

Fries Town Council  
August 2, 2016  
Minutes

Members Present: Cynthia Grant, Jo Ann Gunter, Nancy Hawks and Dawn Patton.

Others Present: Richard Farmer, Mayor; Brian Reed, Town Manager; Kevin Heath, Lane Group; Shaina Stockton, The Gazette; Chad Stanley, FVFD Chief; Denny Brooms, Fries Community Center; and several citizens.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and Cynthia Grant 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. Jo Ann Gunter provided the second to the motion. All present voted Aye and the minutes and bills were approved.

Police Report: No Police Report Given.

Organization Updates:

1. Fries Volunteer Fire Department Update: Chad Stanley reported that in July the department had answered 9 fire calls and 45 EMS calls. He reported that upcoming events included the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiddler's Convention on August 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> and Fire Prevention Week October 9<sup>th</sup> thru 15<sup>th</sup>. The Annual Fire Prevention Parade was scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and Open House at the fire house immediately after the parade. The fire department also planned to send out a newsletter during Fire Prevention Week. Chad then thanked Alfred and Marilyn Jones for their generous donation of the house and lot beside the fire house. The department planned to remove the house and make a parking lot. The Mayor thanked Chad for his report.
2. Fries Community Center Report: Denny Brooms reviewed some of the accomplishments of the Fries Community Center from the past year. Upcoming goals included the purchase of a small movie projector for the Theatre in hopes of showing movies again, adding HVAC to the Theatre, reprinting Alan Jennings book as a fundraiser and also reprinting the yellow Town of Fries book as a fundraiser, if the town had the copyrights to the book. He planned to check with an attorney before pursuing. After some discussion, the Mayor thanked Denny for his report.
3. Tourism Report: Marie Isom was unable to attend. The Mayor reminded everyone that the Farmer's Market was being held every Sunday from 12—3pm in the Town Park.

### Old Business:

1. Y Repair Project Update: The Mayor reported that the balance on the renovation account was up to \$24,097.15. He also reported that construction on the Community Center building was going very well and almost completed on the Theatre side. He planned to begin fundraising efforts to complete another side soon.
2. Depot Project Update: Kevin Heath of Lane Group reviewed the bid process to date and explained the town's options to continue with the depot project. After much discussion, Kevin Heath and Brian Reed recommended reviewing the project and making cuts to hopefully reduce the cost of construction and then rebid the project. They hoped to get the costs down to where the bids would come in around \$660,000. The cost of reviewing the project would be around \$15,000. After some more discussion, Dawn Patton moved that the project be amended contingent on VDOT approval. Cynthia Grant provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion was approved. The Mayor thanked Kevin and Brian.
3. Water Committee: Dawn Patton and Nancy Hawks reported that they were working to update the water, sewer and garbage ordinance and would have something for council to review soon. They also presented a list of uncollectable water bills that went back to the early 1990's and asked for approval to charge off the list from the billing system. After some discussion concerning making landlords responsible for paying a tenant's delinquent bill after moving out and issuing liens on property for non-payment of utility bills, Nancy Hawks moved to approve the charge off list. Dawn Patton provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

### New Business:

1. Senior Program Bus Discussion: The Mayor suggested council consider selling the senior program bus to the community center for \$1.00 since the town only uses the bus once a year and the center uses it weekly. After some discussion, no action was taken.
2. Storage Buildings in Park Area Discussion: The Mayor commented that the storage buildings in the park area were in seriously poor shape and recommended that they be cleaned out and torn down. After some discussion, Nancy Hawks moved to clean out the buildings and have them torn down. Dawn Patton provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

### Announcements:

1. Denny Brooms asked for council permission to add electrical outlets to the stage and park area. Dawn Patton moved to allow the Fries Community Center to add outlets to the park and stage area. Nancy Hawks provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

2. Jill Hill reported that the Jesuit High School service trip had been a success and thanked all who had participated.

With no further business to discuss, Dawn Patton moved to adjourn, Jo Ann Gunter provided the second and the meeting was adjourned.

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

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