

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF VINTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 6:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VINTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOCATED AT 311 SOUTH POLLARD STREET, VINTON, VIRGINIA

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bradley E. Grose, Mayor  
Michael W. Stovall, Vice Mayor  
Keith N. Liles  
Sabrina McCarty  
Laurie J. Mullins

STAFF PRESENT: Pete Peters, Town Manager/Town Clerk  
Cody Sexton, Assistant Town Manager/Town Treasurer  
Antonia Arias-Magallon, Administrative Manager  
Jeremy Carroll, Town Attorney  
Fabricio Drumond, Police Chief  
Chasity Barbour, Community Programs Director

**The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00**  
p.m. The Administrative Manager called the roll with Council Member Liles, Council Member McCarty, Council Member Mullins, Vice Mayor Stovall, and Mayor Grose present.

Roll call

**After a Moment of Silence, Community**  
Programs Director Chasity Barbour and Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director, Angie Chewning led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

**Under Council Member Activities, Council**  
Member Mullins announced the following: March 23 – Mayor Grose attended the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission meeting; March 23 – Council Member Liles attended the Roanoke Valley Transportation Planning Organization meeting; March 24 – All members of Council attended the Council Retreat at Roanoke Higher Education Center; March 30 – Council Member Mullins and Mayor Grose attended the Planting of Pinwheel for Child Abuse Awareness Month; March 31 – Council Member Mullins and Council Member McCarty, Vice Mayor Stovall and Mayor Grose attended the Hockey game; April 4 – All members of Council attended the Pok-E-Joes Ribbon Cutting event.

**Vice Mayor Stovall made a motion to approve the**  
Consent Agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Mullins and carried by the following vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, McCarty, Mullins, Stovall, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Approved minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 21, 2023.

**Under awards, introductions, presentations, and** proclamations, Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Angie Chewing and Communications Program Director Chasity Barbour gave an update on the Vinton Area Chamber. Ms. Chewing commented that the membership has increased to about 260 members right now. Increased sponsorship is about 20,000. Businesses are wanting to be more involved with the Chamber. The Chamber has expanded their special event calendar. The Chamber is involved in ribbon cuttings, partnering with Police Department in Pancakes with Police, Pizza with Police and Coffee with Police. The Chamber has also starting to do continuing education with Lunch and Learns. The Chamber is continuing partnership with the Town on publishing the new Vinton Magazine which will come out July this year. Ms. Chewing expressed appreciation for Roanoke Valley Television (RVTV). Ms. Barbour commented that in order to stay in good standings with RVTV, the Town should go to YouTube and follow the videos to have a better regional reach. There will be a golf tournament in June at Blue Hills on Friday, June 2nd. The next big event will be the State of the Town Address on April 6th and the Palooza on May 20th from 1 to 6 p.m.

Mayor Grose expressed appreciation on the efforts and progress for reaching out to Vinton Residents.

**The next item on the agenda was the Vinton First** Aid Crew update by Chief Chris Sayre. Mr. Sayre expressed appreciation for being there. Mr. Sayre next gave statistics for January and February. There were 231 volunteer calls. The Crew responded to 139 of those calls. There were 22 second emergency calls. The Crew transported 90 people to the hospital. The Crew lost a member of the team unexpectedly. The Crew brought on 5 new recruits since beginning of year. A few of the recruits jumped into an EMT class. The Crew was approved for a grant and will be getting a new ambulance within the next month or two. The primary ambulance is out of service, and the Crew is using the County's.

Mayor Grose commented that the group is very active.

**The next item under awards, introductions,** presentations and proclamations was a proclamation for National Child Abuse Prevention Month. Kathryn Sowers with the GFWC Woman's Club commented on the pinwheel garden that was

planted in front of the Municipal Building on March 30th with the assistance of the Police Department and Council Members. Following additional comments by Ms. Sowers about the GFWC, statistics relating to child abuse and World Autism Awareness Day, Council Member Liles read the Proclamation for National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

**The second proclamation was for the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week.** Vice Mayor Stovall read the Proclamation and made brief comments.

**The next item on the agenda was the** Consideration of public comments regarding setting of the real estate tax rate for calendar year 2023. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing Opened

Cody Sexton first commented that the real estate assessment that occurred this past year showed an 11.77% increase for the Town. Pursuant to State Code, the required Notice of Public Hearing was advertised on March 2, 2023, which was 30 days prior to the Public Hearing. The current real estate tax rate is \$.07 per \$100.00 of assessed value and no change is being recommended for calendar year 2023.

Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:32 p.m.

Public Hearing Closed

**Council Member McCarty made a motion to adopt** the Ordinance setting the real estate tax rate for calendar year 2023 as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Mullins and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Adopted Ordinance No. 1050 setting the real estate tax rate for calendar year 2023

**The next item on the agenda was the** Consideration of public comments regarding setting of the personal property and machinery and tools tax rates for calendar year 2023. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.

Public Hearing Opened

Mr. Sexton next commented that the current personal property tax rate is \$1.00 per \$100.00 of the assessed valuation of all personal property excepting there from household furnishings, and 50% or \$.50 per \$100.00 of the assessed valuation of one motor vehicle owned and regularly used by a disabled veteran, subject to certain qualifications

and no change is being recommended for calendar year 2023.

Public Hearing Closed

Hearing no comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

Adopted Ordinance No. 1051 setting the personal property and machinery and tools tax rates for calendar year 2023

**Council Member Mullins made a motion to adopt** the Ordinance setting the personal property tax rate for calendar year 2023 as presented; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Stovall and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 4-0; Yeas (5) – Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

**The next item on the agenda was the** consideration of public comments regarding the proposed amendment to the Town of Vinton's FY 2022-2023 budget to appropriate funding for the Grant Fund and the Woodland Place Stream Restoration Project in the total amount of \$285,000.00. The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Public Hearing Opened

Mr. Sexton commented that the Town is participating in a grant with DEQ where the funding is received half from State and half from the Town. In August 2022, the Town appropriated and amended the budget for the Town's portion of \$285,000.00. The Resolution will allow the State's portion to be spent.

Hearing no public comments, the Public Hearing was closed at 6:36 p.m.

Public Hearing Closed

**Council Member Liles made a motion to adopt** the Resolution as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Mullins and carried by the following vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Adopted Resolution No. 2540 appropriating funding for the Grant Fund and the Woodland Place Stream Restoration Project in the total amount of \$285,000.

**The next item on the agenda was to consider** adoption of a Resolution approving the 2023-2024 operating budget of the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority. Dan Miles from the Resource Authority first commented that the Budget was \$15,913,793 and a 7.1% increase. Mr. Miles gave a summary on the budget revenues and expenditures that was provided in a booklet to Council before the meeting and will be available on file at the Town Clerk's office.

Council Member Liles and Mayor Grose expressed appreciation and congratulated Mr. Miles on retirement.

**Vice Mayor Stovall made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented;** the motion was seconded by Council Member McCarty and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

**The next item on the agenda was to consider** adoption of a Resolution setting the allocation percentage for Personal Property Tax Relief in the Town of Vinton for the 2023 tax year.

Mr. Sexton commented that the tax relief shall be allocated so as to eliminate personal property taxation for qualifying personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less. That qualifying personal use vehicles valued at \$1,001-\$20,000 will be eligible for 35.95% tax relief. That qualifying personal use vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 35.95% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value.

Mr. Carroll and Mayor Grose commented on the tax relief rate.

**Council Member Liles made a motion to adopt the Resolution as presented;** the motion was seconded by Council Member McCarty and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

**The next item on the agenda was to consider** adoption of a Resolution awarding a construction bid and authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with Holt Inc., in the amount of \$479,039.00, for the construction of the Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B.

Anita McMillan, Director of Planning and Zoning, commented that the Town received two bids, and the lowest was the one from Holt Inc. The project would begin in June. The project would have a walkway from Gus Nicks Boulevard to the Tinker Creek Greenway. The Town received a grant and a donation for the project. The Town match for the grant is 20%.

Adopted Resolution No. 2541 approving the 2023-2024 operating budget of the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority.

Adopted Resolution No. 2542 setting the allocation percentage for Personal Property Tax Relief in the Town of Vinton for the 2023 tax year.

Mr. Peters, Vice Mayor Stovall, Mayor Grose, and Council Member Liles expressed appreciation for the work Mrs. McMillan has done for this project.

**Council Member McCarty made a motion to adopt the** Resolution as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Liles and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

**The next item on the agenda was to consider** adoption of a Resolution awarding a construction bid and authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with F & B Contractors, Ltd., in the amount \$716,973.10 for the construction of the Walnut Avenue Bike/Pedestrian Accommodations Project from 1st Street to W. Lee Avenue

Mrs. McMillan commented that the Town had to advertise the project twice. The bid received the second time was the F&B Contractors. The project is 100% funded.

**Council Member Mullins made a motion to adopt the** Resolution as presented; the motion was seconded by Council Member Liles and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

**Town Manager Peters first expressed** appreciation to Mrs. McMillan and Mr. Sexton for their work. Town Manager Peters next expressed appreciation towards Council for their attendance at the Council Retreat. Town Manager Peters next commented that the second edition of All Things Vinton Newsletter will come out tomorrow. Town Manager Peters next expressed appreciation towards the Lions Club for their contribution to the bus shelter project near Lake Drive Plaza. Town Manager Peters next expressed appreciation towards Corey Welsch and Council for a great opening earlier that day for Pok-E-Joe's. Town Manager Peters next commented on Police Officers Valladarez and Ponce for completing their training. Town Manager Peters next commented on the public being great during the demolition downtown.

**Vice Mayor Stovall first commented on Friday's** Hockey Game, Mountain View Road, and a

Adopted Resolution No. 2543 awarding a construction bid and authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with Holt Inc., in the amount of \$479,039.00, for the construction of the Glade Creek Greenway Phase 2B.

Adopted Resolution No. 2544 awarding a construction bid and authorizing the Town Manager to execute a contract with F & B Contractors, Ltd., in the amount \$716,973.10 for the construction of the Walnut Avenue Bike/Pedestrian Accommodations Project from 1st Street to W. Lee Avenue.

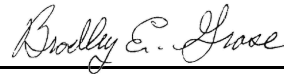
playground coming to the Vinton Baptist Church for the Boys and Girls Club. Council Member Mullins expressed appreciation towards Town Manager Peters and staff for the Council Retreat. Council Member McCarty commented on the Pok-E-Joe's opening, Famous Anthony's, and the Lions Club. Council Member Liles commented on the Pok-E-Joe's opening.

**Mayor Grose showed appreciation towards staff.**

**Council Member Liles made a motion to adjourn** the meeting; the motion was seconded by Council Member McCarty and carried by the following vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, McCarty, Mullins, Stovall, Grose; Nays (0) – None. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

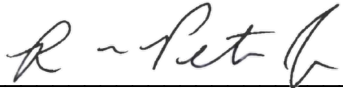
Meeting Adjourned

APPROVED:



Bradley E. Grose, Mayor

ATTEST:



Richard W. Peters Jr., Town Clerk