

Council held a called meeting Tuesday, May 21, 2018 at Town Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting opened at 6:05 with a quorum present. Vice Mayor Bivens was the only absentee.

A motion was made to enter closed session to discuss prospective business and personnel, as authorized by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3711 (A (1), (5)).

Motion: Watson      Second: Johnson      Passage: Unanimous

Closed session began at 6:08 p.m. and concluded at 7:07 p.m.

A motion was made to certify that only matters of personnel and prospective business were discussed during closed session, as required by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3712 (D).

Motion: Johnson      Second: Watson      Passage: Unanimous

The open meeting resumed at 7:07 p.m.

Mayor Poindexter distributed a revised budget proposal based on public feedback following advertisement of the original proposal, along with indications that additional research and consideration are needed on some of the matters. The major points of contention are the garbage fee and the idea of a town manager. The main difference with the revised proposal is that it removes both items.

Mr. Eller reminded council that changes to a budget proposal can be made after the public hearing without further advertising as long as it does not involve a tax increase.

### **Guest Speaker**

In consideration of his travel distance and time, budget discussions were paused for Mr. Chris Slemp, Pittsylvania County Public Safety Coordinator, to report on the status of EMS in our area. He assured "Hurt is taken care of" unless it "falls through tomorrow." He is working with Delta Response Team (DRT) to provide service for 60-90 days. He also has an RFP out at this time.

Life Care bought Regional One, but has made no contracts. Regional One is operational in Hurt through May 31, with DRT taking over on June 1.

Regional One was paying \$800.00 to our fire department (HVFD) for rent on the house beside the fire station. Mr. Slemp asked if the town is willing to help with this cost for at least three months. He also stated that he believes the HVFD is willing to put the cost at \$600 a month for the town.

A motion was made to allocate \$1,800 to HVFD for housing and logistics support for EMS provided by DRT for June-August, 2018.

Motion: Clay      Second: Neal      Passage: Unanimous

Resuming discussion of the budget, Mayor Poindexter pointed out that the page showing annual pay for employees is an estimate or starting point for budget projections, and not necessarily what they will be paid.

Council agreed that the HR committee will meet and set a salary scale for each position during next month.

Mr. Eller advised that the projected increase in real estate tax revenue due to the county reassessment is ultimately an increase for the town by default. Thus, it will need to be advertised as such or the town rate lowered by the amount needed to balance out.

After some discussion, Councilmember Watson moved to cancel the public hearing set for May 24, advertise the revised budget proposal in the May 30 Altavista Journal, then set June 7 as the new date for both the regular monthly meeting and the public hearing on the revised budget proposal.

Motion: Watson

Second: Johnson

Passage: Unanimous

The date for the final approval of the budget was set for June 14, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

*Dixie S. Poindexter*  
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Dixie S. Poindexter, Volunteer

*Gary Poindexter*  
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Gary Poindexter, Mayor