

**FLOYD TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
W. SKIP BISHOP JR., TOWN HALL
March 18, 2021
5:30 P.M.
MINUTES**

MEETING CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Griffin called the March 18, 2021 meeting of the Floyd Town Council to order.

ROLL CALL –Vice Mayor Patton, Councilman Turner (entered the meeting just before Items for Discussion/Action), Councilman Whitaker, Councilman Bond, Mayor Griffin, Town Manager Cox and Town Clerk Holfield were present. Attorney Janet Murrell was present via Zoom. Town Attorney Shortt was absent.

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER-

Mayor Griffin called for a moment of silent prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE-

Councilman Whitaker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS COMMENTS-

None

Councilman Turner entered the meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION-

A. Warren G. Lineberry Park Use Application—Jessie Peterman Memorial Library—The Bubble Brigade Professor Whizzpop

Council members discussed waiving the park use deposit and water/electrical fees for non-profit organizations.

Councilman Bond makes a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Patton to amend the Warren G. Lineberry Park Use application to waive the damage deposit and water and electrical fees for all non-profit organizations.

Vice Mayor Patton-aye

Councilman Turner-aye

Councilman Whitaker-aye

Councilman Bond-aye

Mayor Griffin-aye

Councilman Whitaker makes a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Patton to approve the Warren G. Lineberry Park Use application for the Jessie Peterman Memorial Library on Wednesday, June 23, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. under the Warren G. Lineberry Park Use application.

Vice Mayor Patton-aye
Councilman Turner-aye
Councilman Whitaker-aye
Councilman Bond-aye
Mayor Griffin-aye

Town Manager Cox stated that she received a park use application from Scout Troop 19, Troop Leader, Greg Sazonov for use of the park on Saturday, March 20th from 4:00pm to 6:00pm to welcome new troop members.

Vice Mayor Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilman Whitaker to approve the Warren G. Lineberry Park Use application for Scout Troop 19 on Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Vice Mayor Patton-aye
Councilman Turner-aye
Councilman Whitaker-aye
Councilman Bond-aye
Mayor Griffin-aye

B. Financials

Council members took a moment to review the financials provided in their packets. Town Manager Cox noted that the biggest tax generators, bank stock tax and business license tax would not come in until May.

Town Manager Cox stated that she had received a proposal from Mid-Atlantic Waste Systems for retrofitting the new trash truck to fix the latch plate. The repair would fix the issues the truck has when picking up the older dumpsters throughout town. The cost of the retrofitting would be \$3400. This amount could be covered under the maintenance budget using funds left in the FY 2020-2021 budget year.

Council members discuss selling the old trash truck. Town Manager Cox reminded council members that the truck has an electrical issue that has not been fixed. The electrical issue was not detectable on computer diagnostics when it was looked at by a mechanic. It was consensus of council members to accept sealed bids to sell the old trash truck.

Councilman Bond makes a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Patton to accept the proposal from Mid-Atlantic Waste Systems in the amount of \$3400 to retrofit the latch plat on the new trash truck.

Vice Mayor Patton-aye
Councilman Turner-aye
Councilman Whitaker-aye
Councilman Bond-aye
Mayor Griffin-aye

Town Manager Cox stated that two Certificate of Deposits will expire in April. She plans to gather new rates from local banks and present those at an upcoming Town Council meeting.

C. FY 2021-2022 Budget

Council members reviewed a copy of the draft FY2021-2022 presented by Town Manager Cox. It was noted that donation request were not received from Plenty!, Healthy Floyd and Springhouse Community School. Earlier this week, Town Manager Cox received a request of \$1000 from Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation.

Council members discussed the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA) Grant, noting that the Old Church Gallery, Floyd Center for the Arts and Floyd Creative Studios can received matching grant funds for the donation given by the Town. Total matching grant funds for the three organization cannot exceed \$4500. Vice Mayor Patton pointed out that Floyd Center for the Arts receives VCA grant funds from the Town and the County. He asked if the other organizations can also be considered for the grant funds through the County. Town Manager Cox stated that she has not had a chance to review the grant guidelines but has that on her list of things to do.

Town Manager Cox asked council members if they would like to have the organizations requesting donations come before council to make presentations. It was consensus of Town Council members that the organizations would come to the April and May Town Council meetings for presentations. Presentations should be a total of 15 minutes, 10 minute presentation with a 5-minute question and answer. Mayor Griffin recommended that total presentations be limited to an hour at each meeting. Town Manager Cox will reach out to organization to get the presentations scheduled.

While briefly reviewing the budget, Vice Mayor Patton questioned the projected revenues for meals and lodging. He stated that lodging will be lucky to meet the project and meals for FY20-21 are already over the FY21-22 projections. Town Manager Cox noted that these numbers can be changed by the council and she choose to be conservative with her projections.

Town Manager Cox continued with a brief overview of the budget and budget timeline.

Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month Proclamation

Vice Mayor Patton makes a motion, seconded by Councilman Bond to adopt the proclamation as presented and proclaim the month of March 2021 as Multiple Sclerosis Education and Awareness Month.

- Councilman Turner-aye
- Councilman Whitaker-aye
- Councilman Bond-aye
- Vice Mayor Patton-aye
- Mayor Griffin-aye

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT-

Town Manager Cox stated that she had spoken with representatives from Thompson and Lytton. They plan to have their initial report on Town Hall submitted to Town Manager Cox by March 29th. Town Manager Cox will invite them to attend the April 15th meeting to answer any questions council members may have concerning the report.

OTHER BUSINESS-

Vice Mayor Patton stated that there is an item that he and Councilman Turner need to bring to council’s attention. He stated that they both serve on the Tourism Development Council (TDC). The council has been working under a Memorandum of Understanding agreement between the County, the Town and the Chamber of Commerce since 2012. The agreement is set to expire on June 30th of this year, but the groups have the option to extend that deadline if a new memorandum of understanding is not approved by the three groups before then. Vice Mayor Patton continued by stating that Councilman Turner has served on the TDC since the beginning and is its longest serving member. He can bring much more to the conversation than I can.

Councilman Turner stated that Vice Mayor Patton was elected as the Chairman to the Tourism Development Council (TDC) and noted that the council plans to alternate years between having a County Chairman and Town Chairman. Councilman Turner stated that the time has come to update the TDC agreement and to clarify some parts within the agreement. The current agreement is not conducive to how things are being handled. The plan would be for all parties to get a copy of the new agreement to approve. He hopes the changes to the agreement would be complete by June or the parties can elect to extent the agreement so the TDC can move forward.

Councilman Whitaker asked if this agreement was the Tourism Development Council’s (TDC) bylaws. Councilman Turner noted that this is the agreement between the County, the Town and the Chamber. The Chamber is the fiscal agent for the TDC. At this time the director is not sure which organization she is an employee of. There are several items that need to iron out and clarified. Vice Chairman Patton added that if the organizations cannot come to a consensus on the agreement then the TDC will dissolve on June 30th.

Councilman Bond asked when the TDC plans to have agreement to the organizations for consideration. Vice Mayor Patton stated that the plan to have the agreement changes complete by June. At the last TDC meeting they started the process of tackling the agreement and did a pretty good job. In this case we are just trying to be proactive and share what is going on so everyone is aware of what is to come.

Mayor Griffin stated that the Joint Subcommittee is set to meet on April 7 at 5:00pm This committee contains members of the Town Council, Board of Supervisors, Economic Development Authority and the School Board. The committee is a none decision making board and was established to update each other on current projects.

Councilman Turner stated that the Public Service Authority (PSA) has finished installing new water meters. PSA staff are able to read the new meters just driving by the locations, which is much easier and takes less time. The PSA has the ability to look back at a whole month's daily usage and can monitor large amounts of daily usage to track water breaks. The next step will be to begin replacements of aging water and sewer lines. The PSA has good board members with knowledge of water and sewer systems.

Town Manager Cox asked if the PSA has any shovel ready projects. Councilman Turner noted that yes and no, right now the PSA lacks funding for several projects. Mayor Griffin stated that several years ago the County loaned the PSA \$400,000 for two water line projects, one along West Oxford Street and one along 221 South. The West Oxford Street project was completed but the 221 South project has not been completed due to lack of funding. Plans have also been drawn up for improvements along Sweeney Street. The recently approved stimulus package may offer some funding possibilities for the PSA.

Town Manager Cox stated that the Town may receive up to \$400,000 under the new stimulus package. She noted that she listened in on a finance call this morning to discuss the guidelines for the funds that would be received. The funds would come in two phases and would have to be spent by 2024.

CLOSED SESSION-

None

ADJOURNMENT-

Councilman Whitaker makes a motion, seconded by Vice Mayor Patton, and unanimously carried, to adjourn until April 1, 2021 at 5:30 pm at the Floyd Town Hall.

William R. Griffin, Mayor

Katie Holfield, Town Clerk