

Fries Town Council  
April 4, 2017  
Minutes

Members Present: Bill Davis, Cynthia Grant, JoAnn Gunter, Nancy Hawks, Marie Isom, Dawn Patton and Gary Sumner.

Others Present: Richard Farmer, Mayor; Grayson County Deputy Cody McGrady; Karen Snyder & Gene Adkins, Fries Community Center; Steven Clark and several citizens.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and JoAnn Gunter gave the Invocation.

Minutes & Bills: Dawn Patton moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes and to approve the minutes and bills as presented. Marie Isom provided the second to the motion. All present voted Aye and the minutes and bills were approved.

Police Report: Officer Cody McGrady reviewed the March Police Report. He reported: Arrests; 2 drug, 2 juvenile, 2 destruction of property/vandalism, 8 ACO violations, 6 warning tickets and 3 other arrests; the investigation of 2 misdemeanors, 2 felonies, 3 follow ups and 2 closed investigations. Routine activities included: 168 closed business checks, 39 service calls, 41 church checks, 69 directive patrols, 33 open business checks, 38 forestry checks, 20 warrant service, 9 open bank checks, 5 motorist assists, 1 prisoner, 2 substance seizures and 2 backup to officers for a total of 196 hours. Officer McGrady reported that the Sheriff had sent a copy of a quote for a camera system for the town. The town's half of the payment would be less than \$2,000. The Mayor thanked Officer McGrady for his report.

Organization Updates:

1. Fries Volunteer Fire Department Update: Chief Chad Stanley was not able to attend due to hosting a Firefighter 1 class, but sent his report. It stated that in March, they responded to 54 EMS calls and 12 fire calls. The fire calls included 2 structure fires, 2 brush fires, 4 motor vehicle accidents, 2 EMS assists and 1 false alarm. They had started their Firefighter 1 class on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and planned to continue the class on Tuesday and Thursday nights and each Saturday or Sunday until June 10<sup>th</sup>. They also planned to host a Vehicle Rescue Class on April 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> for Technical Rescue Teams throughout the state. Their new ambulance would be in service within the next two weeks.
2. Fries Community Center Report: Karen Snyder reported that the students from the Citadel had been housed at the center and had completed work in the kitchen, at several houses in the community, dug ditches, painted and worked in the lobby. They were expecting students from Fairfield Prep in June and were preparing for their visit. Preparation for the coming pool season had begun. New ladders and trash cans were being purchased, and town workers planned to replace a valve before the pool opened. Baseball and softball sign ups were underway with approximately 4 teams participating. The Community Center had been notified that they would be receiving an award from SERCAP for being voted the Best Host Site in the Community Service Program. Karen also reported that the lobby floor was being refinished, and that work continued on the theatre as well. Upcoming events

included a performance by The Crooked Road Ramblers and the Jeff Whittington Dinner Show for the Y Renovation Fund. The Annual Easter Egg Hunt was also scheduled to be held in the Town Park on April 15<sup>th</sup>. The Mayor thanked Karen for her report.

3. Tourism Report: Marie Isom reported the following:

- The 2017 Farmers Market was scheduled to begin on May 21<sup>st</sup> from 1—4pm.
  - The 2017 Cruise In schedule was as follows: May 27<sup>th</sup>, June 10<sup>th</sup>, July 8<sup>th</sup>, August 12<sup>th</sup> and September 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - An Easter Egg Hunt was scheduled for April 15<sup>th</sup> from 1—4pm.
  - Free Fishing Days were scheduled for June 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - She had attended a recent Main Street Workshop and also a webinar.
  - The new website was still under construction.
  - She applied for a small grant for the Farmer's Market for marketing and signage and would be notified within a few weeks if granted.
  - The temporary Information Center/Gift Shop was scheduled to open the last weekend in April.
  - She was compiling a list of our area yearly events and asked that organizations email their events to her to be included at [friesva7@gmail.com](mailto:friesva7@gmail.com). She was also creating an email database for those who would like to receive the updates.
  - She asked that all local businesses and organizations visit the website at [brandSWVA.com](http://brandSWVA.com) and get registered and branded as soon as possible.
- The Mayor thanked Marie for her report and her hard work.

4. Steven Clark reported that he had met with the Grayson County School Board again and that at the Mayor's suggestion the lease with the school would be run through the Fries Community Center. He planned to address the school board meeting again on April 10<sup>th</sup> for approval. The Mayor thanked him for the update.

Old Business:

1. Y Repair Project Update: The Mayor reported that the new balance for the Y Repair Project was up to \$18,555.88. The next scheduled fundraiser was for April 8<sup>th</sup> and would be a Barbecue Dinner/ Show with Jeff Whittington performing. Admission was \$10 and the menu would consist of barbecue, slaw, baked beans, a drink and dessert. A fish fry was also being planned for May 27<sup>th</sup> at the Fries School.
2. Depot Update: Dawn Patton reported that the town would be advertising for bids for construction in about a week. The Mayor thanked Dawn for her efforts.
3. Park Project Update: Kim Mallory was not able to attend. Marie reported that in an effort to make the park safer for the children, Jerry Shupe had donated dirt and Bill Moore had donated his tractor and time to level up the park. David Isom and Homer Norman raked, sowed seed and put down straw to finish the park. The Mayor thanked them all for their efforts.

New Business:

1. Resolution: USDA/Rural Development Funding for Preliminary Engineering Report & Environmental Report for WTP Upgrades. The Mayor read the following resolution aloud:

The governing body of the Town of Fries, consisting of seven members, in a duly called meeting held on the 4th day of April, 2017, at which a quorum was present, RESOLVED as follows:

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that, in order to facilitate obtaining financial assistance from the United States of America, United States Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, (the Government) for the SEARCH Grant to pay for the Water and Sewer System Improvements Project Preliminary Engineering Report and Environmental Report, the governing body does hereby adopt and abide by the covenants contained in the agreements, documents, and forms required by the Government to be executed.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Vice Mayor, or Town Manager be authorized to execute on behalf of the Town, the above-referenced agreements and to execute such other documents including, but not limited to, debt instruments and security instruments as may be required in obtaining the said financial assistance.

This Resolution, along with a copy of the above-referenced documents, is hereby entered into the permanent minutes of the meetings of this Town Council.

After some discussion, Gary Sumner moved to approve the resolution as presented. Marie Isom provided the second to the motion. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

2. Cameras: Proposed CCTV System: The Mayor reported that he had met with Sheriff Richard Vaughan concerning installing a closed camera system in town that would allow local law enforcement to check in on at any time. The plan included beginning with installing four cameras, with one of them being a license plate reader. The quote presented by the Sheriff was for \$3,745.21 to be shared between the Town of Fries and the Grayson County Sheriff's Department. After some further discussion, Nancy Hawks moved to allocate \$2,000 to install the cameras. Dawn Patton provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

Announcements:

1. The Annual Large Item Curbside Pickup was scheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup>. Contact Grayson County Public Works at 276-773-3181 to register and for more information.
2. The Jesuit High School Students were scheduled to be in Fries July 9<sup>th</sup> thru 20<sup>th</sup>. Contact Town Hall to be put on the work or food schedules.

With no further business to discuss, Gary Sumner moved to adjourn, Dawn Patton provided the second and the meeting was adjourned.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_