

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

Town Council
Regular Session
Monday, March 21, 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

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. Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, Ms. Knotts, Mr. Nolt, and Mr. Smith were present. Town Administrator George Goodwin was also in attendance.

Scottsville District Supervisor Rick Randolph addressed the council at this time. Mr. Randolph stated that he regrets that a conflict with a citizens advisory committee meeting prevented his attendance here last month. He offered to answer any questions on the proposed county budget, if desired. Mr. Randolph stated that he noted that the mayor expressed some frustration in January about why there is continued talk about broadband and so little action, but there is a great deal of activity under the seemingly placid waters. The county's broadband management team, on which he serves, selected Design Nine of Blacksburg to do the planning for the county-wide broadband planning initiative that has been funded by a \$75,000 DHCD grant that his predecessor Jane Dittmar was instrumental in procuring. They are looking for this plan design to build off the existing capacity provided by public safety and school departments and potentially integrate with the upgrade of 500 kV transmission lines that run from east to west through the southern tier of the county. Part of this grant will involve surveying residents, and residents of greater Scottsville will very much be part of that conversation.

Mr. Randolph related that Rita Krenz of the Scottsville Volunteer Rescue Squad met with Monticello High School students enrolled in the health and medical services academy, and she was appealing to them to potentially join SVRS as volunteers. Mr. Randolph has talked with Fire/Rescue Chief Dan Eggleston about programs to attract more community-minded volunteers, but this is especially challenging when many measures of civic engagement are declining. In addition, Mr. Randolph is currently exploring with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission and Department of Social Services staff whether potential ways exist through state funding of a planning grant for the county to deliver more effectively an increased range of critical social services, such as for seniors, at-risk youth, and those with mental and physical health issues, within the Town of Scottsville, for both Albemarle County residents and the residents of Nelson, Buckingham, and Fluvanna.

Mr. Randolph stated that Wegmans on Fifth Street opens this fall, hopefully by November 1. This store alone will be hiring 500 new, better-than-average-paid employees, and other stores will follow, also with opportunities for employment. He offered to pass along hiring information as he receives it. Mr. Randolph said that Economic Development Director Faith McClintic reported to the Board of Supervisors last month that she has identified 41 county acres currently suitable for light industrial development. When Mr. Randolph inquired whether Scottsville was included in this calculation, he learned that it was not and requested that the report be updated to include land suitable for LI. He would like to make sure that Scottsville factors into economic development discussions with prospective prospects.

Mr. Randolph reported that the Board of Supervisors has publicly asked staff to provide options for relocation of the county courts, two of which could be in the Scottsville district. Incorporating the courts in a new location could have an economic stimulative effect on county property values. One potential site could be county-owned land off Mill Creek, and the second could be the Town of Scottsville.

Mr. Gritsko asked for more explanation. Mr. Randolph replied that the city and the county are in discussions about upgrading the county courthouse in Court Square, and the county has purchased land to undertake this, but parking has been the sticking point, as the county estimates that it needs 100 dedicated parking spaces for residents to park in close proximity. Mr. Randolph said that therefore the Board of Supervisors has asked staff to present options for alternative locations for the courthouse complex and potentially a new county office building outside of the City of Charlottesville, and two potential locations are in the Scottsville district.

Mr. Gritsko noted that the original county courthouse was in Scottsville. Mr. Randolph said yes, it was moved in 1761. Mr. Randolph added that looking at this as an economic development project, what the courts would represent to Scottsville is something well worth exploring. He brought this up in the campaign as a somewhat humorous statement, but there is a historic justification for it. Mr. Randolph said that the board will look at the proposed locations and weigh where the greatest benefit will be, provided that they cannot resolve the parking issue with the city.

Mayor Grove asked whether there is a specific courthouse site in mind within the town borders. Mr. Randolph replied no, not at this point. Mayor Grove commented that he is discouraged that Faith McClintic seems to have overlooked Scottsville after all the discussions and meetings that he had with her, and he thanked Mr. Randolph for picking up on that. Mr. Randolph said it was an omission, and Ms. McClintic assured him that it will be included.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR
 - 4.1. Approval of Agenda
 - 4.2. Financial Report for February 2016
 - 4.3. Minutes – Regular Session of February 16, 2016
 - 4.4. Minutes – Working Session of March 14, 2016

Mayor Grove stated that they may wish to modify the agenda, as Mr. Goodwin brought back today the signed easement from Virginia Land Trust for the Mink Creek Trail. That easement requires the town to agree to maintenance and to add Virginia Land Trust as an additional insured, so it needs Town Council action to be finalized. Mayor Grove said that the Town Council may suspend the rules and add the easement to tonight's agenda or wait until the next meeting.

Ms. Knotts asked Mr. Gritsko what his preference is. Mr. Gritsko replied that they have been waiting for this for a long time, and he asked if it would be premature to do it tonight. Mayor Grove replied that he thinks it is straightforward, and there is nothing in there as he reads it that is in any way inappropriate, so he has no doubt that they will ultimately ratify it. Mayor Grove said the question is whether the council wants to take time to read it and think about it.

Mr. Smith moved to suspend the rules and add the approval of the Virginia Land Trust easement to the agenda. Mr. Gritsko seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Smith moved to approve the consent calendar. Mr. Gritsko seconded the motion. Ms. Kerlin offered a correction to the minutes, noting that the next Government Services Committee meeting is March 22, not March 27. Mr. Smith and Mr. Gritsko accepted the amendment, and the consent calendar was unanimously approved with the correction noted by Ms. Kerlin.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

Tommy Payne of the Piedmont Virginia Fiddle and Banjo Association addressed the council. Last year the association held a show in association with the farmers' market, and they are very thankful for that, as it was one of the most productive shows they have had. They are asking if it would be okay to do the same this year on May 14, in coordination with the farmers' market and Scottsville Second Saturdays. Mr. Payne related that the Piedmont Virginia Fiddle and Banjo Association was established in February 1991, and their mission is to preserve and promote bluegrass, old-time, folk, county, and gospel music. This is accomplished in monthly association meetings and public jam sessions, promotions and support of local concerts and events, and increasing public awareness of the music and their association. The association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, and donations are tax deductible. The Music of the Piedmont show brings awareness, attracts new members, and raises funds for scholarships and operational expenses. This year was the first year they were able to issue two scholarships, and they would like to try to do five scholarships per year for music lessons. Club meetings are held the first Monday of every month at 7:30 p.m. He hopes to have the blessing of the mayor and council for this year's Music of the Piedmont event.

Ms. Knotts asked what is the event time. Mr. Payne replied that they hope to start at 10:00 a.m., rain or shine, with four bands scheduled to play. Mayor Grove commented that he thinks it is within the prerogative of the mayor and the town administrator to approve this, but he would seek guidance from council members about whether they think it is a good idea.

Ms. Gill stated that it is a fantastic idea. Ms. Knotts said the farmers’ market will welcome it. Mr. Goodwin added that it is already penciled in on the farmers’ market schedule. Mayor Grove thanked Mr. Payne for his comments and said it looks like this is now approved.

- 6. MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Grove reported that his activities this month have been mostly directed towards economic development, including working with Mr. Gritsko’s subcommittee, meeting with the owners of the plant and the old Dollar General store, and pursuing plans for both of those areas. He cut the ribbon for the new Chinese restaurant, and there is a new wine shop coming soon. Mayor Grove commented that he is generally optimistic that things will start happening at a greater pace than they have previously seen.

7. SCAN LEASE RENEWAL

Mayor Grove stated that he has described the lease to council members, and a copy was distributed by email. The lease has been signed by Mayor Grove and by SCAN. He asked for a motion to ratify the lease.

Mr. Gritsko moved to ratify the lease. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by voice vote.

8. ADOPTION OF USDA LOAN RESOLUTION FOR POLICE VEHICLE

Mayor Grove stated that as discussed in the work session, the funding is 75 percent grant and 25 percent loan.

Ms. Gill moved to adopt the USDA loan resolution. Mr. Smith seconded the motion.

Ms. Gill stated for public knowledge there is a loan part to this, asking Mr. Goodwin what is the interest rate. Mr. Goodwin replied 3 percent or lower. He explained that rates adjust April 1, and they anticipate it going lower, but at this time it is 3 percent. Ms. Gill asked if there any penalties if they pay off the loan early. Mr. Goodwin replied no, none whatsoever.

A roll call vote was conducted.

Ms. Gill	<u> Yes </u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u> Yes </u>	Ms. Kerlin	<u> Yes </u>
Ms. Knotts	<u> Yes </u>	Mr. Nolt	<u> Yes </u>	Mr. Smith	<u> Yes </u>

The motion passed 6-0. The adopted resolution is attached to the original of these minutes.

9. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR TO EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO USDA GRANT AND LOAN FOR POLICE VEHICLE

Mayor Grove said this a companion matter to the loan just approved.

Ms. Kerlin moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the town administrator to execute

documents pertaining to the USDA grant and loan for a police vehicle. Mr. Nolt seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted.

Ms. Gill	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u>Yes</u>	Ms. Kerlin	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Knotts	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Nolt	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>Yes</u>

The motion passed 6-0. The adopted resolution is attached to the original of these minutes.

10. REAPPOINTMENT OF SETH MCDOWELL TO THE ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD FOR A TERM ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2017

Mayor Grove explained that the date of September 30, 2017, is the date that Fred Schneider's appointment would have expired, so this is to fill out the remainder of his term. Mr. Schneider took a one-year sabbatical but is not ready to return to the board. Mayor Grove stated that Seth McDowell has been an exemplary member of the ARB, he attends every meeting, he meets with property owners, and he has given good, sensible advice on the issues that come before the board. Mayor Grove recommends his reappointment.

Ms. Kerlin moved to reappoint Seth McDowell to finish out the term on the ARB ending September 30, 2017. Mr. Gritsko seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by voice vote.

11. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$2,000 FOR FARMERS MARKET

Mayor Grove noted that this was discussed in the work session, but he asked Ms. Knotts to make the case for it. Ms. Knotts explained that this covers fees for the market that will be incurred prior to the next fiscal year for wireless internet, the manager's salary, advertisements in *Edible Blue Ridge*, and a 15-foot banner. Ms. Knotts said she raised \$842.80 towards these costs, and she asks that the town fund the remainder, for a total of \$2,000. Ms. Knotts said that vendor fees will contribute to this.

Mayor Grove asked for a motion to appropriate \$2,000 less \$843 for the farmers' market. Ms. Knotts so moved. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion.

Ms. Gill stated that she was under the understanding that they also need to appropriate the donated funds. Mr. Goodwin said yes, they really are asking for \$2,000 as far as to be able to spend it, but the town is putting in the difference. Ms. Moyer said they project that market fees will be higher than what was budgeted, so that will cover some of this. Mayor Grove asked what is the proper motion. Ms. Moyer replied \$2,000. Ms. Knotts and Ms. Kerlin accepted the amendment to appropriate \$2,000 for the farmers' market.

A roll call vote was conducted.

Ms. Gill	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u>Yes</u>	Ms. Kerlin	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Knotts	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Nolt	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>Yes</u>

The motion passed 6-0.

12. ACCEPTANCE OF LICENSE AND EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH VIRGINIA LAND TRUST

Mayor Grove stated that this easement enables the town to better utilize the Mink Creek Trail by picking up the right to use a certain amount of the property owned by Virginia Land Trust. Mr. Gritsko explained that the Van Clief Nature Area has a couple different access points, and people have used the Mink Creek Trail unofficially for decades. Mr. Gritsko said that they have acquired the easements over the past year or two to provide for legal use of the trail, allowing a fully-functioning Mink Creek Trail from VCNA to Pine Road, with a parking lot at the end. Mr. Gritsko estimated that it is a year of work to add culverts and the parking lot, but the easement gives the town the ability to do that.

Mayor Grove stated that as he noted before, this easement requires the town to maintain the property that is subject to the easement, and it also requires the town to add Virginia Land Trust as an additional insured on its liability policy in case someone trips and falls on the property. Therefore, it is necessary for the Town Council to vote if it wishes to accept the terms of the easement. Mayor Grove asked if the proper motion is to accept the easement. Ms. Moyer replied yes, to accept the easement and license agreement with Virginia Land Trust. Mr. Gritsko commented that he will be in dialogue with Ms. Knotts and the Beautification and Maintenance Committee about maintenance issues with VCNA.

Ms. Knotts moved to approve the easement and license agreement with Virginia Land Trust. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted.

Ms. Gill	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u>Yes</u>	Ms. Kerlin	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Knotts	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Nolt	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>Yes</u>

The motion passed 6-0.

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

Planning Commission: Mr. Smith reported that representatives from the Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission recapped transportation funding for localities at the last commission meeting. Mr. Smith recently attended a transportation meeting at TJPDC and made contacts for help on the sidewalk project from downtown to uptown.

Public Safety Committee: Mr. Nolt reported that the committee continues to work on hunting restrictions for archery within the town limits, and he sent a draft to Town Attorney James Bowling. He is also contacting DGIF to discuss the proposal.

Beautification and Maintenance Committee: Ms. Knotts reported that the majority of the committee's discussion at the last meeting was in regards to the Van Clief Nature Area and how it is going to be maintained once it is officially up and running at full capacity. The

committee partnered with the Methodist Church to clear the hillside by Mink Creek, with help from the Discovery School and other volunteers. They will meet this week with the James River Association to discuss plantings for that area. The flower boxes are out and nicely planted by volunteers. The town trash cleanup is scheduled for April 2; typically, about 40 volunteers collect 100 bags of trash in the community. The committee meets this Wednesday. Ms. Knotts also invited the public to the Farmers' Market Committee meeting this Thursday at 6:00 p.m.

Government Services Committee: Ms. Kerlin reported that the committee was looking at transparency and recommends that all contacts go out to bid, with final approval by Town Council for all professional and skilled contracts. The committee is also looking at the policy and procedure manual and whether to implement a formal grievance procedure. The committee also discussed a part-time clerical support position and putting the Town Code online. The committee next meets tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.

Tourism and Economic Development Committee: Mr. Gritsko reported that there will be another Mink Creek Trail workday on April 16 to continue removing stumps and low branches. Another project is moving the gate to provide closer parking and access for fishermen and cleaning up the Batteau Trail. They recently walked the trails with Dan Mahon to get feedback and advice. A park logo has been designed for signs, brochures, and fundraising. Signage is an important issue for VCNA and will be looked at in both the short-term and long-term. Mr. Gritsko related that he had the opportunity to see a new hiking area in Schuyler that will open next year. The economic development subcommittee meets tomorrow at 6:00 p.m.

Arts and Culture Committee: Ms. Gill reported that the outreach coordinator for PVCC will be giving an orientation on getting started at PVCC tomorrow at 6:00 p.m. in the theater. They will host the Health and Wellness Expo on Saturday from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m., with more than 30 participants. April 9 is the first Scottsville Second Saturdays event, with a goal of bridging the gap between uptown and downtown businesses and creating an atmosphere and events where people will want to come to Scottsville and spend the day.

Mayor Grove noted the wonderful Dante's *Inferno* event last Saturday evening with Virginia Poet Laureate Ron Smith and artist Michelle Gagliano.

14. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Goodwin reported that he met with Dr. Charles Hurt today to get the final signatures on the easement. Mr. Goodwin said that in conversation, Dr. Hurt brought up the plant property and a possible rezoning request for a retirement village on the hillside and asked for support and suggestions. Mayor Grove asked Mr. Gritsko to put this on the economic development subcommittee agenda. Mr. Goodwin stated that Dr. Hurt offered to provide culverts for the stream crossings and parking bumpers for VCNA. Mr. Goodwin reported that he has been working on the proposal for the new police vehicle.
15. ADJOURNMENT – Upon a motion by Ms. Kerlin, seconded by Ms. Gill, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.