Town of Dublin Council Minutes May 15, 2025

The Town of Dublin held its monthly meeting on Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 7:00 pm, in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Debbie Lyons. Council members, Juliana Cox, Debbie Hager, Edith Hampton, Doug Poe, Jared Smith. Vice-Mayor Wayne Seagle arriving at 7:08 pm. Others present: Town Attorney Trent Crewe, Town Manager and Clerk of Council Darrin Cullip, Chief of Police David King, Jr., Treasurer Rebecca Wright, Assistant Treasurer Kimberly Dalton, Administrative Assistant Deanna Marshall and guest.

Call to Order

Mayor Lyons welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Lyons asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance. Mayor Lyons stated former Superintendent of Utilities George Puckett had passed away. Mr. Puckett worked for the town from November 1, 1986 until his retirement on June 30, 1999. Mayor Lyons asked for everyone to join in for a moment of silence.

Open Public Hearing on "Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget"

Mayor Lyons opened the public hearing for the Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget and asked if there were any questions, concerns or comments. There being none the public hearing was closed. Mayor Lyons noted the budget would be voted on at the June council meeting.

Open Public Hearing for "Proposed Water, Sewer, Garbage Service Rates and Fee Increases"

Mayor Lyons opened the public hearing for the Proposed Water, Sewer, Garbage Service Rates and Fee Increase and asked if there were any questions, concerns or comments. There being none the public hearing was closed.

Minutes-April 17, 2025

Mayor Lyons asked if there were any corrections, deletions or additions to the April 17, 2025 meeting. There being none Edith Hampton made a motion to approve the minutes. Debbie Hager seconded.

Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Absent |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager Yes |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

Vote: 5-Yes; 1-Absent

Reports of Officials

David King, Jr. - Chief of Police

Chief King stated the department collected 50 pounds of drugs during the recent Drug-Take-Back. Chief King introduced the newest officer Trevor Graham Martin who started with the Town May 1st and previously worked at the sheriff's dispatch office.

Darrin Cullip – Utility

Mr. Cullip stated water usage has jumped from 15-20% to 40% in the last month. Employees are actively looking to find where it's going. A couple of big meters have been changed out to the Mach 10.

Committee Reports/Authority Reports

<u>NRV Airport commission Report</u> – Mrs. Cox stated bids were received for the airport sign. The spring flight will be held Saturday.

<u>Pepper's Ferry (PFRWTA)</u> – Mr. Seagle stated they just got back a pump so all pumps are now on line.

<u>Virginia's First (VFRIFA)</u> – Mrs. Hampton stated the authority meets quarterly. Next meeting is scheduled for June 11th.

<u>NRRA</u> – Mayor Lyons stated there was nothing new to add.

<u>Mount Rogers Cigarette Tax Board</u> – Mr. Cullip stated he attended his first meeting with the board. Everything is coming in as expected. There is some concern due to the dropping of more people using vapes. The board is working on how this can be taxed, by the mg or unit.

<u>New River Regional Commission</u> – Mr. Seagle stated things were going well. There was some talk about grants being lost due to cuts. Mr. Cullip stated the commission is primarily funded by

grants and there could be an increase in membership. They are presently working with the town on finishing up some COVID items.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Motion to approve the "Proposed Water, Sewer, Garbage Service Rates and Fee Increases" Rates and Fees effective as of 7/1/2025

Mayor Lyons asked if there was a motion to approve the "Proposed Water, Sewer, Garbage Service Rates and Fee Increases". Doug Poe made a motion to approve the rates. Jared Smith seconded.

Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Yes |
|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager <u>Yes</u> |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

All were in favor

Budget Report April, 2025

Mr. Cullip stated the budget was on target. Real Estate Taxes will be mailed out in the next few days. Bank Franchise Tax is due this month.

One Bag Challenge-April, May, June

Mayor Lyons stated the One Bag challenge would be continuing through June. Anyone wanting to participate can pick supplies up down stairs.

Grant Updates/Brown field Grant DEQ Grant

Mr. Cullip stated Leo with the New River Regional Commission is working on getting the RFP's. There was money left over on the Lead & Copper Grant, so there has been surveying on the water system to finish the grant up. Mr. Cullip stated he has been working with the Regional Commission to get the COVID money finished up. This has to be reported on quarterly. The town has spent its funding.

Town Office Hours Change Request 7:30 am to 4:00 pm

Mr. Cullip stated staff has requested to change office hours. Present hours are 8:00 am - 5:00 pm with one hour for lunch. Usually from 3:30 pm on there is very little foot traffic. In checking with other localities, the County and Radford City office hours are 7:30 am to 4:00 pm. Doug Poe asked, "When do you see the highest volume of people coming through"? Kim Dalton stated usually in the mornings or if it's getting close to a due date. Edith Hampton made a motion to change the office hours from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm to 7:30 am - 4:00 pm beginning July 1, 2025.

Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Yes |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager Yes |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

All were in favor

Lease agreement with Squad 10 on fire house Property

Mr. Cullip read the amendment to the lease and asked if that covered the Dublin Volunteers. Mr. Crewe stated both parties have agreed. Doe Poe asked if it needed to be more specific, having access and use of the building. Mr. Crewe stated this was possible and he could ask to change. Make sure volunteers have access to the facility, supplies, turnout gear and equipment. It was recommended to have the language specifically saying that the volunteers are allowed all access to the building and to Dublin Fire Department equipment and apparatus. Volunteers will be included to all social events as are the professional fire fighters. Doug Poe made a motion to adopt the lease and MOU with the understanding that the amendments proposed will be amended. Edith Hampton seconded.

Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Yes |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager Yes |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

All were in favor

New River Valley Home Consortium Membership Renewal

Mr. Cullip stated John Crockett with the county has asked if the town wanted to continue membership with the consortium. The town joined last year. Dues would be \$3,500. Edith Hampton asked if there was any movement on any projects taken place soon, any future projects. Mr. Cullip stated this did include the old Dublin Middle School and is all based on grants/cuts. It does give Dublin a voice. Doug Poe made a motion to continue the town's membership with New River Valley Home Consortium. Jared Smith seconded.

Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Yes |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager Yes |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

All were in favor

Building 112 update

Mr. Cullip stated the original tenant has left as of April 30, 2025. There is an outstanding balance due; \$8,000 in rent and \$2,806.78 in utilities. Several emails have been sent with no response. There has been no communications in the last six months. The building has been rented out by a new tenant. Council agreed to have Town Attorney, Trent Crewe send a certified letter and if no response take other actions.

Sanitation Dept. Update

Mr. Cullip stated council had before them an agreement with PSA to start collecting and assuming all responsibility for collecting, at customer premises within the Town, using PSA collection vehicles and personnel, all solid wastes of and generated by residential garbage service customers within the Town. Mr. Cullip stated two of the sanitation employees were down with their backs. One employee has been out of work for some time and the other employee working part time. The towns trash truck is in bad shape. The present scheduled days would stay the same. Wayne Seagle made a motion to approve the agreement. Jared Smith seconded. Roll call:

| Doug Poe Yes | Wayne Seagle Yes |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Juliana Cox Yes | Debbie Hager Yes |
| Edith Hampton Yes | Jared Smith Yes |

All were in favor

Flag Ceremony

Mayor Lyons stated the ceremony started at 9 am on the front lawn. Deanna Marshall stated all participants have been contacted and everything is set. WBLB will be present to video live. Flyers are ready to be posted/handed out. The parade will be hosted by Pulaski this year beginning at 3 pm.

Mr. Cullip stated council had in their packet the new design for the Town logo for council to review.

Public Comment

There were no comments.

Respectfully submitted,

and Cellys

Darrin T. Cullip Clerk of Council