

REGULAR MEETING
STANLEY TOWN OFFICE
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11, 2017, 7:30 pm.

Mayor Mike Knight called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. with the following Council members in attendance: Bruce Stoneberger, Duane Layman, Jeremiah Knight, Mike Uram and Jason Campbell. Also attending this meeting were the following: Mark Reed President of Pioneer Bank, Penny Gray Page County Treasurer, Becky Smith and Jenny Knight with Page County Commissioner of Revenue's Office, Elaine Knight Assistant Town Manager for the Town of Stanley, Donnie Wilson and Jennings Painter members of the Sandlot Baseball Team, Gina Hilliard with Luray/Page County Chamber of Commerce, Josh Knight EDA Representative for the Town of Stanley, Rose Ann Smythe and Bill Henry with the Blue Ridge Heritage Project, Chris Slater with Page News and Courier, Betty Booton Grubbs, Georgia Duncan, Nancy Haley, Melissa Campbell, Shaina Breeden, Tanner Hart, David Southers, Austin Alger and Christina Good all PCHS Seniors, Town Manager Terry Pettit, Town Treasurer Leon Stout and Police Chief Beaver Dean.

Mayor Knight gave the Invocation and Councilman Stoneberger led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Knight inquired if there were any Public Comment on the tentative Agenda presented for tonight's meeting. Motion was made by Duane Layman, seconded by Mike Uram to accept the Agenda as presented. Passed Unanimously.

Mark Reed President of the Pioneer Bank addressed the Council at 7:30 pm. noting he wanted to thank the Town for their years of business and wants to reassure the town the bank will remain an independent bank. Mr. Reed noted to let them know if there is any way they can be of any help.

Page County Treasurer Penny Gray was next to address the Council noting she had spoken with Terry Pettit and Elaine about some changes in the tax structure. Mrs. Gray also congratulated the newly seated Mayor and two Council Members. Mrs. Gray noted she has no problem printing the town's tax bills and feels that it would be the most economical and the best way for the town to let them continue to print the taxes. Mrs. Gray further noted what a good office staff the town has and was able to view it first hand during the tax season. Mrs. Gray noted they received the taxes the evening before they were due to go out and they were able to get them out on time. Mrs. Gray noted a big problem for the town is proration, the county and both Luray and Shenandoah have done away it. Mrs. Gray noted this was very time consuming and could be costly with mailing back refunds and mailing out pro-rated taxes. Mrs. Gray, at this time, noted Page County Commissioner of Revenue Becky Smith was here to speak on this issue also, and allowed her to address council. Mrs. Smith agreed with Mrs. Gray on this issue, noting whatever vehicle a citizen owned as of January 1st of the year they would be charged for that vehicle all year long if council decided against proration. If they had an older vehicle and purchased a new one, they would not be charged for the new one until the following year. Mrs. Smith then allowed Jenny Knight to speak on this issue. Mrs. Knight noted to her best ability the town would lose about \$3400.00 if we decided to abort prorating and would save a lot of time and confusion. Elaine Knight noted if

you subtract the additional postage for mailing small amount pro-rated taxes and refunds that would be issued, the \$3400.00 noted above would be a lot less. After some questions and comments from the council, they thanked Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Smith and both Mrs. Knights for their time and they left the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Gina Hilliard the President of the Luray/Page County Chamber distributed literature on benefits provided by the Chamber she was here to give an overview of some of the things the Chamber does for our members and to touch on a few of the things that have been going on. Gina noted there are six paid employees at the Chamber and several volunteers. Gina Hilliard distributed information sheets on benefits provided to members, chamber outreach and another sheet with additional benefits and activities. Mrs. Hilliard also noted no matter the type of membership you have at the chamber everyone is treated the same. Mrs. Hilliard noted the chamber does everything they can to get out any information from its members to the public. Gina also noted they will be having the mud race again this year and anyone interested in hosting the event can apply (applications available at the Chamber Office) to be considered. After several comments and questions from the body Gina thanked the town for allowing her this time at 8:35 pm.

Donnie Wilson with the Stanley Sandlot Baseball Group was next to address the Council noting they had done well with their fundraisers and have obtained their 501C status. Mr. Wilson noted they have a Mission Statement, Articles of Corporation and Copy Rights with the Library of Congress. Mr. Wilson also noted they have made many donations to a variety of causes, helped a family of 4 at Christmas and will participate in Opening Day at the Stanley Little League. Mr. Wilson noted SVEC Magazine also did an article on their group. Mr. Wilson further noted they are looking for a place for a small museum so that they can display some of their items. There was discussion about the area designated in the Library for the Town, but that is too small. Mr. Wilson noted they had spoken with several local businesses about space for this venture but have not found a space. Mr. Wilson noted they would like to get in on the Homecoming Fundraiser on April 29th, 2017, Mayor Knight advised Mr. Wilson they would be glad to rent them spaces.

Mr. Wilson noted they had requested that they could add to the Welcome to the Town of Stanley sign recognizing it being the home of the Sandlot Team and was here to see if it was still alright. Mr. Wilson noted they have the money and are ready to have the signs made and installed. After some discussion, Motion was made by Mike Uram, seconded by Duane Layman to proceed with this addition to the Welcome to Stanley Sign project. Passed Unanimously.

Town Manager Pettit noted next is the agreement proposed by the Blue Ridge Heritage Project of Page County Agreement and the Town of Stanley for a monument to be constructed on the ED Good Memorial Park Property. Councilman Campbell inquired if there is not enough funding raised for Phases I & II of the project then the project will not start. Councilman Knight noted the need to paint or move the buildings facing the street so as not to take away from this and the project. Councilman Campbell inquired if the area would be fenced off upon completion and

he was assured it would indeed be fence off. Motion was made by Mike Uram, seconded by Bruce Stoneberger to accept the Agreement between the Town of Stanley and the Blue Ridge Heritage Project of Page County. Passed Unanimously.

Mayor Knight inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the previous month's meeting as presented in writing. Councilman Jeremiah Knight noted he thought the Christmas Bonus was \$250.00 not \$225.00. Town Manager Terry Pettit and Treasurer Leon Stout noted it was \$225.00. Councilman Uram noted not all the people in attendance were listed and he feels the date should be at the top of the pages of the minutes. Motion was made to by Duane Layman, seconded by Bruce Stoneberger to approve the minutes as presented. Passed Unanimously.

The Financial Statement was presented. Jeremiah Knight inquired about when the Ed Good Park would be finished. Mr. Pettit and Mr. Stout noted we are waiting for the weather to break so that the blacktop can be poured and the bridge can be built. Mike Uram inquired about the Century Station Account and was advised by the treasurer the account had gone dormant and he deposited \$10.00 to reactive the account. Mr. Uram also inquired about the dates on the C.D.'s were they correct. Treasurer Stout note they are current. The Financial Statement and Note were accepted in the amount of \$104,470.50.

The Monthly Paywarrant was presented with the following inquires:

Councilman Knight inquired about Bill #22 (Reed's Tire) what happened to the tire. Town Manager Pettit noted when repairing a bad water leak on West Main Street, and dug several places before finding it, one of Dellinger's vehicles ran over one of the places we had dug and busted a tire. Town Manager noted in incidents like this we are better to repair the damage than to make a claim into the insurance company.

Councilman Knight also inquired about Bill #29 (Tactical Inc.) was this for the police department and what was it. Treasurer Stout noted it was for bullet proof vests for the police department all paid through the grant.

Councilman Layman inquired about Bill #5 (DMV) what was this. Treasurer Leon Stout noted it was for tokens used to access the DMV site that allows us to put on and take off Stops in order to collect delinquent PP taxes.

Councilman Uram inquired about Bill #16 (Patterson Construction). Town Manager Pettit noted it was for repairs to the auger in the clarifier that broke at the sewer plant.

Councilman Campbell inquired about Bill #21 (Quarles) & and PrePaid Bill #6 (Holtzman why do we buy from two different companies. Town Manager Terry Pettit noted we always bought in town from Valley Gas, which was sold to Quarles and they did not sell oil.

Councilman Campbell inquired about Bill #32 (Visa) which \$979.11 was spent for Christmas lights and expense, what were they. Treasurer Stout noted it was for a new Christmas Tree, lights at Ed Good Park and the gifts for the Christmas Dinner.

Councilman Layman inquired about Bill #7 (Gall's) he thought we would have used some of the uniforms from the previous officers. Town Manager Pettit noted they were some unique sizes. Councilman Uram inquired about the possibility of using Staunton Cleaners and we can get uniforms altered through their company.

Councilman Uram inquired about the Prepaid Bill #26 (SVEC) the Buracker Ballfield why are we paying a light bill now. Councilman Knight noted it was the from where some of the PYFL teams practiced. Treasurer Leon Stout also noted there is a charge to reconnect service and when it's not being used it is cheaper to leave it on and receive a very small bill.

Councilman Campbell inquired about Prepaid Bill #1 (Christmas Parade Awards) was this the amount of prize money we give for the parade and do we charge anything to be in the parade. Town Manager Pettit advised this is the prize amount and we do not charge anything to be in either parade.

Councilman Uram inquired about Prepaid Bill #19 (YNBP) why had we not paid last year's audit bill. Treasurer Stout noted we were asked by the auditors to wait until January, 2017 to pay.

Councilman Layman inquired about Prepaid Bill #20 (Nick Winum) did we pay him for supplies he bought. Treasurer Leon Stout noted it was for supplies he bought for the department.

Mayor Knight noted the need for a Motion on the Paywarrant. Motion was made by Duane Layman, seconded by Councilman Knight that the Paywarrant totaling \$209,996.16 be paid. Passed Unanimously.

At 9:38 pm. Town Manager Terry Pettit presented is Administrative Report noting weather is preventing construction from beginning on the Safe Route to School Project.

Mr. Pettit noted we will be closing the Loan/Grant on the Water Meter Project the end of this month. Mr. Pettit noted the office will be trained on the new system and the public works crew will also receive training with this new system. Councilman Campbell inquired how many boxes needed to be changed. Town Manager Pettit noted we are not sure but no more than necessary because there is a significant extra charge to switch the boxes.

Town Manager Pettit noted the Public Works' Crew have decided to switch from ordering a backhoe to getting a skid loader. Mr. Pettit continued to note we all feel the skid loader will serve our needs more than the backhoe. Mr. Pettit noted the need to Adopt the attached Loan \$47,500.00/Grant \$50,000.00 Resolution to purchase a mini excavator, skid loader and trailer so

we can move forward with this project.

Motion was made by Duane Layman, seconded by Bruce Stoneberger to Adopt the attached Loan/Grant Resolution. Mayor Knight calls for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTING YEA:

Duane Layman
Bruce Stoneberger
Jeremiah Knight
Mike Uram
Jason Campbell

VOTING NAY:

None

MOTION CARRIED.

Town Manager Terry Pettit noted the next item to be discussed is the Library addition. Mr. Pettit stated the Mayor has no say and took no part in the consideration or discussion in this matter.

Mr. Pettit noted the attached Resolution and inquired if the body has anything they need to discuss or have questions about this agreement. Councilman Uram noted his concern about a cost overrun. Town Manager Pettit noted the contract would cover all of that. Motion was made by Mike Uram, seconded by Duane Layman to Adopt the attached Resolution between the Library and Knight & Lucas Construction, Inc. Town Manager Pettit calls for a Roll Call Vote:

VOTING YEA:

Duane Layman
Bruce Stoneberger
Jeremiah Knight
Mike Uram
Jason Campbell

VOTING NAY:

None

MOTION CARRIED.

Town Manager Pettit also noted he has hired a part-time employee to help us during Steve Thompson's treatments and restrictions. Mr. Pettit further noted the new Personnel Committee will be starting interviews with in the next two weeks for the Public Works position.

Mr. Pettit noted Councilman Uram's Unemployment Report was included in the packets. Mr. Uram noted our unemployment rate has gone up from 4.7% to 5.7% and he is very concerned about this. Mr. Uram noted our unemployment has risen from month to month and we all need to be concerned. Councilman Uram hopes the unemployment rate will not reach 10%.

Mayor Knight noted due to a Family Emergency the Police Chief Ryan Dean had to leave

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this meeting. Chief Dean's report was in writing and Council was free to ask questions.

Mike Uram noted that 62% of the total calls for the month were Public Service calls. Mr. Uram noted he was correct that through the grant we received one (1) body camera. Treasurer Stout noted he was correct.

Town Manager Pettit noted due to basketball sign-ups tonight Recreation Director Chuck Short will not make the meeting but has his report in writing.

Town Manager Pettit also noted we were able to change our Movie Night at the Hawksbill Recreation Park which was scheduled for June 24 until August 12th. Mr. Pettit noted the Town of Shenandoah changed dates with us due to it being the same time as our Homecoming Dance.

Mr. Pettit noted Chuck had advised that he had spoken with the Little League President and he advised Him they would like to use the Buracker Field again this year.

Terry Pettit noted there is also a marathon scheduled at the park on September 12, 2017.

Mr. Pettit noted he had included possible Park Event and Cottage Rental Applications for Council to review and see if either or both will work for our needs.

Councilman Knight noted the cottage that Mr. Huff is renting there is tires and trash behind the house he rents that needs to be cleaned up. Town Manager Pettit noted he was aware of the trash and we are going to remove it. Mr. Uram noted he was very concerned about our cost of renting the cottages. Mayor Knight noted we need to do a better job of checking on renters and inspecting the cottages while they are being rented. Councilman Uram noted they have cost us a lot of money and it may be time to reevaluate whether to rent or not.

Town Manager Terry Pettit advised we have started the judgement proceedings on the Breeden's and the other renter has contacted him to let the town know he will pay everything when he gets his tax refund which will be about \$3,300.00.

Councilman Campbell noted that basketball sign-ups end next week and inquired if the Body could get some numbers by next week and possible start date, by email or phone call.

Mr. Pettit noted the pad has been poured at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and we are ready for the generator to be delivered.

Town Manager Pettit also noted we are waiting on Burner Well Drilling to look at Well # 2's problem and to begin work on Well # 7.

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Terry Pettit noted it is time to renew the service agreement with Southern Software, which is the company that our software program is with. After brief discussion Motion was made by Duane Layman, seconded by Jeremiah Knight to renew the service agreement. Passed Unanimously.

Mr. Pettit noted the need to replace the truck at the sewer plant and the Public Works' advised they need a truck. Town Manager Pettit noted Public Works' Foreman Ryan Gaunt has found two used trucks that might suit our needs. Mr. Pettit noted we can look at them after this meeting to see what the Body thinks. Town Manager Pettit noted the One Ton Truck and the Utility Truck are not suitable vehicles to use for delivering or picking up trash cans, turning water off and on and to do other miscellaneous jobs. Mr. Pettit also noted he was told every time they turn around they are a truck short. There was discussion about whether to buy new or used and if two were really needed. Town Manager Pettit noted we can be discussed at next month's meeting.

Mayor Knight noted it was time for New Business at 10:40 pm.

Mike Uram brought stated that he would like to request a yearly report from the Stanley Fire Department and Stanley Rescue Squad on the number of calls answered each year. He stated that he receives calls from citizen's occasionally reference to calls and what may be nature of the call. Mr. Pettit stated that there would be no problem providing Mr. Uram with a copy of the yearly report when it is completed however, reports on individual calls are not public information and can only be obtained through an attorney. Mr. Pettit stated that the fire department answered 630 calls last year for service and when citizens see vehicles go by their residence it will be either for training or an actual call. Mr. Layman who is also a member for the Stanley Rescue Squad as well as Mr. Pettit advised that all rescue call information is private and no report will be available.

Town Manager Terry Pettit noted the need to set a date for a Work Shop, after brief discussion, Wednesday, January 25th, 2017 at 7:00 pm. at the Town Office.

Mayor Knight noted the Homecoming Committee would like to share the Ad and the cost with the Town on the advertisement that is placed in the Tourism Guide printed by the Chamber. Motion was made by Jeremiah Knight, seconded by Duane Layman to allow the joint ad. Passed Unanimously.

Mayor Knight noted at 11:00 pm. it was time for Public Comment.

Mike Uram stated he would like to discuss a misunderstanding between him and the Mayor Elect at that time on December 9th, 2016 at the Luray Christmas Parade. During the event Mr. Uram missed being picked up for the parade in the East End Shopping Center and to walk downtown. He then was not able to find Mr. Knight and missed the parade entirely. He stated

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that he attempted to contact Mr. Pettit four times on his cell phone but no answer and Mr. Pettit advised he was at a church event with his granddaughter and did not have his phone on. Mr. Pettit said that he figured Mr. Uram would have the knowledge to call Mr. Knight if he could not find him and Mr. Uram stated he was not going to call him because Mr. Knight never calls him back. Mr. Knight advised that he saw Mr. Uram's vehicle parked at the location where he was supposed to be picked up but could find him. Mr. Knight advised Mr. Uram that if he saw him in the parade why didn't he step out from the crowd and get in the car. Mr. Uram did not reply.

Motion was made at 11:13 by Duane Layman, seconded by Jeremiah Knight to adjourn this meeting. Passed Unanimously.

Michael Knight, Mayor

Norma Cabbage, Clerk

