

# TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

**Town Council**  
**Regular Session**  
Monday, August 17, 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

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
3. ROLL CALL of Town Council – Town Clerk Amy Moyer called the roll. Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith were present. Ms. Gill was absent. Also in attendance was Town Administrator George Goodwin.
4. CONSENT CALENDAR
  - 4.1. Approval of Agenda
  - 4.2. Financial Report for July 2015
  - 4.3. Minutes – Working Session of July 13, 2015
  - 4.4. Minutes – Working Session of August 10, 2015

Upon a motion by Ms. Kerlin, seconded by Mr. Gritsko, the consent calendar was approved.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Grove reported that he and Mr. Goodwin met with interested parties who want to develop a plan for filling vacant storefronts on Valley Street. They are studying the situation now and will select a project to pursue. Mayor Grove reported that in the town's suit with Albemarle Properties, an appeal has been filed and is on its way to the Virginia Supreme Court. The town believes the appeal is untimely and will file a motion to dismiss. Mayor Grove will miss the September work session due to a holiday. Mayor Grove commented how pleased he is to see the activity in town with the farmers' market, Second Saturdays, and all the cultural events.
6. PUBLIC FORUM

Craig McPherson, captain of the Hatton Ferry for six years, addressed the council. Mr. McPherson commented on the changes in the river area over the past six years to become more family-friendly, tourist-friendly, and senior-friendly, thanks to the help of law enforcement and the general attitude of those visiting and working. Mr. McPherson read a statement from Buckingham County Administrator Rebecca Carter about the county's desire to improve that side of the river and the boat landing, which is unsafe. Mr. McPherson displayed pictures of the landing. He continued from Ms. Carter's statement that Buckingham County is awaiting permission from the Albemarle County Historical Society,

which they cannot seem to get, though they have the money and the contractor to do the work. He said that Reeling and Rafting is doing a great job keeping the landing clean.

Mr. Gritsko asked if he is saying that the holdup is the Albemarle County Historical Society and does he work with them. Mr. McPherson replied yes, he physically runs the ferry but stays out of the politics; approval has to go through Rebecca Carter, the Buckingham Board of Supervisors, and the Historical Society. Mr. McPherson commented that it is a pleasure to see families enjoying the river, and everything has improved, but they would like to improve it more and need the okay from Albemarle County Historical Society to go to Rebecca Carter to get things rolling.

Mr. Gritsko asked who is the president of the Albemarle County Historical Society. Mr. McPherson replied Steven Meeks.

Ms. Knotts asked if it would be okay for the town to send a letter encouraging approval. Mayor Grove replied yes, Hatton Ferry is of interest to the town because of the tourist interest and the usage by James River Reeling and Rafting, and he would be happy to send a letter to the Historical Society urging that they cooperate. Mayor Grove noted that the town is in litigation with Albemarle Properties, owned by Steven Meeks, so the town may not have too much influence.

Mr. Gritsko asked how the town can be helpful. Mr. Goodwin suggested contacting other members of the board, as Mr. Meeks has been out of town recently.

Mr. Gritsko expressed appreciation for Mr. McPherson's work at the ferry. Mayor Grove noted that the council encouraged the Albemarle County Police to pay more attention to the river and Hatton Ferry, and a few months ago they received an extensive report from DGIF on their efforts. Mr. McPherson commented that they are doing a great job, as is the Buckingham County Sheriff's Department.

#### 7. ACCEPTANCE OF LICENSE AND EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH VIRGINIA LAND TRUST

Mayor Grove explained that this agreement is to gain upper-side access to the Van Clief Nature Area from Paulett Town.

Mr. Gritsko moved to approve the license and easement agreement with Virginia Land Trust. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion.

Ms. Kerlin asked if there is a contract to maintain this. Mr. Goodwin replied that language within the agreement requires the town to mow the easement five times per year and add the landowner as an additional insured. Mr. Goodwin said this will increase the mowing contract by \$50 per cut. Mr. Gritsko noted the need to remove stumps and add edging along the trail, commenting that this is an important addition to the trail system.

The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## 8. VAN CLIEF NATURE AREA TRAILS PHASE I CONTRACT

Mayor Grove reported that as of today they have what they believe is a contract structure to which they can agree, for a contract price of \$77,500. The major concern is whether they can take heavy loads across the concrete bridge at Jefferson Street. Two bridge engineers have studied the bridge and think it will be okay if the weight is limited. Temporary shoring of the bridge is recommended. The town takes the bridge collapse risk as long as the contractor follows the engineer's recommendations. Mayor Grove said he is in a position to get signatures this week, send the contract to DCR for approval, and put it on the next council agenda for final approval. He hopes to issue a notice to proceed prior to October, as the grant runs out at the end of December.

## 9. REPORTS OF CHARTERED COMMITTEES, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

*Planning Commission:* Mr. Smith reported that TJPDC's Will Cockrell and Chip Boyles gave a presentation on the new way of funding transportation projects under HB 2.

*Beautification and Maintenance Committee:* Ms. Knotts reported that the committee continues to work with the Boys & Girls Club on the Butterfly Garden, and Kyna Moore has offered to head up this project. They are working with the ARB on plans for a gazebo. Ms. Knotts reported that the committee is working on communication methods. A meeting with Tim Karr about July 4 has been rescheduled. There seems to be misreporting on who is responsible for the flower boxes.

Mr. Smith said that there is a Chamber meeting this week to straighten out the flower box issue.

Ms. Knotts reported that the farmers' market continues to do very well. They hope to plan an all-committee picnic at the end of October.

*Architectural Review Board:* Mayor Grove reported that the ARB approved the door for the Chinese restaurant at 440 Valley Street. The ARB requested that the town send a 90-day letter to the owner of 380 East Main Street due to deterioration of that building. The board discussed at some length the proposed pagoda at the Butterfly Garden.

*Public Safety Committee:* Ms. Kerlin reported that in follow up to the public forum last month, Chief Layman inquired with ACPD about the reported 10:00 a.m. communique and spoke with several officers who were unaware of any such report. Mayor Grove added that Chief Layman and Miller Stoddard did talk, and there is not the sort of daily broadcast described, but there is email communication from time to time within the county police concerning things like missing persons, and Chief Layman will be added to that email list.

*Arts and Culture Committee:* Ms. Kerlin reported for Ms. Gill that Community Day is September 12. Second Saturdays and a concert by Eddie and Martha Adcock and Scott Ward are also planned for that day.

*Tourism Committee:* Mr. Gritsko reported that he has started working with Ms. Gill on economic development. The VCNA committee met today with the Chesapeake Bay Conservancy and will meet tomorrow to work on the master plan.

#### 10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Goodwin reported that he discussed the parade confetti with Tim Karr and was told it was biodegradable. He related that Chief Layman is concerned about the attendance numbers for the September 5 concert and will ask for one extra officer if the projected attendance is over 500 and two officers if the projected attendance is over 800. There is a meeting with the concert organizers tomorrow to finalize details.

Mr. Goodwin reported that Officer Dean just finished a week-long training course at Weyers Cave. The Luv'n Oven has changed ownership. Equipment has been delivered to the Chinese restaurant. Rotten wood will be removed and snow guards will be installed at the farmers' market pavilion. Mr. Goodwin met with Tim Small today about the packet boat plans, as the drawings include both the inside and outside of the boat, and only the outside is to be completed at this time. The Lord Chesterfield batteau will be treated and sealed for preservation.

#### 11. CLOSED SESSION FOR INTERVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF CANDIDATES FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE TOWN COUNCIL, AS PERMITTED BY CODE OF VIRGINIA SECTION 2.2-3711(A)(1)

Ms. Kerlin moved that this council now meet in closed session for the following purpose: interview and discussion of candidates for appointment to the Town Council, as permitted by Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(1). Mr. Smith seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Upon returning to open session, Mr. Gritsko moved to adopt a resolution certifying the closed session. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted. The motion was approved, with Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith voting in favor and none against. The following resolution was adopted by a vote of 4-0:

##### CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, this council convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

## 12. RESOLUTION APPOINTING A REPLACEMENT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER

Mayor Grove stated that he has the form of a resolution to appoint a member to fill the seat of Graham N. Prichard, who has resigned, for the term until the next election in July. Ms. Kerlin noted that the term expiration is June 30 but the election is in May.

Ms. Kerlin moved to appoint Randall Nolt to the vacant position on the Town Council. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted. The motion was approved, with Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, and Ms. Knotts voting in favor and Mr. Smith against. The following resolution was adopted by a vote of 3-1:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE  
TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE, VIRGINIA,  
APPOINTING A REPLACEMENT TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Scottsville, Virginia, as follows:

WHEREAS, Graham N. Prichard was appointed as a member of Town Council of the Town of Scottsville, Virginia, to serve a term from November 17, 2014, through June 30, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Town and the Town Council appreciate his excellent service as a Town Councilor; and

WHEREAS, Graham N. Prichard resigned from his office effective August 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Virginia Code §24.2-228 provides that Town Council shall appoint a replacement Town Council member to serve in the resigning Town Council member's place instead until the next duly called election to elect his successor.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Scottsville, Virginia, on motion duly made by Jeannette E. Kerlin and seconded by Elizabeth M. Knotts, that Randall J. Nolt is appointed to serve on the Town Council of the Town of Scottsville, Virginia, in Graham N. Prichard's place and stead until a successor is elected, as provided by law, effective with the date of this resolution.

Mayor Grove noted that secondly they have a need to fill a position on the Planning Commission. Mr. Gritsko nominated Josh Peck for that position. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

13. ADJOURNMENT – Upon a motion by Ms. Kerlin, seconded by Ms. Knotts, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.