

FLOYD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
FLOYD COUNTY INNOVATION CENTER
February 29, 2016
6:30 P.M.
MINUTES

MEETING CALL TO ORDER –

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Turner, and unanimously carried, to reconvene the Town of Floyd Town Council meeting.

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

PRESENTATION-

The Town Council was invited to attend a strategic planning session/social with the Floyd County Board of Supervisors, Floyd County School Board, and the Economic Development Authority of Floyd. Chairman Case Clinger of the Floyd County Board of Supervisors welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that each group would have 10-15 minutes to speak about the organizations goals and needs.

Mayor Griffin highlighted the Town's ability to receive grants in the last 10 years. He gave an overview of the current sidewalks within the Town limits, and shared the newest sidewalk route via MAP-21 funding. Mayor Griffin also spoke about the Federal Community Development Block Grant funds for our loan pool program. This program was current lent out \$685,000, with a default rate of 3.65%. These funds are great way for the Town to support our local businesses. The funds paid back to the Town must be used for economic development.

Mayor Griffin outlined the Meals & Lodging tax figures from 2010, which are steadily rising. Since 2010, there has been a 33% increase. Mayor Griffin credited the collaboration of a Tourism Board and the expansion of the Hotel Floyd for the large increase to the meals and lodging tax. He also highlighted the Business and Professional Occupation License, which showed a 12.5% overall increase since 2010.

Mayor Griffin spoke on the future challenges the Council will face once all properties in town are fully developed. He posed the questions, where do we go, and how do we preserve what we have? Mayor Griffin stated that with the help of each board present and the addition of the Floyd-Floyd County Public Service Authority and the Floyd-Floyd County Recreation Authority, we can accomplish the goals the Town Council has laid out in its Comprehensive Plan.

Chairman James Ingram of the Floyd County School Board spoke on short term and long terms goals that the School Board would like to accomplish. Such short term goals included, increasing employee salaries, adequate budget for school facilities, and the addition of more Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs for high school students. Their long terms goals included funding for surveys and

feedback about the future of the school system, what programs would be supported, and development of CTE programs.

Chairman Jon Beegle of the Economic Development Authority of Floyd (EDA) stated he was proud of the collaboration by holding this strategic meeting. Mr. Beegle highlighted a list of EDA ongoing projects and accomplishments. The EDA is currently working on improving vehicular access to the Commerce Park. The EDA has started a Strategic Planning Committee to focus on individual projects. He believes this would be something this group of representatives present should consider starting. He touched on the agricultural benefit Floyd has, and what are some ways to improve our existing community assets. Mr. Beegle outlined the future projects that the EDA is working on and noted that with the collaboration of all parties, the community will benefit to its maximum potential.

Chairman Case Clinger spoke on behalf of the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Clinger stated that the County's major loans for capital improvements would be paid for in the next 6 years. This will free up funding to look at future projects. There are currently no major projects expected for the County. He did speak about the need to support each group represented. Mr. Clinger showed support for a strategic planning committee with a couple of members from each group present.

DISCUSSION

Members present spoke regarding their thoughts on the ideas and goals presented from each organization. The consensus from each group was to create a strategic planning committee to meet on a more regular basis in order to stay focused and abreast on current projects.

OTHER

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilman LeMay, to host the next strategic meeting in 3 months at the Town Hall. And for the Town Manager to work with the County Administrator and a representative of the School Board, with plans on how to develop sidewalk down Christiansburg Pike to Blue Ridge Apartments and the Commerce Park, as well as sidewalk on Baker Street to the Floyd County High School.

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

Councilman Patton makes a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Turner, and unanimously carried, to adjourn to Thursday, March 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

William R. Griffin, Mayor

Kayla Cox, Town Manager