TOWN OF GORDONSVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

Monday, January 27, 2025
6:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

*** During the meeting, Council elected to consider agenda items in an order different from that which was posted on the meeting agenda.*

CALL TO ORDER - Mayor Ronald Brooks

Mayor Brooks called the meeting to order.

INVOCATION

Councilmember Winkey gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Brooks led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ronald Brooks III
Councilmember Emily Winkey
Councilmember Stevean Irving II
Councilmember Nicholas Paxton

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Councilmember Paxton requested the motion made under closed session during the 5:15 pm earlier this evening be added to the closed session.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Mayor Brooks read the four names of the candidates to fill the council vacancy and noted the seven-day waiting period before an appointment can be made starts today. The candidates are Cynthia "Cyd" Black, Tyler Trainum, Chris Ryan and Theresa Lewis.

Mayor Brooks stated Council will consider the appointment to fill the vacancy at their February 3, 2025 work session.

Jack Maus, owner of property on Linney Street, Gordonsville, VA expressed his support for Cyd Black, due to her being the only one who "bothered" to run this past November.

PUBLIC HEARING

Proposed text amendment to Chapter 23 of the Town Code to establish an increase in the Town water and sewer rates.

Mayor Brooks opened the public hearing and asked for speakers.

Theresa Lewis, 408 S. Main Street, Gordonsville, VA.

Jack Maus, owner of 107 Linney Street, Gordonsville, VA.

Chip Gallo, 105 Lee Lane, Gordonsville, VA

Tanya Short, 214 Duke Street, Gordonsville, VA

Mayor Brooks closed the public hearing.

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Summary of Treasurer's office review – John Montoro, VML/VACo Finance.

Mr. Montoro briefed Council on his findings concerning the Treasurer's office.

Tanya Short – 214 Duke Street, Gordonsville, VA

Phillip Mahoney – 419 Charles Street, Gordonsville, VA

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Mayor Brooks

The Town Council will hold a work session on Monday, February 3, 2025, starting at 6:00 p.m. Gordonsville Town Offices will be closed on Monday, February 17, 2025 in observance of President's Day.

The February Town Council meeting will be held on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA – Mayor Brooks

Consideration of minutes for December 16, 2024 Town Council meeting, January 13, 2025 Town Council work session.

Presentation of bills paid for the month of December 2024.

Councilmember Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Roll call vote: Ayes: Councilmember Irving, Councilmember Paxton, Councilmember Winkey, and Mayor Brooks. Nays: None. The vote was unanimous.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Finance – Town Treasurer

Presentation of the Treasurer's Office activity report for December 2024.

The Town Treasurer presented her report.

Police – Police Chief

Presentation of the Police Department activity report for December 2024.

The Police Chief presented his report.

Mayor Brooks thanked Chief Arrington and his department for helping with the recycling center.

Streets – Director of Public Works

Presentation of the Public Works Department activity report for December 2024.

The Director of Public Works was absent.

Visitor Center – Visitor Center Director

Presentation of the Visitor Center activity report for December 2024.

The Interim Visitor Center Director presented her report.

Mrs. Clark stated staff is pursuing work on the visitor center bathroom and will be working on getting a quote on the cost. Mrs. Clark stated she has been researching grants to help with the cost of adding the bathroom, noting that not having the visitor center certified should help with funding opportunities.

Park Project – Clerk of the Works

Presentation of the Park Project activity report for December 2024.

The Clerk of the Works presented his report.

Mr. Varga briefed Council on the status of work on the Gordonsville Pool Project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Consideration of location for 2025 Chicken festival.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of location for 2025 Chicken festival.

Mrs. Clark and Chief Arrington briefed Council on their meetings on the 2025 Chicken festival.

Chief Arrington noted he had spoken with the Virginia State Police concerning the closing of Main Street for the chicken festival. The Virginia State Police indicated they would not issue a permit unless the town met the guidelines of homeland security (due to the large amount of people that would come to this event), set due to the incident in New Orleans on New Year's Day.

Council discussed at length the location for the chicken festival.

Council reached a consensus to hold the 2025 Chicken Festival in the parking lot of Town hall and to not close Main Street.

NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of appointment of Vice-Mayor.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of appointment of Vice-Mayor.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to appoint Councilmember Winkey as Vice-Mayor for the Town of Gordonsville.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of appointment Town officers.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of appointment of Town officers.

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to appoint Deborah S. Kendall as the Town Manager for the Town of Gordonsville, Janet W. Jones as the Town Clerk for the Town of Gordonsville and Richard Wilkinson as the Town Attorney for the Town of Gordonsville.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of depository of Town funds.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of depository of Town funds.

Council discussed the depository and added Blue Ridge Bank and LGIP to the resolution.

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to adopt resolution 2025-1a, designating the places of deposit for Town funds, as amended.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of Proposed 2025 Water and Sewer Rate Adjustment.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of proposed 2025 water and sewer rate adjustment.

Members of Council expressed their displeasure with the rate increases.

Council briefly discussed the proposed water and sewer rate adjustment.

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to adopt an ordinance to amend Section 23-50 of the Gordonsville Town code, as presented.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Nay
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was 3-1.	

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to waive the second reading of the ordinance.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Consideration of Proposed Amendments to the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Appropriation schedule.

Mayor Brooks presented for consideration of proposed amendments to the fiscal year 2024-2025 appropriation schedule.

Vice-Mayor Winkey made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Paxton, to adopt resolution #2025-1b approving the revised appropriation schedule, as presented.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The Town Manager presented her report.

Mrs. Kendall stated the electric charging stations for the Town hall parking lot did not get funded; she was made aware of another possible way to get funding but was told the visitor center needs to be certified.

Mrs. Kendall stated Junction Apartment had submitted their BAR packet and it will be reviewed and discussed at the February 5, 2025 meeting of the BAR.

Mrs. Kendall stated she hopes to get a proposal soon from the UVA PHD student who may be available to assist with the comprehensive plan review and update.

Mrs. Kendall stated she has spoken with Pleasant View Developers on the parking lot power issue and they have agreed to pay Dominion Power for the cost of those repairs. Mrs. Kendall stated she has not gotten anything in writing stating they will pay for the repairs.

NEW MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC AND COUNCIL

Mayor Brooks announced the donation received from Town to Trail and how that donation will be doubled due to Donate & Double Up campaign.

Phillip Mahoney of 419 Charles Street, Gordonsville, VA stated he would like to see Main Street closed for the chicken festival.

Mr. Fred Rollins stated the CSAP stated the safety fence at the airport will be put up at their April meeting in preparation for Cub Scout Aviation Day on April 26 and 27, 2025.

CLOSED SESSION

Town Council will convene in Closed Session pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1) personnel – employee tax refund; (A3) discussion of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose; and (A8) – consultation with the Town Attorney regarding specific legal matters related to the dereliction of property within the Town.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, that Town Council convene in Closed Session pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1) discussion regarding a personnel matter and discussion of assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of specific officers, appointees, or employees of any public body; (A3) discussion of the acquisition of real property for the public purpose; (A8) – consultation with the Town Attorney regarding specific legal matters related to the Gordon House and the dereliction of property within the Town.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Vice-Mayor Winkey, to certify that only matters lawfully exempted under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 paragraphs (A1), (A3) and (A8) as identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Consideration of VML/VACO Finance proposal for Treasurer's office support.

Mayor Brooks presented consideration of VML/VACO proposal for Treasurer's office support.

Councilmember Paxton made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Irving, to authorize the Town Manager to sign an engagement letter with VML/VACO Finance for Treasurer's office support services through June 30, 2025, as presented.

Roll call vote:	Councilmember Irving	Aye
	Councilmember Paxton	Aye
	Councilmember Winkey	Aye
	Mayor Brooks	Aye
	The vote was unanimous.	

NEW MATTERS BY COUNCIL

There were no new matters by Council.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before Council, Mayor Brooks adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.

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Robert K. Coiner, Mayor

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Janet W. Jones, Town Clerk