

Fries Town Council  
May 5, 2015  
Minutes

Members Present: Bill Davis, Jo Ann Gunter, Marie Isom, Carolyn Jones, Jerry McCormick and Dawn Patton.

Others Present: Richard Farmer, Mayor; Karen Snyder, Fries Community Center; Robbie Carrico, FVFD; Cynthia Grant, Festival & Events Committee; Shaina Stockton, Galax Gazette and several citizens.

The Mayor called the meeting to order and Dawn Patton 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. JoAnn provided the second to the motion. All present voted Aye and the minutes and bills were approved.

Police Report: Officer Graham gave a summary of police activity for April. He reported 5 traffic arrests and 2 warning tickets. He also reported investigation of 1 traffic accident, 2 juvenile investigations and 1 misdemeanor. Routine activities reported included: 421 closed business checks, 19 service calls, 71 church checks, 84 directive patrols, 47 open business checks, 49 forestry checks, 3 motorist assists, 1 DMV notice, 16 civil papers, 7 warrant service, 1 ECO/TDO transport, 3 crime prevention contacts, 2 house checks and 12 open bank checks for a total of 196.20 hours. The Mayor thanked the Officer for his report and asked that they continue checking for expired decals.

Organization Updates:

1. Fries Volunteer Fire Department Update: Robbie Carrico reported that they would begin painting the fire hydrants on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. Upcoming events at Providence included barrel racing every second Sunday and open roping every third Sunday. He also commented that they had upgraded their facilities and would be hosting steer roping events soon. The Mayor thanked Robbie for his report and asked that they continue to use the hydrant on the old mill property instead of the one at the old firehouse. Robbie said they would, but he also reported that they were still getting dirty water when they used the hydrant at the new firehouse. The Mayor stated that he and the town workers were working on a solution to that issue.
2. Fries Community Center Report: Karen Snyder reported that they had started working on the pool and were addressing several problems before they could open. She also reported that they had someone that would be setting up their books on Quickbooks and would be helping them maintain them. Upcoming events included a teen dance on Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> and concessions at the Henry Whitter Festival on May 9<sup>th</sup>. She asked that anyone available to volunteer contact her. The Mayor thanked Karen for her report.

3. Tourism Report: Marie Isom reported that the Tourism Committee had already begun to implement the Tourism Plan provided by Kitty Barker. They had recently met with Ray Kohl of Galax Tourism to discuss applying for a VTC grant to help fund the tourism efforts. As part of their discussion, the tourism committee worked on branding the town and a logo. Marie asked that council consider using the blue, gold and green colors from the theatre proposal in all of our marketing efforts as well as the logo that Kit Marshall presented. Council agreed to consider the logo and colors for discussion at the next meeting. She then asked for council approval for the Tourism Plan by Kitty Barker. The motion was approved.
4. Festivals & Events Committee: Cynthia Grant reported that the Henry Whitter Festival would be held on Saturday, May 9th. She and her committee were still working on the details. She reported that several vendor applications had already been received and that they would continue to accept them up to festival time. They planned to set most things up on Friday. On Saturday, breakfast was scheduled to begin at 8am, entertainment at 11am and would end around 5pm. She thanked the fire department for delivering the bleachers and Bill Davis for allowing them to use his sound system. The Mayor thanked Cynthia for her report.

#### Old Business:

1. Y Repair Project Update: The Mayor reported that the current balance was \$8,579.41 from 76 donors. He thanked the James Hardy Corporation for donating the siding to fix the building and Dawn Patton thanked Randy Lineberry for hauling the siding to Fries. He also reported that the group planned to have a fish fry at the Fries School on May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4:00—7:00pm to benefit the fund. Adult plates \$7.00 and children 7 & under \$4.00. He also added that volunteers were still needed to work the event.
2. Depot Project Update: Dawn Patton reported that she had contacted Kevin Heath from Lane Group concerning the depot. He reported that the goal was still to have the bidding packages available for the July meeting and they were on track.
3. Theatre Renovation Project: The Mayor asked for discussion concerning the theatre proposal that Kit Marshall had presented in April. After some discussion, Carolyn Jones moved to approve the proposal as presented. Marie Isom provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

#### New Business:

1. Fries Community Center Temporary Structure: The Mayor suggested that it would be appropriate to dissolve the temporary structure set up at the January meeting since the Community Center had its 501C3 status in place and was now a separate entity. After some discussion, Dawn Patton moved to dissolve the temporary

structure and recognize the Community Center as a separate entity. Carolyn Jones provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

2. Fries Community Center Board Appointments: Karen Snyder asked for council to approve adding two new members to the FCC Board of Directors. She asked that they approve Kayla Slate and Gene Adkins and discussed their current involvement in the center. After some further discussion, Dawn Patton moved to approve the two new members. JoAnn Gunter provided the second. All present voted Aye and the motion carried.

Announcements:

1. Budget Public Hearing was scheduled for Monday, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

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

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

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