

**WISE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Tuesday, March 26, 2024; 7:00 P.M.**  
**WISE MUNICIPAL BUILDING COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**501 WEST MAIN STREET - WISE, VIRGINIA 24293**

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Teresa Adkins, Mayor  
Ben Conway  
Jeffery Dotson  
Robin Dotson  
Caynor Smith, Jr. *\*(arrived at the meeting at 7:07 p.m.)*

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE / INVOCATION:**

Police Chief Kevin Yates led the Pledge of Allegiance. Adrian Dale, Town of Wise Street Superintendent, provided the invocation.

**AGENDA CHANGES:**

Town Manager Laura Roberts advised that there were no changes to the agenda.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

Ben Conway made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which included the minutes of the February 27, 2024 regular Council meeting, the January – February 2024 Treasurer’s Financial Reports, the February 2024 Police, Water Plant, Fire Department, and Recreation Specialist Reports, and the March 2024 Planning Department and Special Events Reports. Jeffery Dotson seconded the motion that passed 4-0.

**PUBLIC EXPRESSION:**

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

**PROCLAMATION #1, 2024:**

Mayor Adkins read “A PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA PROCLAIMING JANUARY 20<sup>TH</sup> OF EACH YEAR AS NATHANIEL “NATE” WILLIAM JOSIAH JORDAN DAY”. Robin Dotson made a motion to adopt PROCLAMATION #1, 2024. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion. Following a brief discussion honoring the memory of Nate Jordan, the motion passed 5-0.

Police Chief Kevin Yates presented a plaque to Donnie and Courtney Jordan, parents of Nate, reflecting the assignment of badge number 911 to Nate, appointing him as an honorary member of the Town of Wise Police Department, therefore honoring his dream to become a first responder. Chief Yates thanked the Jordan family for the kindness shown to first responders in the area in memory of their beloved son.

**TOWN OF WISE CENTENNIAL REPORT – APPLES OF YESTERYEAR:**

Town Manager Laura Roberts informed that Sharon Daniels, friend of Bonnie Aker of the Centennial Committee, had submitted a written historical account of the Apple industry in the

Wise area from the 1920s through the 1950s. Roberts highlighted details from the essay, which had been provided to Council.

Councilman Jeffery Dotson provided a brief review of the recent Centennial Committee meeting held to discuss upcoming events planned to celebrate the Town’s Centennial year.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT:**

Jeffery Dotson, Chair, summarized the meeting of the Public Safety Committee held to discuss a request to increase the speed limit on a portion of Lake Street and to provide additional information from the Virginia Department of Transportation on the upcoming Smart Scale Project. He informed the Committee recommended Council further discuss the request to increase the speed limit on a portion of Lake Street and that there be no changes made to the previously submitted Smart Scale Project pre-applications, which included the following: 1) adding a westbound through lane at the intersection of US-23 and Norton Road 2) adding a westbound right turn lane at the intersections of US-23/ Southmark Road and US-23/ Woodland Drive. Following a discussion regarding concerns with increasing the speed limit on Lake Street, Council made no changes to the speed limit and concurred with the Public Safety Committee’s recommendation to make no changes to the Smart Scale Project.

**REQUEST FROM THOMPSON & LITTON – TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF SPRING AVENUE NE DUE TO CONSTRUCTION:**

Greg Widener, on behalf of Thompson & Litton, Inc., requested Council approval for the temporary closure of a portion of Spring Avenue NE to allow for repairs to be made to the east side of the aging building, adjacent to the street and owned and occupied by Thompson & Litton, Inc. Widener advised the work would begin in late July 2024, so as not to interfere with Chillin’ & Grillin’, and would continue for roughly 3 to 4 weeks. Following a brief discussion, Jeffery Dotson made a motion to approve the closure of a portion of Spring Avenue NE after the Chillin’ & Grillin’ event for up to forty-five days to allow for repairs to the building owned by Thompson & Litton, Inc. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**RESOLUTION #5, 2024:**

Town Manager Laura Roberts reviewed unit pricing provided by Clatterbuck Pavement Markings, Inc., the lowest bidder in response to a recent Request for Bids for the FY 2023-2024 pavement striping. Following a brief discussion, Jeffery Dotson moved to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA AWARDED A CONTRACT TO CLATTERBUCK PAVEMENT MARKINGS, INC. FOR THE FY 2023-2024 PAVEMENT STRIPING”. Robin Dotson seconded the motion with the vote recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**RESOLUTION #6, 2024:**

Police Chief Kevin Yates informed bid solicitations were recently sent out for the purchase of a new police patrol all-wheel drive sport utility vehicle, however, submitted bids indicated the requested vehicle was unavailable. Yates requested that Council reject the bids received for the SUV and allow for acceptance of bids on a pursuit-rated four-wheel drive pick-up truck, which would be more beneficial to the department due to towing capacity, hauling space, and ground clearance. Councilman Jeffery Dotson made a motion to adopt “A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF WISE, VIRGINIA REJECTING THE BIDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A POLICE PATROL VEHICLE”. Vice-Mayor Conway seconded the motion. The vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

Vice-Mayor Ben Conway made a motion to allow Yates to pursue bids for a pursuit-rated four-wheel drive pick-up truck for the Town of Wise Police Department. Councilman Jeffery Dotson seconded the motion and the vote was recorded by roll call:

Teresa Adkins, Mayor	“Aye”
Ben Conway	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**CLOSED SESSION:**

On a motion made by Robin Dotson and a second by Caynor Smith, Jr. 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:**

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

**CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION – CM RESOLUTION #2, 2024:**

Sarina Collins, Town Clerk/Treasurer, read Closed Meeting Resolution #2, 2024, “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”
Ben Conway, Vice-Mayor	“Aye”
Jeffery Dotson	“Aye”
Robin Dotson	“Aye”
Caynor Smith, Jr.	“Aye”

**COUNCIL COMMENT:**

Mayor Adkins congratulated Robin Dotson for coaching the Central Lady Warriors Basketball team to their recent VHSL Group 2A State Championship. She also commended him for being named VHSL Class 2 Coach of the Year.

Robin Dotson thanked Councilmembers for their support and stated he was blessed to be the Coach of the Central Lady Warriors Basketball team and to be a part of the Town of Wise and surrounding communities.

Caynor Smith, Jr. expressed his gratitude to Chief Yates for naming Nate Jordan an honorary member of the Town of Wise Police Department and stated it made him extremely proud of the Town.

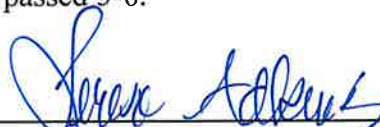
**STAFF COMMENT:**

Town Manager Laura Roberts advised a Budget Workshop needed to be held prior to the April 23, 2024 Council meeting. Following a brief discussion, Caynor Smith, Jr. made a motion to schedule a Budget Workshop on April 1, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. in the Wise Municipal Building Council Chambers. Jeffery Dotson seconded the motion that carried 5-0. Roberts also reviewed upcoming events scheduled in the Town.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no additional discussion by the Wise Town Council, Jeffery Dotson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Caynor Smith, Jr. seconded the motion that passed 5-0.

  
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Sarina F. Collins, Town Clerk/Treasurer

  
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Teresa Adkins, Mayor