

**MINUTES OF THE TIMBERVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 10, 2015**

The regular monthly meeting of the Timberville Town Council was held Thursday September 10, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Timberville Council Chambers with Mayor Donald Delaughter presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Blosser, Sharon Jones
Ned Overton, Juanita Price

PRESENT: Austin Garber, Town Manager
Wilda Wine, Clerk/Treasurer
Chief J. R. Dodd
Mark Callahan, Town Attorney
Beverly Garber, Town Historian

GUESTS: Kelly Wilkins, Marshall Copeland
Students from Broadway High School
Students from Eastern Mennonite High School (sign in sheet attached)

Mayor Delaughter led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

MINUTES: A motion was made by Juanita Price and seconded by Ned Overton to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015 Town Council meeting as presented. The motion carried with all members voting in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT:	General Fund	\$162,013.83
	Water/Sewer Fund	\$315,776.66
	Savings Account	\$818,225.23
	Loan Balance	\$499,964.05

The council was given a capital improvement spread sheet to track the spending and status of the capital outlay items in the 2015-2016 FY budget.

BILLS FOR PAYMENT: Austin Garber stated that the bill from Gilmer Industries for fluoride will be reimbursed by the Virginia Department of Health. A motion was made by Sharon Jones and seconded by Ned Overton to pay the bills as presented. The motion carried with all members voting in favor.

Council questioned the impact of the upgrade at Broadway's Wastewater Treatment Plant. The upgrade is estimated to be approximately \$15,000,000. Mark Callahan will review the contract to see if any costs will be passed on to the plant's customers.

POLICE REPORT: Chief Dodd reported that with the hiring of Officer Steve Scholten there has been improvement in the amount of coverage time. However, his hiring has left a shortage in the part time staffing. Chief Dodd stated he will reviewing the policy and requirements for part time employees. The rifles budgeted for have been delivered. All uniforms and patches have been ordered. The decision has been made to order a new Ford Explorer for \$25,700 instead of a Chevrolet Tahoe at a cost of \$35,800.

PUBLIC WORKS: Austin Garber gave a list of jobs completed by the maintenance crew for the month. A copy will become part of these minutes. He stated that the tank project is underway, beginning with the site preparation. The annual fees have been collected from Sunnyside and deposited to the Economic Development Authority account. The bid for snow removal has been submitted and accepted by VDOT. Austin Garber stated he had contacted VDOT concerning the installation of lighting for the gateway sign in the median on Route 42. They are checking the standards for lighting and will get back in touch with the town. They stated that the lighting could not be mounted to the top of the sign, but they were not sure about ground mounted lighting shining on the sign. The majority of the responses received from Facebook were in favor of keeping the covered bridge on the sign. The budget for FY 2015-16 included \$10,000 for the purchase of the signs. A motion was made by Sharon Jones and seconded by Juanita Price to proceed with ordering the signs with the covered bridge as designed. The motion carried with Sharon Jones, Juanita Price and Ned Overton voting in favor. Robert Blosser was opposed. Austin Garber was asked to proceed with getting a directional sign for Plains District Memorial Park.

BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY: The ground breaking ceremony was held for the Walmart Store. Work at the Sentara Medical Facility is proceeding as scheduled. The work on the water tank has begun. Ned Overton and Austin Garber met with Rockingham County Economic Development officials and toured the town and surrounding areas including the former Shenville Creamery site. Ned Overton stated that they are still trying to find a user for the vacant National Fruit Buildings. Issues would have to be addressed by the Rockingham County Fire Marshall's office and VDOT before any use.

ZONING ACTIVITY: Wilda Wine reported the following zoning activity for the month:

14720 Woodcreek Lane- addition of a roof over existing porch

388 North Main Street- new fence

3087 Declaration Drive- addition to dwelling

Mark Callahan presented council with a copy of an easement to be vacated on the property owned by Walmart. This drainage easement will no longer be needed with Walmart's storm water management system. Council directed the town manager to sign the agreement, so that it can be recorded.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Ned Overton reported that he had met with representatives from Game and Inland Fisheries concerning the canoe/kayak launch, where to place it and how to build it. At least three permits will need to be secured, and the process has begun. The cost of the roadway to access the launch will need to be determined. Erin Yancey of the Central Shenandoah Planning District met with Austin and walked the park to obtain ideas to be incorporated into a master plan for the park. The Parks and Recreation Committee will meet to discuss ideas they would like to see in the plan. Funding opportunities when available are often only open for a few weeks. The Town needs to have a plan in place in the event a funding opportunity should open up.

FINANCE: A motion was made by Robert Blosser and seconded by Sharon Jones to set the amount of tax relief for 2015 personal property taxes at 49%. The motion carried with all members voting in favor.

A resident, Kelly Wilkins, had questioned the handling of renter's deposits for water, sewer and trash billing. She had asked if the deposit was refundable after a year of making payments on time and if interest was paid on the deposit. Mark Callahan, town attorney, determined that the Virginia Administrative Code pertained only to utilities regulated by the State Corporation Commission. The code exempts municipal corporations.

While reviewing the ordinances concerning the renter's deposit, Attorney Mark Callahan, found an ordinance prohibiting the sale of alcohol from midnight on Saturday until 6:00 a.m. Sunday. He suggested that the ordinance be repealed because state law supersedes any ordinance concerning the sale of alcohol. Council took no action.

PERSONNEL: No report at this time.

PLAINS DISTRICT MEMORIAL MUSEUM: Beverly Garber, town historian, gave a presentation of historical happenings in Timberville. Wilda Wine reported 135 volunteer hours were logged and 41 visitors for the month. The next exhibit beginning in November will be "Public Transportation Comes to Plains District", featuring railroad memorabilia. Heritage Day will be Saturday September 26th 8:00 a.m until 1:00 p.m. There will be music, food, and walking tours of Timberville and Broadway.

OTHER BUSINESS: Robert Blosser asked the status of the out of town businesses required to obtain licenses. The treasurer reported that second notices have been sent to two businesses. Mark Callahan stated he would have to look at ways to enforce the requirement. He also had drafted a form to file liens on real estate for mowing etc. The court will not charge the town to file these liens.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Kelly Wilkins asked the town to reconsider their handling of renter's deposits for water and sewer. She stated that even if they could not be refunded until the service ended that they should accrue interest.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Ned Overton to go into closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Freedom of Information Act Section 2.2-3711-4 to discuss personnel. Sharon Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

OUT OF CLOSED SESSION: Ned Overton moved to come out of closed session stating that only personnel matters were discussed. A roll call vote was taken stating only personnel matters were discussed. The vote was as follows: Ned Overton-yes, Sharon Jones-yes, Robert Blosser-yes, Juanita Price- yes, and Don Delaughter-yes.

ADJOURNMENT: No further business, the meeting adjourned.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Wilda Wine, Clerk

Donald Delaughter, Mayor