

**Town of Bluefield
Town Council
Minutes
April 25, 2023**

The Bluefield, Virginia Town Council held a Special Called Meeting on Tuesday, April 25, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall located at 112 Huffard Drive, Bluefield, Virginia.

PRESENT

Donnie Linkous, Mayor
Cathy Payne, Councilmember
Chuck Presley, Councilmember
Anglis Trigg, Councilmember
Rick Holman, Vice-Mayor
Lee Riffe, Councilmember

ALSO PRESENT

James Hampton, Asst. Town Mgr/Treasurer/Transit Dir
Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk
Alan McGraw, Interim Attorney
Shane Gunter, Chief of Police
Lori Stacy, Communications Director
Nathaniel Mitchem, Zoning Admin/Prop. Maintenance

ABSENT

Ron Holt, Councilmember

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Linkous called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

Vernon Hancock, Parkview Baptist Church led the Invocation. Mayor Linkous led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Councilmember Presley made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilmember Riffe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Riffe made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Presley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

FINANCIALS

None.

CITIZEN REQUESTS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Downtown Master Plan Presentation – CARDNO

Representatives presented a power point presentation.

Council asked that a pdf of the presentation be sent to them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS & REPORTS

None.

NEW BUSINESS & REPORTS

Budget Amendments, ROLL CALL VOTE – Kim Hernandez

Mrs. Hernandez asked for a vote to approve the following budget amendments:

PURPOSE: Security Services Payment Aramark

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. State Law	<u>\$266,198.31</u>	<u>\$269,248.31</u>	<u>\$3,050.00</u>
		<u>\$266,198.31</u>	<u>\$269,248.31</u>	<u>\$3,050.00</u>

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-1600	Investigative OT	<u>\$48,000.00</u>	<u>\$51,050.00</u>	<u>\$3,050.00</u>
		<u>\$48,000.00</u>	<u>\$51,050.00</u>	<u>\$3,050.00</u>

PURPOSE: Grant Funding for BOLA Wrap Purchase

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
0400-0413	Misc. State Law	<u>\$269,248.31</u>	<u>\$271,043.31</u>	<u>\$1,795.00</u>
		<u>\$269,248.31</u>	<u>\$271,043.31</u>	<u>\$1,795.00</u>

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3110-8106	Grants	<u>\$42,214.47</u>	<u>\$44,009.47</u>	<u>\$1,795.00</u>
		<u>\$42,214.47</u>	<u>\$44,009.47</u>	<u>\$1,795.00</u>

PURPOSE: Fincastle Cart Path Paving

Revenue

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
3501-0514	Pool Renovations	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>
	Donation	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>

Expenditure

Line Item		Original Budget	Amended Budget	Change
9100-5253	Cart Paths	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>
		<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>	<u>\$89,500.00</u>

Mr. Riffe asked about the pool renovations.

Mrs. Hernandez stated that this was something that was put into pool paths so that they would know to keep it separate until it was used.

Mayor Linkous asked the Clerk to do roll call and report.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilmember Riffe:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Holman:	Yes
Councilmember Holt:	Absent
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Payne:	Yes
Councilmember Trigg:	Yes
Mayor Linkous:	No Vote Permitted

Motion carried 5-0 in favor.

Hockman Pike/Fred Woody – Mayor Linkous

Mayor Linkous stated that there had been numerous Public Hearings on 3 different locations and granting the ability to put in a doublewide. He stated that council had all agreed to do this.

Mr. Holman asked if the minutes reflected a vote.

Mrs. Hernandez stated no.

Mayor Linkous stated that it was discussed for Pinehill Park and First Street and would be case by case.

Mr. Presley suggested changing the overall zoning.

Recreation Director/Town Attorney Positions

The Recreation Director was addressed after the Work Session and direction given.

Mr. Holman made a motion to appoint Mr. McGraw’s firm as the attorney for the Town. He stated that he had been in the position as interim and was doing a good job. Mr. Presley seconded the motion.

Mayor Linkous asked the Clerk to do roll call and report.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilmember Riffe:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Holman:	Yes
Councilmember Holt:	Absent
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Payne:	Yes
Councilmember Trigg:	Yes
Mayor Linkous:	No Vote Permitted

Motion carried 5-0 in favor.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dave Wohlford stated that there was still speeding issues on Sedgewren and Tanager, that he had talked with the Building Inspector about doing a courtesy call on a roof that was being put on but he did not have a vehicle at the time to go and check it. He stated that the Town had worn out vehicles and needed to go out to bid with multiple businesses for pricing.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Gunter stated that they had drone training for 2 days/8 hours each day and would be certified under the FFA. He stated that the drone capabilities were amazing.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

None.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Surplus Properties Deed, ROLL CALL VOTE

Mr. McGraw stated that he was looking to vacate the alley on Summit Street along with another one. He stated that he had the deed ready to turn over to the IDA and it would require Mayor Linkous and Mrs. Hernandez both to sign.

Mr. Presley made a motion to proceed with turning the deeded property over to the IDA. Mrs. Payne seconded the motion.

Mayor Linkous asked the Clerk to do roll call and report.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilmember Riffe:	Yes
Vice-Mayor Holman:	Yes
Councilmember Holt:	Absent
Councilmember Presley:	Yes
Councilmember Payne:	Yes
Councilmember Trigg:	Yes
Mayor Linkous:	No Vote Permitted

Motion carried 5-0 in favor.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mr. Trigg thanked everyone for coming out.

Mrs. Payne thanked CARDNO for the presentation.

Mr. Riffe thanked everyone for coming out, invited council and the employees to come to the Sanders House on May 16th 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. for the Employee Luncheon, June 10th would be the 140th year incorporation of the Town and he was working with Lori on doing something, that Bluefield Monument had just been recognized for their 100th year in business and Bethel Church would also be celebrating their 140th year.

Mr. Holman thanked CARDNO.

Mr. Presley thanked James, Kim, Alan and Chief for their work and thanked CARDNO for their presentation.

Mayor Linkous stated that the Bluefield Monument Celebration was on Friday and the Bluefield State University Gala was at Fincastle on Saturday. He stated that FUMC was wanting the land behind their church.

Mrs. Payne stated that she had talked to Alan and the church would need to write a letter to the IDA.

Dave Wohlford stated that he had talked to the VDOT representatives while they were downstairs and was told that we would have a crosswalk at the fountain in 2025.

Betty Watson reminded them of the quilt show in June.

Lori Stacy thanked the Town for sponsoring the Tazewell Chamber Annual Dinner and those in attendance.

ADJOURN

Mayor Linkous asked for a motion and a second to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

D.S. Linkous, Mayor

Kim Hernandez, Town Clerk

