #13, 2019:

Assistant Treasurer Sarina Collins, read Closed Meeting Resolution #13, 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”

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

Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion acknowledging receipt of the Cumberland Airport Commission report from the special-called meeting held October 3, 2019. Teresa Adkins seconded the motion that carried 5-0.

Council Comment:

Caynor Smith, Jr. stated that the travel baseball tournament, sponsored by Sykes and held at Veldon Dotson Park and the annual Fall Fling were successful events.

Referring to the actions of a department head in regard to a violation of the Town’s Animal Control Ordinance during the Fall Fling event, Billy Bartlett, Jr. emphasized that Town personnel need to allow the Wise Police Department to do their law enforcement duties, instead of trying to handle police situations.

Teresa Adkins reminded Council that the annual employee Christmas luncheon was scheduled for December 12th. Councilwoman Adkins made a motion to transfer an additional \$700 from Council contingencies to the Christmas luncheon event for door prizes and gifts for employees. Councilman Bartlett 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”

Laura Taylor-Baugh, on behalf of Wise resident Wayne Holbrook, commended the Town’s street department for their efforts in keeping the Town mowed and weeds cut. She also informed that Wise Boy Scout Troop #630 would be hosting an annual “Celebration of Heroes” on Saturday, November 9th at Glamorgan Church. She noted that all ‘community heroes’ would be recognized.


Mayor Dotson and other members of Council thanked the Town’s staff for their assistance during the Fall Fling.


Staff/Manager Comment:

Police Chief Danny French notified that the Wise Police Department was recently awarded grant funding for new computer equipment for police vehicles.

Adjournment:

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


Jeffery W. Dotson, Mayor


Robin R. Meade, Clerk of Council