

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

**Town Council
Working Session**
Monday, January 11, 2016
Victory Hall
401 Valley Street
Scottsville, Virginia

Mayor
Jesse B. Grove III

Town Council
Nancy E. Gill
R. Daniel Gritsko
Jeannette E. Kerlin
Elizabeth M. Knotts
Randall J. Nolt
Ronald L. Smith

MINUTES

Mayor Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Knotts, Mr. Nolt, and Mr. Smith were present. Ms. Kerlin was absent. Also in attendance were Town Administrator George Goodwin, Town Attorney James Bowling, and Town Clerk Amy Moyer. The items discussed were as follows:

Police Chief's report: Chief Robert Layman reported that New Year's Eve went well and was uneventful. He has received complaints about hunting on the Paulett tract. He suggests that they revisit the firearms ordinance to specify no hunting, as bow and arrow seems to be a problem too.

Mr. Smith recounted recently seeing a deer hunter with bow and arrow on the neighboring property, and while the ordinance prohibiting the discharge of firearms within town limits addresses hunting, it does not restrict archery. He agreed that an ordinance covering all types of hunting is needed.

Mr. Gritsko asked if DGIF requires a certain size of land for hunting. Mr. Smith replied that the DGIF website on urban archery shows localities of varying sizes with ordinances, and one of those arrows can be just as deadly as anything else.

Mayor Grove asked when hunting season is over. Mr. Gritsko replied that firearms season is over. Mr. Smith noted that bow hunting goes until March.

Mayor Grove said that VCNA will be posted no hunting. Mayor Grove asked Mr. Bowling to recommend a modification to the ordinance so that they can consider whether to have a no hunting ordinance within the town limits. Mr. Smith suggested that the Public Safety Committee consider the issue, and he offered to help.

Mr. Bowling commented that they should not have such a blanket exclusion that they keep people from culling deer herds if they become a nuisance. Mayor Grove asked how to make an exception. Mr. Goodwin said they would get a permit from the town and DGIF. Mr. Gritsko suggested asking DGIF for advice on regulating this.

Mr. Nolt asked about allowing archery on property over a certain acreage. Mayor Grove felt that any prohibition should apply to all if enacted. Officer Charles Dean suggested contacting Lake Monticello, as they have similar ordinances in place and contract with bow hunters to cull the

deer population annually. Mayor Grove referred the topic to the Public Safety Committee, and he asked Mr. Bowling to work with the committee to develop a proposed ordinance.

Chief Layman reported that the Public Safety Committee discussed the opening of the Van Clief Nature Area. He sees a need for parking signage on Jefferson Street to prevent people from blocking Moon Street, as well as park hours and rules signs. Chief Layman asked who will be responsible for opening and closing the park, and if the police are closing the park at night, how would they view the park to ensure that everyone is out at closing, as many areas are accessible only by walking.

Mayor Grove stated that the Tourism Committee has met to consider signage and rules. As far as policing the area, they will learn by experience what is needed up there, but it is unrealistic to expect the police to patrol on foot after hours. Mayor Grove said that parking will be addressed with the signage program.

Mr. Gritsko asked Chief Layman and the Public Safety Committee for any recommendations on moving the gate at the Hardware Street entrance, as is proposed to allow fishermen closer access to the lake. He noted that DGIF patrols around stocking dates and has caught violators.

Chief Layman reported that there have been issues with parking on the wrong side of Harrison Street, and Ms. Kerlin has asked if the parking sign can be moved further up the hill to be more visible. Mr. Goodwin will ask VDOT to move the sign and speak to the property owner where the sign will be placed.

Chamber of Commerce report: Laara Gervais reported that the chamber is doing a membership drive. Ms. Gervais and photographer Tom Green presented a framed copy of the cover photograph from the 2016 Scottsville Directory for display in the council chambers.

Remarks from Scott Leake: Scott Leake of Congressman Robert Hurt's office invited council members to attend the local elected officials appreciation event in April. He noted Congressman Hurt's upcoming retirement at the end of the year, and he assured that the congressman and his staff will continue to be available to handle issues through the end of his term.

Architectural Review Board report: Mayor Grove reported that Patrick Tocci attended the ARB meeting to discuss work commenced without a COA. Mr. Tocci agreed to submit a proper application for a COA, and enforcement action has been stayed pending review of the application.

Planning Commission report: Mr. Smith reported that the commission discussed the self-storage proposal and scheduled a public hearing for February 1.

Treasurer's report: Mr. Goodwin reported that they are for the most part on target, but he will be happy when they get the DCR reimbursement.

Ms. Knotts asked about ticket revenue; Mr. Goodwin replied that there is some but not a lot. Mr. Smith asked when they start selling vehicle licenses; Mr. Goodwin replied that the county is

collecting for the town. Ms. Gill asked when the new Chinese restaurant opens; Mr. Goodwin replied January 19. Mayor Grove asked about the business operating in the kitchen at 330 Valley Street; Mr. Goodwin replied that they have a permit and Mr. Bowling is looking at the BPOL classification for that.

Mayor's report: Mayor Grove reported that the contract for the VCNA improvements was completed in December on time and on budget, with excellent work. DCR did a final inspection and approved the work, so there will not be any difficulty with the grant reimbursement. Mayor Grove recognized all who helped with holiday events, including Bob and Barbara Coleman for organizing the tree-lighting ceremony, Tavern on the James for providing hot chocolate, and Nancy Gill for arranging the music; Nancy and Cynthia Bruce for organizing the Festival of Lights; the Christmas Parade of Churches; and the SCAN Holiday Extravaganza; and George Goodwin and David Becker for the town decorations.

Mayor Grove reported that, through Mr. Bowling, they offered Albemarle Properties LLC an opportunity to submit a COA to the ARB to do the renovation work necessary at 135 Warren Street prior to the town taking enforcement action. Mayor Grove has asked Mr. Bowling to proceed with enforcement action as discussed, as no response was received by the December 31 deadline.

Mayor Grove reported that the Neighbors brothers will demonstrate craft work techniques used for the canal warehouse restoration. The demonstration is planned for January 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Arts and Culture Committee report: Ms. Gill reported that the committee will hold an organizational meeting on Wednesday, January 13, at 10:00 a.m.

Beautification and Maintenance Committee report: Ms. Knotts reported that the committee discussed adjusting some landscaping. Ms. Knotts asked if the council wants to see a drawing for the work or leave it to the committee's discretion; Mayor Grove preferred the latter. Ms. Knotts reported that the spring cleanup is planned for April 2 at 9:00 a.m. A subcommittee will handle the sidewalk planters. Mr. Goodwin is getting a price to close the window opening in the back of the gazebo, and he is also looking for slate for step material. Ms. Knotts reported that Kyna Moore is doing a great job working with the Boys and Girls Club on the Butterfly Garden, and Kim Yoder is working with David Becker on winter maintenance projects. The committee will meet on Thursday, January 14, at 7:30 a.m., to discuss the Fourth of July parade cleanup. The regular committee meeting will be Wednesday, January 20, at 6:00 p.m.

Farmers' Market Committee report: Ms. Knotts reported that the first meeting for the season will be Thursday, January 14, at 6:00 p.m.

Ms. Knotts also related that she and Ms. Gill are working on a voter outreach event later this month.

Tourism Committee report: Mr. Gritsko reported on plans for funding, design, and action at the VCNA. Components to fund include the handicap access, the Billy Goat Trail, culverts for the Mink Creek trail, and bathrooms. They will work to determine where to apply for grants and

private donations in the months to come. Design components include work with Dan Mahon on the Billy Goat Trail, the culverts for the Mink Creek Trail, a bridge above Scottsville Lake, and signage. Mr. Gritsko plans a February work day for the Mink Creek Trail, weather permitting. DGIF has made a budget application for \$20,000 for the accessible dock, and the town will need to complete the handicap access if this funding is granted. Mr. Gritsko reported that a tourism and economic development meeting is planned for February 5 at 2:15 p.m.

Ms. Knotts suggested finding an intern to help with summer trail maintenance.

Town Administrator's report: Mr. Goodwin reported that DCR signed off on the on the VCNA phase one project, and they discussed future funding possibilities. Mr. Goodwin thanked David Becker for the Christmas decorations. He has asked Dennis Bessette for a price on the siding treatment at Canal Basin Square. He plans to remove and replace the sloping sidewalk in front of Victory Hall Theater to prevent rain from coming into the building, and the woodwork has been treated for pest control. Two sidewalk sections will be replaced at Bruce Park and in front of James River Animal Hospital.

Ms. Gill asked if an appropriation will be voted on for the sidewalk. Mr. Goodwin replied no, this is from \$2,000 already allocated for that kind of work.

Mr. Gritsko asked where they stand on the easement with Dr. Hurt. Mr. Goodwin replied that he has obtained two of the three additional plats for the sewer line easement, he expects to receive the final one within the next day or two, and he has given the plats to Mr. Bowling. Mr. Bowling suggested that they obtain written confirmation from ACSA and any lienholder as well.

Mr. Goodwin reported that the Victory Hall rear roof leaks badly despite many repairs. He has obtained a quote for \$2,800 to replace this roofing. He said there is a newer product available that resembles standing seam and is cheaper, but it is not a good precedent. Ms. Gill asked Mr. Goodwin to obtain a sample of the new product for the ARB to review. Mr. Goodwin said the roofing company gives out a cut sheet, but not a sample. Ms. Gill commented that the newer technology may be better and the ARB should look at it.

Mr. Goodwin reported that he contacted trash companies about pickup times, and County Waste may not complete route reprogramming until March. Area historical societies and PVCC workforce development plan to visit the Neighbors' restoration presentation. Mr. Goodwin wants to identify pricing for bollards, gravel, and fencing at the Pine Street entrance to the Mink Creek Trail.

Ms. Knotts asked when they will get a tree for the tree well in front of Scottsville Supply Company. Mr. Goodwin replied that it will be the end of February or early March, when the season allows.

Town Attorney's report: Mr. Bowling had nothing additional to report.

Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Chapter 22 (Board of Zoning Appeals): Amendments have been re-advertised for public hearing on January 19.

Amendments to Zoning Ordinance Section 4.14 (Signs): Amendments have been advertised for public hearing on January 19.

VCNA Master Plan: The Town Council plans to recommend that the Planning Commission include the VCNA Master Plan in the next Comprehensive Plan revision. This was placed on the regular session agenda.

FY 2016 Budget Amendments and Supplemental Appropriations: Budget amendments reflecting supplemental appropriations have been advertised for public hearing on January 19.

Mr. Goodwin related that the Methodist Church and Tom England are looking at plans for work behind Lucky's and have asked for a cost-share with the town for plants.

Closed session: Council members agreed that a closed session was unnecessary at this time.

Upon a motion by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Knotts, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.