

# TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

**Town Council  
Working Session**  
Monday, August 10, 2015  
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  
Ronald L. Smith

## MINUTES

Mayor Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith were present. Mayor Grove noted that Graham Prichard is missing due to his resignation. 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 stated that at the last public session there were questions on Scottsville's involvement in the missing person's case, and it was told that the police department receives a 10:00 a.m. communication from the county regarding events of the previous day, but he was unaware of that. After speaking with ECC, ACPD, and the county police service division, he has not been able to verify that this takes place. He also talked to several police officers who were unaware of such a report.

Mayor Grove suggested that Chief Layman contact Miller Stoddard about the daily broadcast. Chief Layman will do so.

Chief Layman noted that he responded via email to a traffic summons complaint. He has ordered new traffic summons forms to include both phone numbers for the general district court, as the county intends to place the recorded info line back in service.

Chief Layman related that there were reports of possible trespass and larceny at the former Hyosung plant.

Mr. Smith asked about an accident on Mountain Vista Road today. Chief Layman replied that a pickup truck slid off the bank where vegetation obscured the edge of the road; there were no injuries. Mr. Gritsko asked Mr. Goodwin to contact VDOT about this.

*Chamber of Commerce report:* Mr. Smith reported that the Chamber is sponsoring a social media workshop here tomorrow.

*Architectural Review Board report:* Mayor Grove reported that the ARB approved a door for the new Chinese restaurant at 440 Valley Street. The ARB asked Mr. Goodwin to send a 90-day letter to the owner of 380 East Main Street because of the deterioration of that building. The ARB discussed a pagoda at the butterfly garden at some length.

*Planning Commission report:* Mr. Smith reported that the commission had a good meeting with two representatives from the Thomas Jefferson District Planning Commission, with discussion of

the new way that VDOT projects will be funded as a result of HB2. Projects will require advance planning in order to compete for funding. A potential project is a sidewalk from downtown to uptown.

*Treasurer's report:* Mr. Goodwin stated that everything is moving forward properly for the month. He noted that there were three pay periods in July.

*Mayor's report:* Mayor Grove reported that he has been working on getting a contract in place for work at the Van Clief Nature Area, which has been regrettably slow. One contractor has a number within budget, but it is contingent on bringing a truck across the concrete bridge. Hurt and Proffitt will schedule a bridge engineer to evaluate the loading capacity of the bridge and whether any temporary supports can be added. Mayor Grove and Mr. Goodwin reviewed the logistical difficulties if they cannot use the bridge. If the bridge is found to be sufficient, Mayor Grove would like to sign a notice of intent to award and proceed expeditiously with contract approval.

Mayor Grove reported he and Mr. Goodwin met with two people to explore what they can do to fill storefronts. A further meeting has been scheduled, and they will likely select a project and set out to achieve that.

Mayor Grove commented that he was again impressed with how well the farmers' market is going, with lots of customers and vendors, and thanks to Shannon Bostic and Liz Knotts.

Mayor Grove noted that Albemarle Properties LLC has filed an appeal from the decision in the town's favor regarding the easement. Legal counsel thinks the appeal was filed too late under Virginia law, but they have to go through the preliminary processes to get the record before the supreme court before moving to dismiss. Mr. Bowling reviewed the process.

Mayor Grove reported that other potential litigation with Albemarle Properties LLC concerns 135 Warren Street. Preliminary notices, notice of the ARB finding, and a notice of violation have been sent.

Mayor Grove related that they received a letter from Heinz Gadiant expressing concern about an agenda for stark, dark, and uniform storefronts. Mayor Grove said he is unaware of such an agenda from the town office or the ARB. Ms. Kerlin asked if the ARB is looking at a color scheme for benches and flower pots. Mayor Grove replied no, though occasionally people come to the ARB and ask for suggestions on color schemes. Mayor Grove said there was concern expressed several months ago about the paint on the telephone exchange building, but the bricks collapsed and will have to be replaced.

*Beautification and Maintenance Committee report:* Ms. Knotts reported that Kim Yoder will meet with Mr. Goodwin and the contractor for the gazebo at the butterfly garden. Kyna Moore has been supervising the volunteer work by the Boys and Girls Club. The committee reviewed the list of tasks for the maintenance employee. The Chamber of Commerce officially turned over the care of the flower boxes to the committee. A fall social gathering is planned for all town committees.

*Farmers' market:* Ms. Knotts reported that the farmers' market is going well. She substituted for the market manager a few weeks ago and got a good idea of how hard the job is. They continue to address resale issues.

*Tourism Committee report:* Mr. Gritsko reported that Nancy Gill, Jane Dittmar, and he took the new county economic development director on a tour. Mr. Gritsko and Ms. Gill would like to create an economic development focus group or super-committee. Looking at tourism, they need to clarify the vision of the town and its businesses.

Mayor Grove related that he recently did a 14-minute radio spot on why people should come to Scottsville.

Mr. Gritsko reported that the VCNA committee will meet next week to finalize the park master plan. He also wants to work on a master plan for trail connections throughout the town. Mr. Gritsko plans to meet with the Beautification and Maintenance Committee about VCNA.

*Arts and Culture Committee report:* Ms. Gill reported that they have built consistency over the four Scottsville Second Saturdays held so far. The next event is September 12, which is also Community Day, with a concert by Eddie and Martha Adcock to close the day. The committee is considering fundraising for a portable aluminum stage. Ms. Gill noted an independent festival, Kickin' It on the James, is planned for September 5, with Ashley McMillen and Sons of Bill.

*Completion of packet boat at Canal Basin Square:* Mr. Goodwin reported that he met with contractor Dennis Bessette several times about the packet boat. Mr. Bessette will next meet with Tim Small to work out details. Mr. Goodwin said Mr. Bessette has expressed a preference for an hourly not-to-exceed contract, rather than a lump sum. Mayor Grove will look at this.

*Town Administrator's report:* Mr. Goodwin reported that Charles Hurt has given permission for Kickin' It on the James to use the parking lot at the plant. Concertgoers will be shuttled from the parking area to the farmers' market. They will set up a recycling dumpster for aluminum cans at the event.

Mr. Goodwin reported that Mr. Bowling has drafted a license and easement agreement for the trail along the sewer line to Paulett Town. Mr. Goodwin will deliver this for signature tomorrow.

*Town Attorney's report:* Mr. Bowling explained that a license can be revoked at any time, while an easement is permanent. The license is for one small part at the gate, while the easement overlays the ACSA sewer line. The town will name the landowner as an additional insured, and the town has agreed to mow and maintain the trail at least five times per year.

Mr. Goodwin noted that \$50 per cut was added to Tim Karr's mowing contract for the trail.

Mr. Bowling asked Mr. Goodwin to check whether there are any deeds of trust on the property, so that the trustees can release their interests from the easement.

*Fourth of July:* A follow-up meeting with Tim Karr is planned.

*Governance and ethics workshop:* Ms. Gill asked what schedule is preferred. Council members agreed that splitting the workshop between two weeknights is preferable. Ms. Gill will follow up with the instructor.

*River access:* Mr. Goodwin stated that he is going after a survey quote from Roudabush and Gale. Mr. Bowling noted that they previously surveyed the annexed area and would be familiar with the town survey work. Mr. Goodwin would like to ask CSX about use of the area to the left of the boat landing.

*Town Council, Planning Commission, and BZA vacancies:* Mayor Grove stated that two expressions of interest were received for the council seat. Council members agreed to invite the applicants to the regular session for interviews.

Ms. Kerlin asked that the public forum return to a limit of three minutes per speaker. Mayor Grove prefers to have the mayor or chair control the process rather than a rule. Ms. Kerlin requested that the regular session agenda be changed to reflect this, since the rule is not enforced. Mayor Grove asked Ms. Moyer to revise the agenda accordingly.

Upon a motion by Ms. Gill, seconded by Ms. Knotts, the meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.