

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF LURAY, PAGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA
Monday, January 08, 2007**

The Luray Town Council met in regular session on Monday, January 08, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Luray Town Council Chambers located at 45 East Main Street, Luray, Virginia at which time there were present the following:

Presiding: Mayor Ralph H. Dean

Council Present: Nancy Shifflett
Lonnie Arrington
William Menefee
Leroy Lancaster
Barry Presgraves
Earl "Rock" Racer

Also Present: Rick Black, Town Manager
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager
Jason Spitler, Town Attorney
Mary Broyles, Clerk-Treasurer
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Charlie Hoke, Director of Utilities
Lynn Mathews, Superintendent of Public Works
Page Campbell, Chief of Police
Andrew Jenner, Page News & Courier

A quorum being present, Mayor Dean declared the Council to be in session for the transaction of business. All present stood to recite the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING- December 11, 2006

Minutes of the December 11, 2006 Regular Council Meeting were submitted for review. **Motion:** Councilman Lancaster motioned to approve the minutes as presented, motion seconded by Councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

COUNCIL WORK SESSION- January 03, 2007

Minutes of the Council Work Session of January 03, 2007 were submitted for review. **Motion:** Councilman Presgraves motioned to approve the minutes as presented, motion seconded by Councilman Racer with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING- December 13, 2006

Minutes of the Planning Commission Meeting of December 13, 2006 were submitted for review of information.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Town Planner Ligon Webb briefed council on the three sign ordinances which were the subject of public hearing. The floor was then opened for public comment regarding these three ordinances; Article VIII (Signs), Section 801.6/ Article VIII (Signs), Section 801.4/ Article VIII, Section 801.7 .

Several citizens commented on the sign ordinances including Lee McWhorter and Jim Mayes. Lee McWhorter spoke on behalf of the Page County Farmer’s Market concerning their need for multiple signs during their open season. Mr. Jim Mayes, owner of the Art Warehouse spoke regarding his concerns for maintaining signs at both the Main Street location and the traffic light at Main/ Broad Streets. As well, Mr. Mayes does not feel it would be beneficial to take the signs down at the end of each business day and would like to leave them up round the clock due to the physical size and weight of each sandwich board sign. Council members responded by stating that they felt it was unsightly to leave signs up round the clock; as well that would make the signs a permanent fixture if they were not removed daily.

Council deliberated on the subject of the sandwich board signs regarding several items; number of signs, location, and daily removal of signs. After much deliberation council came to a decision on all three sign ordinance amendments. **Motion:** Councilwoman Shifflett motioned to approve Article VIII (Signs), Section 801.7 per revisions by Town Attorney, Jason Spitler. The motion was seconded by Councilman Arrington with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, NAY: Racer. **Approved 5-1**

Motion: Councilwoman Shifflett motioned to approve Article VIII (Signs), Section 801.6 and 801.4, motion seconded by Councilman Racer with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

GENERAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Citizen Tom Barbour was present to express his concern over the fee increase for water/ sewer tap connections. Mr. Barbour would like the same grace period that was given to town lot owners to be given to out-of-town lot owners thus allowing him until July 1, 2007 to pay at the old rate. Mr. Barbour is a lot owner at *Oh Shenandoah Homesites* located at the Luray Caverns Country Club. Fellow lot owner, David Yount also spoke in Mr. Barbour’s favor concerning the fee increase and noted that these residents already pay a higher rate for current town services. Council noted to both citizens that these owners are also not contributing to capital improvement projects the way that in-town residents are responsible for such fiscal responsibilities; as well they are not taxed as in-town residents. Mr. Spitler, Town Attorney, made note that it is the fiduciary responsibility of the town to the in-town citizens.

Motion: Councilman Presgraves motioned to allow lot owners outside of town whose lots are platted and of private ownership with existing water/sewer infrastructure the same grace as given to in-town residents. Motion seconded by Councilman Menefee with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Menefee, Presgraves, NAY: Arrington, Lancaster, Racer, Mayor Dean. **Declined 4-3**

TOWN CLERK/TREASURER’S REPORT

Treasurer’s Report of Cash on Hand as of January 08, 2007:

Sun Trust Bank:	
General Fund Account.....	\$ 3,077,462.75
Cash on Hand:	\$ 15,890.51
Total:	\$ 3,093,353.26

Mary Broyles, Town Clerk/Treasurer submitted to Council for approval, Accounts Payables invoices in the amount of \$ 126,189.46. **Motion:** Councilman Racer motioned to approve payment of the invoices as presented; motion seconded by Councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Black noted that all information he would be covering falls under Old and New Business in this evenings meeting.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Jason Spittler, Town Attorney, noted that he had nothing further for the evenings meeting unless council had any concerns to address.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

POLICE- PUBLIC SAFETY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATOR'S REPORT

Chief Page Campbell reviewed statistics for the year noted in his report for council. Chief Campbell noted there had been an overall increase in calls for service and reviewed the top twelve types of calls answered during the year. He also reviewed monthly and yearly comparison reports for council.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Pat O'Brien, Director of Parks and Recreation, could not be present due to illness. Mr. Black noted that his report could be found in the council packet.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director, Lynn Mathews reported that all of the monthly water samples checked out OK. The department made one new water and one new sewer tap. Upcoming projects for his department will include Christmas tree pick-up and continuing to clean storm drainage ditches.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT DEPARTMENT

Charlie Hoke, Director of Utilities, noted full compliance for the month. Mr. Hoke stated that the nutrient reduction study had been completed for the sewer treatment plant. Mr. Hoke briefed council on the progress from the work session on the grant secured for the future sewage treatment plant. He noted that a request for proposal would be necessary from council in order to make the grant agreement with the state. Mr. Hoke also updated council on core sampling that was taking place for the water filtration plant.

Motion: Councilman Lancaster motioned for staff to put out a request for proposal for an Engineering firm to perform duties for a preliminary proposal; motion seconded by councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

TOWN PLANNER'S REPORT

Town Planner, Ligon Webb, reviewed most items under the public hearing portion of the meeting. However, Mr. Webb did bring up some issues concerning Brumback Avenue and concerns over traffic patterns in that area.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Black stated that the only item under old business that remained was the topic of Jeff Sullivan's request to use the town water system as a "reserve area" for a private sewage disposal should his system fail. **Motion:** Councilwoman Shifflett motioned to allow Mr. Jeff Sullivan to use the town's water and sewer system as a "reserve area" to be on public record at the Page County Court House. Motion seconded by Councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

NEW BUSINESS

Under new business Mr. Black addressed the Wayfinding Sign System proposal for the design of signs and placement areas. However, the cost for this is not incorporated into our CDBG Budget but is permissible under the town's matching funds. **Motion:** Councilwoman Shifflett motioned to approve funding for the Wayfinding Signage; motion seconded by Councilman Racer with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

Also under new business, the CDBG Sign must be approved so that it can be displayed in the pocket park next to the Slye Insurance Agency. This sign is required as a part of the grant guidelines. **Motion:** Councilman Racer motioned to approve the CDBG sign as presented; motion seconded by Councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

Mr. Black presented a draft resolution to recognize Lowell Baughan for his years of service to the Town of Luray and to the Northern Shenandoah Valley Regional Commission.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Dean addressed the Council and Holiday Calendar for the year 2007 and asked council if they had any revisions. **Motion:** Councilman Racer motioned to approve the Council & Holiday Calendars for 2007; motion seconded by Councilman Presgraves with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Shifflett, Arrington, Menefee, Lancaster, Presgraves, Racer. **Approved 6-0**

Lastly, before the meeting was adjourned, Catherine Stewart of LDI presented council with the newly approved brochure and folder design.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Dean adjourned the regular session of the Town Council at approximately 8:45 pm.

Mayor Ralph H. Dean

Danielle P. Babb
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer