

**FLOYD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
**W. SKIP BISHOP JR., TOWN HALL**  
**February 18, 2016**  
**6:30 P.M.**  
**MINUTES**

**MEETING CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Griffin called the February 18, 2016 meeting of the Floyd Town Council to order.

**ROLL CALL** – Councilman Patton, Vice-Mayor Turner, Councilman LeMay, Councilwoman Bingham, Mayor Griffin, Town Attorney Shortt, Town Manager Cox, and Town Clerk Mandzak were present.

**CITIZENS COMMENT PERIOD-**

Michael Maslaney states that the roads are in terrible shape on Locust Street and was wondering that if during the time that VDOT may be repaving the road that the Town could coordinate working with VDOT so that just before they pave that the road could be dug up to run wiring for streetlights and have someone cut one foot square in the sidewalk so that conduit could be run down to the road and then VDOT could pave the road. Mr. Maslaney states that if the projects were coordinated with VDOT it would help cut back on the costs of running the wiring for the streetlights.

Susan Goranson resident of Floyd County since 2011 reads a letter that she prepared for the Town Council (please see the attached).

Dan Weitzenfeld who operates Cast Iron Catering, along with his wife, states that they are very interested in keeping their money, business and clientele in Floyd as much as possible. Mr. Weitzenfeld states that a lot of their clientele and events that they do are out of town and that Lineberry Park seems like an ideal place to have an event and that they would certainly be interested in supplying food as well as other local vendors. Mr. Weitzenfeld states that the space seems somewhat underutilized and it seems like a perfect location for a small concert or event or festival of some sort. Mr. Weitzenfeld states that ultimately they want to do as much as they can in town as possible and they want to bring people in and that they would like to be a part of future events in the park.

Kari Kovick resident of Floyd for 17 years, music educator, states that it is important it is to cultivate the spaces in Town for children and the adults to come together and experience their creativity and their friendship and their relationships with each other. Mrs. Kovick states that from an educators point of view she has seen a lot of children grow up, she has worked with babies and she works generally with babies through preschoolers, the babies that she started with are now teenagers and graduating from high school and it breaks her heart when she hears the things that children have to grow up with and she always hopes that Floyd would be immune to those things but that there has been a suicide and the violence that is in the culture at large she feels like it creeps closer and closer. Mrs. Kovick states that it may seem very simple but that a park where children get to grow up and experience a safe, loving community where people care about them and they can express themselves in play is so important for them to have that foundation so that when they grow up they feel connected and that they know that they live in a world that cares about them. Mrs. Kovick requests that the Council not underestimate the value of cultivating the common spaces in Floyd and that she will do anything she can to help.

Rebecca Jackson, lead teacher, family educator and teacher mentor at Floyd County Head Start. Ms. Jackson states that she has 15 years' experience in early childhood education and in those 15 years she has presented on the benefits of natural play schemes at the local, state, and national levels. Ms. Jackson states that she has been on multiple playground committees and has assisted in the planning and renovations of playgrounds including tasks such as assessing safety, design and installation. Ms. Jackson states that her most current project is the playground at the New River Community Action Head Start in Floyd. Ms. Jackson states that she is also currently working with two other Community Action Head Start programs to update and design their outdoor learning spaces for the coming year. Ms. Jackson states that she was thrilled to hear about the Partnership for Floyd's desire to utilize the space in Lineberry Park to create a useable space for the citizens of Floyd. Ms. Jackson states that her interest is in the play space and that she attended a recent meeting for the park and was excited to hear what they have planned so far. Ms. Jackson states that as a teacher and a mom of two young boys that she was very impressed with their focus on keeping the park natural and open ended with educational components that reflect and compliment the agricultural, musical, and natural aspects of our community. Ms. Jackson states that she envisions classrooms of all ages utilizing the space in all seasons for lots of reasons and to be able to gather and use the space on a daily basis. Ms. Jackson states that she has talked to a director of a nearby childcare center who told her that they would actually use the space almost daily if there was more to do down there. Ms. Jackson states that with the Town's blessing she hopes to work closely with Jane Cundiff and the Partnership for Floyd to help create a space for children and families of Floyd that is safe, fun, educational, and functional. Ms. Jackson states that this project will be by the people of Floyd and for the people of Floyd and that she personally can't wait to get started.

#### **PRESENTATIONS-**

- A. Sustain Floyd Farmer's Market-Mr. Woody Crenshaw-**(Mr. Crenshaw had not arrived yet, therefore Ms. Cundiff presented first)
- B. Partnership for Floyd-Ms. Jane Cundiff-** Mayor Griffin states that he had asked Ms. Cundiff to meet with him and Vice-Mayor Turner at the Park a few weeks ago in anticipation of tonight's meeting and that they had asked Ms. Cundiff to bring a list of priorities for what the Partnership wants to do in the Park, give an estimate of cost, provide assurances that those costs could be met by the Partnership and a timeframe for how long it would take to get everything done. Mayor Griffin states he and the Council greatly appreciates everything that the Partnership is doing and he also appreciates the turnout at the meeting. Ms. Jane Cundiff from Partnership for Floyd reviews the handout provided in regards to the projects at Lineberry Park and reads a letter that she has prepared for the Town Council (please see the attached). Ms. Cundiff states that there are numerous volunteers who have helped design the park and who want to help with the construction in the park. Ms. Cundiff states that the Partnership has been gathering ideas since 2007. Ms. Cundiff states that they held a charrette to get ideas for the park. Ms. Cundiff also states that she posted a request for ideas on Facebook and received 15 pages of ideas. Ms. Cundiff states that the park is underutilized and that if there were more things to do in the park there would be more people in the park which would help the economy because the people would be visiting the local businesses. Ms. Cundiff reviews the four major ideas that they have for the park; 1. Social Seating Areas, 2. Play & Exercise Areas, 3. Music and natural sound area, 4. Art in the Park. Ms. Cundiff introduces Barb Gillespie who has worked at the Floyd Fest sites seating areas. Ms. Gillespie reviews the drawing of the park provided to Council

(please see attached). Ms. Cundiff states that the seating areas would be very easy to get started on the seating areas and the cost would be low. Ms. Cundiff states that they would like to do two seating areas to start and that these would be no cost to the Town because they would be simple benches or possibly logs for people to sit on. Ms. Cundiff states that she already has people who have volunteered to build the benches and materials to use. Ms. Cundiff reviews the ideas for the play and exercise area as explained in the handout provided (please see attached). Ms. Jackson, day care and playground professional, states that they would like to use open ended areas for imaginative play like the playground that she helped build at Head Start. Ms. Jackson states that these areas would be designed so that no two areas would be played on the same way. Ms. Cundiff states that the Partnership has also discussed building a tractor in the park. Mr. Maslaney states that it would be very reasonably priced to build. Ms. Cundiff states that the Partnership has \$7,000 to go towards the projects in the park. Ms. Cundiff states that they would like the park to be farm and natural themed. Ms. Cundiff states that they look at three things for everything they want to put in the park, whether it's safe, durable and what kind of upkeep there will be. Ms. Cundiff states that they have discussed have workdays twice a year to help with the upkeep. Ms. Cundiff states that the play area would be very inexpensive and that they would like to start the exercise area in the play area. Ms. Cundiff reviews the exercise area document provided to the Council (please see the attached). Ms. Gillespie states that it is very important to break the projects down into phases but that they could probably get the seating areas done in one weekend; Mr. Maslaney states that the building of the tractor would take some time and planning. Ms. Cundiff discusses the Art in the Park area of the plan and states that Jeff Liverman and the Jacksonville Center would help coordinate this area. Ms. Cundiff states that the park would be a great place to display local art. Ms. Cundiff states that the final area would be the music and natural sound area, and introduces Michael and Kari Kovick. Mr. Kovick states that they would like to build a shelter on a flat area where there is a little bit of flat area off the front for kids that would like to gather, they are thinking that the building would be 25 to 30 feet long in a half moon shape but that they don't have a design yet. Mr. Kovick states that the idea is based off of an area that he saw at the Museum of Life and Science in Durham, North Carolina, they have a shelter there that has a number of percussion and rhythm instruments that are made out of chains, bells and whistles, etc. Mr. Kovick states that they want to take that idea and take it a step further and they want to put things in a pentatonic tune in the key of D which is a tuning so that you can't have any wrong notes. Mr. Kovick states that how the instruments come about is still up for speculation, some instruments may be bought, and some may be built by volunteers or other musicians at a cost. Mrs. Kovick demonstrates the pentatonic scale in the key of D and provides the Council with instruments to try. Ms. Cundiff states that all of these areas would be to get people in the park on a daily basis and possibly have a percussion night on Saturday nights. Ms. Kovick states that she has requested that the music area be far away from the street so that it doesn't interfere with the tradition. Ms. Cundiff states that they are thinking of building it behind the stage on the hill but that they don't have a set design yet and they are hoping to get it built at a very low cost. Ms. Cundiff states that they also have future plans of putting lighting in the park and that Woody Crenshaw has offered to help with the lighting design. Mayor Griffin thanks the Partnership for their work and opens the floor to Council for questions; Councilman LeMay asks if all the structures built would be imbedded in mulch; Ms. Cundiff states that it depends on the area, some would be and some wouldn't be, areas that are taller need mulch around them. Councilman Patton thanks the Partnership for their work and

enthusiasm and that his only concern is the limited space in the park and doesn't want to see the park get too cluttered. Vice-Mayor Turner thanks the Partnership for their work and he looks forward to working with them on this project. Councilman LeMay asks if they can measure to see how much space each project would take; Ms. Cundiff states that they are planning on putting in flags to mark the areas so that they may see how much space they take up. Councilman Patton states that the playground needs to be close to the restrooms for the benefit of the children and parents. Councilwoman Bingham thanks the Partnership for their work and that she is concerned about children getting splinters from the wooden objects that they have proposed. Ms. Cundiff states that they have considered that and they are working on solutions and want to make sure the areas are safe. Councilwoman Bingham states that they also need to consider water runoff. Mayor Griffin states that they have moved slowly on plans for the park but that it has been a necessity and that the park is a park for the people and that he hopes to have some answers for them by the second week in March.

- A. Sustain Floyd Farmer's Market-Mr. Woody Crenshaw-** Mr. Crenshaw states that he will leave financial information that he will leave for the Council's review concerning the donation request for the Floyd Farmer's Market. Mr. Crenshaw states that Sustain Floyd helps support the market; they do fundraisers for the market. Mr. Crenshaw states that the market operates at about a \$10,000 deficit and that they do different types of fundraising to try and close that gap. Mr. Crenshaw states that they also write grants for support. Mr. Crenshaw states that the market has the reputation as one of the best small markets in the region and that they serve not only the farmers and local and visiting consumers but they also have EDT snap benefits for people so they are able to provide double value coupons for anyone who has snap benefits, the money for that project has to be raised. Mr. Crenshaw states that the Floyd market is the only market that he knows of in Southwest Virginia that is not run by local authorities. Mr. Crenshaw states that Sustain Floyd would appreciate any donation that the Town could give to help support the market. Mr. Crenshaw reviews the figures that he has provided to the Council (please see attached). Mr. Crenshaw states that he is aware that the banners under the market where not in compliance and that they are in the process of applying for a Conditional Use Permit to get in compliance. Mr. Crenshaw states that Sustain Floyd used to be in charge of the Friday night craft market but has since partnered with the Jacksonville Center and now they are overseeing that market. Mr. Crenshaw states that Sustain Floyd is requesting \$3,000 from the Town for the Farmer's Market. Mayor Griffin asks when the farmer's market will open; Mr. Crenshaw informs them that the market will open the second Saturday in May and are looking to end November 19<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Patton asks how many people applied to be a part of the market last year; Mr. Crenshaw states that they have space for about 13 vendors and they usually have 6 to 8 more requests so they have been keeping one table open to let people come on an irregular basis but they have plans this year to extend the market to the grassy knoll by the Village Green to try and accommodate everyone that applies so there may be as many as 18 or 19 vendors. Councilman Patton asks if all of the vendors are local; Mr. Crenshaw states that they are. Mayor Griffin asks if they have already started their application process; Mr. Crenshaw states that started the first of February. Councilman Patton asks if the market asked for money last year; Mr. Crenshaw stated that they understood that they were applying for two years when they had applied the previous year so it was an oversight. Mr. Crenshaw states that the market would benefit from a yearly stipend. Councilman Patton asks what the previous amount they had applied for; Mr. Crenshaw stated that they had applied for \$2,500.

## ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- A. Harris Street-**Town Manager Cox states that Mr. Clark was in the office this week asking about the progress on this subject. Town Manager Cox reminds Council that Mr. Clark is requesting no parking, restricted parking, or 75 feet of no parking at both ends of the street. Vice-Mayor Turner states that he is in favor of the 75 feet of no parking at both ends of the street and if the subject needs to be revisited then they can do that at a later date. Mayor Griffin states that he is in favor of the 75 feet of no parking. Town Attorney Shortt asks if the road would be marked with signage and yellow curbing; Town Manager Cox states that it would be. Council discusses their options for signage and painting.

Vice-Mayor Turner makes a motion, seconded by Councilman LeMay to restrict the parking 75 feet on Route 221 and on the Oxford Street side for Harris Street.

Councilman Patton-aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner-aye  
Councilman LeMay-aye  
Councilwoman Bingham-aye  
Mayor Griffin-aye

- B. Risk Management Guideline Assessments-**Town Manager Cox asks about the policy changes that she had presented at the last meeting. Vice-Mayor Turner asks if the Council members would be covered under the “employees only” section of the policy; Town Manager Cox states that they should be covered. Mayor Griffin asks Town Manager Cox to confirm that they are covered.

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Turner to adopt the proposed policy changes as presented by Town Manager Cox.

Councilman Patton-aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner  
Councilman LeMay-aye  
Councilwoman Bingham-aye  
Mayor Griffin-aye

- C. Strategic Session/Social with Board of Supervisors, School Board, and Economic Development Authority, February 29, 2016, Floyd Innovation Center-**Town Manager Cox reminds Council of the Strategic Session/Social and informs them that the Council was asked to do a presentation of short and long term goals. Mayor Griffin states that if Council has anything that would like for him to cover at the meeting to let him know and that he will go over the sidewalk project and the park. Mayor Griffin discusses other options of topics to discuss at the meeting. Councilman Patton states that he wants Mayor Griffin to bring up projects of mutual concern such as sidewalks on Christiansburg Pike and by the high school. Mayor Griffin states that the County is working on a sidewalk by the school through the safe school initiative and had asked if the Town would be interested in partnering with them on the project. Vice-Mayor Turner suggests mentioning working with the County to acquire a new vehicle. Town Manager Cox reminds everyone that the meeting will be at the Innovation Center. Vice-Mayor Turner asks about expanding the street lights all the way down to Christiansburg Pike and Dollar General. Councilman Patton asks Town Attorney Shortt to attend the meeting if possible.

- D. Financials-** Council reviews the financials provided by Town Manager Cox.

**TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT**

Town Manager Cox asks Council to continue to think about projects that they can get assistance from the New River Valley Regional Commission on. Town Manager Cox states that one project she thought about would be to get assistance on updating the Comprehensive Plan and asks if it is something that the NRVRC would assist with; Council informs her that the NRVRC usually assists on that task.

Town Attorney Shortt informs Council that he recorded the judgement for Charles Parker from 3D Enterprises and asks Council if there was anything else they would like to try to collect the debt, such as garnish wages, garnish bank accounts, attach personal property, or sell his real estate through a court proceeding. Vice-Mayor Turner states that there may be equipment that may be sold. Town Attorney Shortt asks Council to think about what they would like to do and let him know. Town Attorney Shortt suggests looking at the Circuit Court Clerk’s Office in the future to see if applicants have judgements before approving the loan. Town Attorney Shortt states that if there is property that can be sold that may be their best bet on retrieving the money.

**OTHER**

Vice-Mayor Turner asks about the progress of the Noise Ordinance the Planning Commission has been working on. Mr. Maslaney states that it is almost complete.

**CLOSED SESSION-**

Councilwoman Bingham makes a motion, seconded by Councilman LeMay, to go into closed session for Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.3, discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

- Councilman Patton—aye
- Vice-Mayor Turner—aye
- Councilman LeMay—aye
- Councilwoman Bingham—aye
- Mayor Griffin—aye

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilman LeMay, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to come out of closed session.

**CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, this Council convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.3 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 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 closed 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.

Councilman Patton—aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner—aye  
Councilman LeMay—aye  
Councilwoman Bingham—aye  
Mayor Griffin—aye

This Certification Resolution was adopted.

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Turner, to go into closed session for Section 2.2-377 Paragraph A.1, discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body.

Councilman Patton-aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner-aye  
Councilman LeMay-aye  
Councilwoman Bingham-aye  
Mayor Griffin-aye

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Bingham, and unanimously carried, it was resolved to come out of closed session.

#### **CERTIFICATION RESOLUTION**

WHEREAS, this Council convened in a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote on the motion to close the meeting to discuss the consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body in accordance with Section 2.2-3711, Paragraph A.1 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act;

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 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 closed 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.

Councilman Patton—aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner—aye  
Councilman LeMay—aye  
Councilwoman Bingham—aye  
Mayor Griffin—aye

This Certification Resolution was adopted.

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilman LeMay, to authorize Town Manager Cox to advertise and to hire a third person for the maintenance department as soon as possible.

Councilman Patton-aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner-aye  
Councilman LeMay-aye  
Councilwoman Bingham-aye  
Mayor Griffin-aye

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilwoman Bingham, to increase Greg Peters salary in the first pay period in March so that he goes up to the next level, in a supervisors roll.

Councilman Patton-aye  
Vice-Mayor Turner-aye  
Councilman Lemay-aye  
Councilwoman Bingham-aye  
Mayor Griffin-aye

Councilwoman Bingham asks if Town Manager Cox will be the one to do the hiring of the third person; Town Manager Cox says yes and Mayor Griffin states that Greg should assist with the hiring.

Town Manager Cox presents a draft of a solid waste policy for the Council to review.

Town Manager Cox informs Council that she is meeting with VDOT the following week to discuss various traffic issues in Town.

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Turner, and unanimously carried, to recess to February 29, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Floyd Innovation Center.

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**William R. Griffin, Mayor**

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**Chrissy Mandzak, Clerk**