



TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE

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CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA 24422
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www.cliftonforgeva.gov

**COUNCIL MINUTES
TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE, VIRGINIA
7:00 P.M. TUESDAY, MAY 24, 2016
CLIFTON FORGE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
547 MAIN STREET**

INVOCATION BY DAVID DAVIS

CALL TO ORDER: Vice Mayor Gayle Hillert called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

PRESENT: Vice Mayor Gayle Hillert, Councilwoman Johnette Roberts, Councilman Jeff Irvine, and Councilman Robert Umstead

Mayor Brinkley joined the meeting via telephone conference.

ALSO PRESENT BUT NOT ON THE ROLL: Darlene Burcham, Town Manager, Angela Carper, Clerk of Council, and David Davis, Town Attorney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Vice Mayor Gayle Hillert led the attendees and council in the pledge of allegiance.

Prior to opening the public hearing, Vice Mayor Hillert announced that Mayor Brinkley would be joining the meeting via telephone conference call. Angela Carper, Clerk, placed the call to Mayor Brinkley and once it was determined that he was connected and could hear the proceedings, the meeting continued with Vice Mayor Hillert opening the public hearing at 7:07 with LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director providing a brief Power Point presentation on the proposed FY 17 budgets. The presentation was as follows:

TOWN OF CLIFTON FORGE



FISCAL YEAR 2017 GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

GENERAL FUND REVENUE

	FY2016	FY2017
	Adopted Budget	Proposed Budget
General Property Taxes	\$612,700	\$606,900
Other Local Taxes	995,000	996,000
Permits, Fees, Reg. Licenses	10,700	7,200
Fines and Forfeitures	11,050	9,750
Revenue from use of Money and Property	14,750	17,075
Charges for Services	58,300	68,800
Miscellaneous Revenue	33,725	33,725
Recovered Costs – Other	20,000	20,000
Revenue from the Commonwealth	1,097,274	1,111,149
Transfer fund	10,000	8,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND REVENUE	\$2,863,499	\$2,885,099

FISCAL YEAR 2017 PROPOSED BUDGET ONLY INCREASES .08% OVER FISCAL YEAR 2016 ADOPTED BUDGET

GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES

	FY 2016	FY2017
	Adopted Budget	Proposed Budget
General Government Administration	\$293,215	\$292,882
Public Safety	1,049,338	1,055,898
Public Works	613,238	628,456
Parks & Cultural	227,149	224,051
Library	198,880	200,186
Community Development	129,473	129,646
Non-Departmental	271,818	273,443
Capital Improvements	80,388	80,537
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENDITURES	\$2,863,499	\$2,885,099

Revenue

No increase in tax rates or fees

Same Real Estate Tax Rate of \$.21 since 2008

Same Personal Property Tax Rate of \$6.70 since 2001

Expenditures

Continue to fund essential services - Police, Fire and First Responder, Community Development and Public Works

No pay raises for employees

Funds 8% increase in health insurance cost for a single employee policy with cost offset by a reduction in required Virginia Retirement system rates

Continue to fund outside agencies such as Masonic Theater, Clifton Forge School of the Arts, Alleghany Highlands Arts and Crafts, Clifton Forge Main Street, Southwest Virginia Food Bank, Jackson River Enterprises, Alleghany Humane Society, Clifton Forge Little League and Alleghany Highlands Youth Soccer Association

Capital Improvement Projects

General Fund	
Police Department – Building Repairs	\$40,000
Leaf Machine	45,000
Rt. 60 Stormwater Pipe Replacement	69,000
Storm Drain Inspection Program	20,000
Pick up Truck with plow	35,000
X-Mark Mower	12,000
Total General Fund	\$221,000
Water Fund	
Reservoir Dam Safety – Engineering	\$326,250
Boundary/ Exchange	147,000
Emergency Generator – Bid documents	14,000
Main Transmission Lines – PER	
Permitting	20,000
Water Tank Capacity Study	10,000
Valve & Hydrant Replacements	66,500
Water Line Replacements	158,000
Total Water Fund	\$741,750
Sewer Fund	
DEQ Permitting /Engineering	50,000
Wastewater Line –CSX	250,000
Route 60 Pump Station	100,000
Lateral Camera	50,000
Total Sewer Fund	\$450,000

BACKGROUND AND HISTORY SEWER SYSTEM

2006	DEQ Consent Order requires construction of LJR Regional Wastewater Facility to comply with Clean Water Act regulations to reduce SSO's
2007	Wastewater Agreement signed transferring sewer treatment responsibility to County
2011	LJR Facilities construction complete, sewer treatment operations transfer to County in October 2011

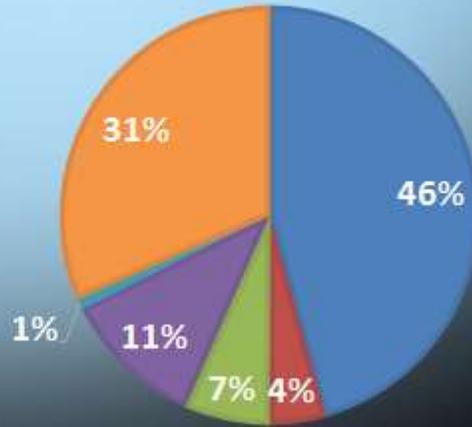
2011	Town metered billing goes live; Water & Sewer rate structures include base fees and tiered volume charges based on customer usage characteristics
2011	Town / County disagree over methodologies for calculating wholesale sewer and water rates
2012	Slight adjustment of rates to help offset decline in consumption; Rates remain at \$96 (combined monthly residential rate) for next 5 fiscal years
2014	County files suit over sewer payment deficits
2016	Mediation Hearing: Settlement reached for sewer rate dispute; new sewer agreement underway to resolve disparities with formula; new water agreement in discussion.

PREVIOUSLY, THE TOWN WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEBT ON SELMA, SHARON, AND IRON GATE FACILITIES, AS WELL AS CLIFTON FORGE FACILITIES.

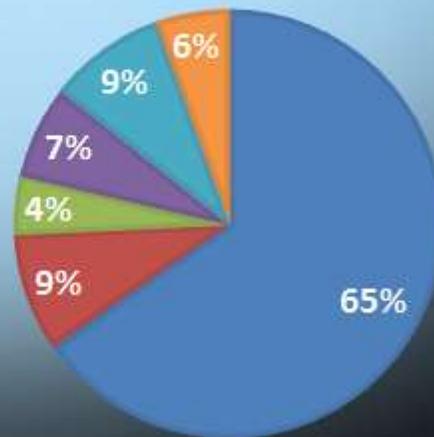
UNDER THE NEW AGREEMENT, CLIFTON FORGE PAYS DEBT ONLY FOR THOSE FACILITIES WHICH IT USES.

THE ANNUAL RATE IS CALCULATED ON DEBT AND AVERAGE SEWAGE FLOW.

FY 2011 SEWER FUND EXPENSES \$1,218,000

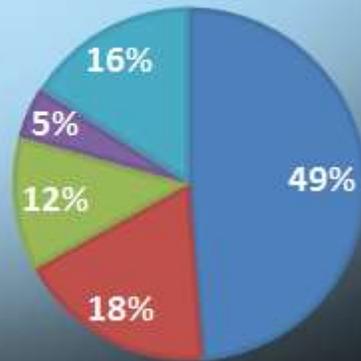


FY 2017 SEWER FUND EXPENSES \$1,689,482



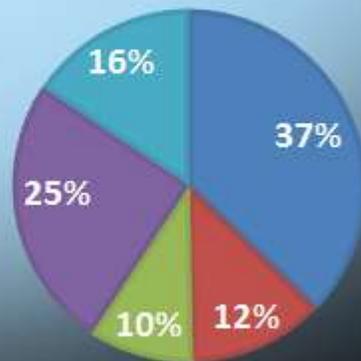
FY 2011 WATER FUND EXPENSES \$933,000

- Water Filtration
- Transmission/Distribution
- Non-departmental
- Capital
- Debt Service



FY 2017 WATER FUND EXPENSES \$1,370,730

- Water Filtration
- Transmission/Distribution
- Non-departmental
- Capital
- Debt Service



ANNUAL RATES COMPARISON – TOWN

FY	Water	Sewer	Total
2011	\$ 26.50	\$ 67.50	\$ 94.00
2012	\$ 24.50	\$ 71.50	\$ 96.00
2013	\$ 26.50	\$ 69.50	\$ 96.00
2014	\$ 26.50	\$ 69.50	\$ 96.00
2015	\$ 26.50	\$ 69.50	\$ 96.00
2016	\$ 26.50	\$ 69.50	\$ 96.00
2017	\$ 30.80	\$ 74.20	\$ 105.00

ANNUAL RATES COMPARISON – COUNTY

FY	Water	Sewer	Total
2011	\$ 37.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 74.00
2012	\$ 37.00	\$ 37.00	\$ 74.00
2013	\$ 39.00	\$ 39.00	\$ 78.00
2014	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 80.00
2015	\$ 40.50	\$ 40.50	\$ 81.00
2016	\$ 41.00	\$ 41.00	\$ 82.00
2017	N/A	N/A	N/A

Background and History Sewer System

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2007	Wastewater Agreement signed transferring sewer treatment responsibility to County
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2016	Mediation Hearing: Settlement reached for sewer rate dispute; new sewer agreement underway to resolve disparities with formula; new water agreement in discussion.

Previously, the Town was responsible for debt on Selma, Sharon, and Iron Gate facilities, as well as Clifton Forge facilities.

Under the new agreement, Clifton Forge pays debt only for those facilities which it uses.

The annual rate is calculated on debt and average sewage flow.

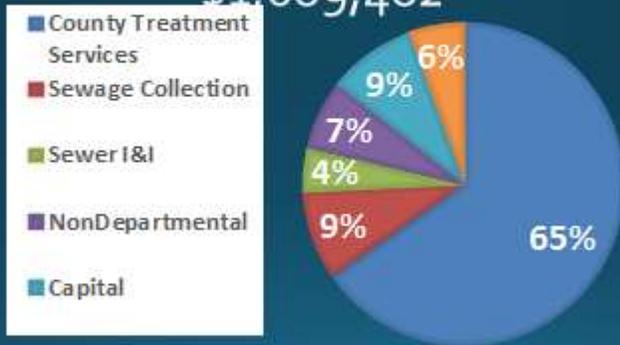
FY 2011 Sewer Fund Expenses

\$1,218,000



FY 2017 Sewer Fund Expenses

\$1,689,482



Annual Rates Comparison - Town

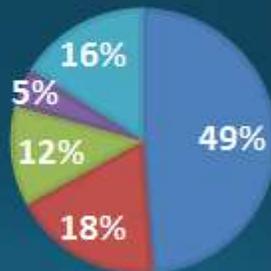
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Annual Rates Comparison - County

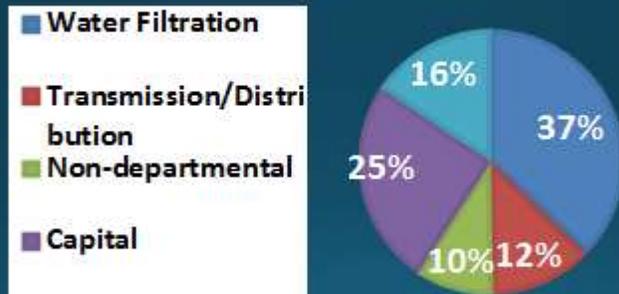
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2017	N/A	N/A	N/A

FY 2011 Water Fund Expenses \$933,000

■ Water Filtration
■ Transmission/Distribution
■ Non-departmental
■ Capital



FY 2017 Water Fund Expenses \$1,370,730



PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. First Readings and Public Hearing: Proposed FY 2016-2017 Operating and Capital Budgets

- 1) An Ordinance Imposing And Levying Taxes Within The Town of Clifton Forge, Virginia Upon Real Property For The Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2016 and Ending June 30, 2017, and Upon Personal Property and Machinery and Tools For the Calendar Year Beginning January 1, 2016, and Ending December 31, 2016.**

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

- 2) An ordinance to repeal Section 86--564 Sewer Lateral Charge effective July 1, 2016**

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

- 3) **An ordinance to amend Section 86-556, Wastewater Services Charges and Fees beginning July 1, 2016.**

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

- 4) **An ordinance to amend Section 86-95, Water Services Charges and Fees beginning July 1, 2016.**

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

- 5) **Resolution Adopting the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating and Capital Budgets For the Town of Clifton Forge, Virginia and Appropriating the Requisite Funds for Said Budgets**

RECOMMENDATION: Proceed to second reading

Vice Mayor Hillert asked other members of Council if they had comments or questions and then opened the floor to public comment and called upon those who had signed up to speak. Comments were as follows:

1. Eddie Reynolds of 1037 Commercial Avenue asked if the sewer lateral fee is going to be dropped, then stated that if so the increase is \$9. He stated that he would like to know the deal that was struck with the County and if that deal has anything to do with the increased rates. He asked that Council be honest with citizens. Vice Mayor Hillert stated that that is always the intent and they will continue to and thanked Mr. Reynolds for his comments. Mrs. Burcham advised that the settlement agreement between the Town and Alleghany County is not the reason for the increase in rates and in fact the settlement should help the Town because it will decrease the amount paid to the County over a 5 year period and that without the agreement in place the increase would have been higher than proposed. Mr. Reynolds asked if the rates will increase again next year. He stated that he has new neighbors and when moving here they were not

aware of the utility rate and it will be hard for citizens to make the payments.

Mrs. Burcham advised that the County has, as was shown in the presentation, raised their rates annually, and that the Town should have done the same and that she does anticipate the need for annual increases due to repairs that are being required Town to fulfill due to years of non-maintenance.

2. Todd Anderson of Jackson River Enterprises addressed Council in regards to the notification that he had received advising of the amount of funding for their organization. He stated that previously in the contract with the Town, they received \$18,963, but the letter he received from Mrs. Tyler states that only \$15,030 is allocated for FY 17 and he asked the reason for the decrease.

Mrs. Burcham advised that as he could see from the presentation that Mrs. Tyler had just shown, there are a lot of activities that could not be funded at all this year and many are being funded at a lesser amount. She also stated that with the contract with JRE, the Town was expecting to see increased activities from them, but this has not occurred.

3. Rick LeBleu of 200 Revere Street asked how the money received from the increased water rates is used. He also stated previously when asked he was told that the Town had money in the bank for the trial, etc., and he would like to know where that has gone.

LeeAnna Tyler, Finance Director, advised that the monies that were in place to cover the funds for the payments being made to the County are still in place and that the Town is digging into its reserve fund now, which will help to offset the increase.

Mr. LeBleu stated that he had noticed the ads in the newspaper recently for open positions in the Public Works and Police Department and he suggests freezing those positions and use those funds to decrease rates. He stated that there should be other ways to get the money needed and maybe the Town should consider raising the real estate taxes or go back to not using the water meters and having

citizens pay for only exactly what they use. He also stated that the Town could save by not using the fire truck for First Responder calls and use the pick-up truck instead.

Councilman Irvine addressed Mr. LeBleu and explained that the fire truck is used for First Responder calls because the Fire Department's first priority is for a fire call and it allows them to be prepared and save time responding if needed.

Mr. LeBleu also stated that he doesn't understand why the Town is giving funds to the Masonic Theatre when they are tax exempt. He stated the he would rather pay a little more on real estate taxes twice a year than pay additional charges each month on his water.

Vice Mayor Hillert explained to Mr. LeBleu that as Mrs. Tyler has explained both tonight and in previous meetings, the water, sewer, and real estate taxes are three totally separate funds or accounts and the monies cannot be moved between them, they must be used for what they are slated for.

Mr. LeBleu asked where the money that has been collected for the sewer laterals is kept and why the Town can't just put that money into the main fund to avoid having an increase.

Mrs. Burcham explained that the money that has been collected for the sewer laterals can only be used for that item, nothing else. She reiterated both Mrs. Tyler's and Mrs. Hillert's comments that the Town is not allowed to move funds between accounts, the funds can only be used for the item they have been set aside for and cannot be used for any other purpose other than what has been designated for.

4. Clarence Cullis of Jefferson Street stated that he would like for Council to consider keeping the \$3 sewer lateral fee in place. He stated that it took three months of meetings in the beginning to establish the fee and who was responsible for what and that nowhere in the ordinance does it spell out who is responsible for what portion of the line. He said that it was established that if someone called to have a lateral installed it would be a certain cost and that it does not state what that cost for materials will be and that it could be endless and end up being some astronomical figure that people can't afford

because not all of them are simple, some require digging up the asphalt or sidewalks, etc. He stated that he does not want Council to do away with the fee. He said that 10 years from now when all of the people that established the ordinance and protocol are gone and the issue comes up again it will be a problem.

Councilwoman Roberts stated that the \$3 fee was for the sewer lateral and that the ordinance states that the resident is responsible for the line from their lateral to the main. Mrs. Burcham added that with the removal of the \$3 fee, the Town will be responsible instead of the resident.

Mr. Cullis continued by stating that the Town had said the funds collected for the sewer laterals would be kept in a separate fund, but that they are not and that there are no records as to how much has been collected or how much has been used towards the laterals.

Mrs. Tyler advised that is inaccurate and read the figures he requested in regards to the fund. He argued saying that she had told him that there was not such a fund and Mrs. Tyler, along with Vice Mayor Hillert explained that what was meant was that she didn't have the information for him while he was standing at the counter on the day he came in, but that it is there and available when given time to gather it.

Mrs. Burcham advised that the sole purpose of the \$3 fee was to get people who didn't have a cleanout to install one to help eliminate issues that could arise with their lines, but that to date there are only about 160 residents that have taken advantage of the program out of 1500. Councilwoman Roberts asked Mrs. Burcham if someone is interested in having a cleanout installed but has not yet signed up would still have that option. Mrs. Burcham advised that the option will still be available for the same \$60 materials fee that has established for the installation and that all residents who have already paid to be added to the list will have their cleanout installation completed prior to July 1. She stated that it has been found that the majority of homes that have been visited already have a cleanout. Councilman Irvine asked when the \$3 fee went into effect and Mrs. Tyler advised July, 2014. Mr. Irvine asked if updates had been

provided at Council meetings and how many. Mrs. Burcham advised that she is unsure off the top of her head, but she believes 3 or 4, but that the information is, included in the Public Works monthly reports which are also posted on the Town's website and area bulletin boards. Vice Mayor Hillert advised that when the fee was put in place, it was established that it would be reviewed after it was in place for a period of time to make sure the program was working and that with so few residents taking advantage of the offer, it's just not functional to leave in place at this point.

LeeAnna Tyler read all of the documents for the proposed budget and with no further comments, the budget will appear on the June 14 Council agenda for second reading and adoption.

Vice Mayor Hillert closed the public hearing at 7:48 PM.

PRESENTATIONS

What's Your Story—Joan Vanorsdall

Joan Vanorsdall thanked Council for their time and then introduced her new project, a book titled "What's Your Story?" She said it is about sharing the past to build the future and is a community building project in which she is currently eliciting stories from people within the community about what matters to each one, things that have impacted their lives within the area, and just a great way to share the real history of the area through actual experiences. She stated that Clifton Forge is the pilot project and that as it grows it will include more areas and will include more and more people. She stated that money made through the project will go back into the project and that it is a 50/50 split. Donations can be made through Clifton Forge Main Street which has been kind enough to offer their help since they are also a non-profit organization. Books will be priced \$18 each. A copy of the presentation follows:

WHAT'S YOUR STORY?

Sharing Our Past to Build Our Future

What's Your Story?

A community-building storytelling initiative designed to validate the experiences of all Highlands residents.

Project Participants to Date

“What’s Your Story?” is a non-profit project.

All committee members and interviewers are volunteers, bringing diverse expertise:

John Rainone, President, DSLCC

Laura Rainone, Director, CFSOTA

Chuck Almarez, photographer

Joan Vannorsdall, writer

Gayle Hillert, Vice-Mayor, Clifton Forge

Rachel Edwards, graphic designer

Mott Atherholt, former Director, CF Main Street

Project Description & Inspiration

What’s Your Story?

- Pilot project in Clifton Forge.
- Goal = All segments of the Highlands.
- Collection methods:
 - one-on-one interviews
 - street booths
 - write-ins
 - social media.

Project Framework Inspired by:

- Global Giving Africa Project
- National Geographic Pine Ridge Community Project
- NPR “StoryCorps” and “This American Life”
- Orton Family Foundation Heart & Soul Methodology
- North Richmond Battery Park Storytelling Event
- *Humans of New York* blog and book

Why?

- The Alleghany Highlands is facing an identity crisis.
- Who are we as a community?
- What might we become?
- Revitalization efforts are ongoing and promising.
- “What’s Your Story?” will bring people together to talk about our area, building community and sharing values.

The Power of Story

- Story links the speaker and listener.
- A story heard and recorded validates the teller’s history, values, and hopes.
- A story shared with many others builds community.

Storytelling Project Start to Finish

- Interviewers collect and video stories.
- Storytellers are photographed.
- Stories are collected and published in topical volumes, with portraits of storytellers.
- Videorecordings are made available to area clubs, service organizations, schools, and governmental groups.
- Shared values and community consensus from the storytelling will be clarified and considered by community decision-makers.

Projected Outcomes

1. Increased citizen investment in the region.
2. Increased participation of high school and college students in community activities.
3. Increased pool of invested volunteers.
4. Increased media attention for the region.
5. More focused community and economic development.
6. Unifying the Alleghany Highlands through shared memories and values.

Impact Possibilities

Stories and information can be used by:

- Historical societies
- Chamber of Commerce
- Genealogical societies
- Main Street organizations
- Local businesses
- Local schools
- Arts organizations
- Social organizations
- Service organizations

What's Your Story: Volume I

- Historic Masonic Theatre
- Completed 25 interviews with a diverse group of individuals, ages 11-98.
- Meaningful and compelling stories.
- Photographs of storytellers by Chuck Almaraz.
- Volume I = 50 pages, 250 copies.
- Published by July 1 to be sold at the Theatre Grand Re-Opening and various businesses.

What's Your Story? Future Volumes

- C&O Railroad
- C&O Hospital
- Alumni Associations—CF High School, Jefferson High School
- Natural Resources of the Highlands (Humpback Bridge, Swinging Bridge, Jackson River, Falling Springs)
- Service Organizations
- _____ . What's YOUR Story?

"The livelihood of this town is not going to increase significantly without attracting people to the town to spend money. With the Masonic Theatre as the centerpiece, we may see the dream we had in 2000 – Clifton Forge as a cultural destination – come true."

The Reverend W. Ed Mansfield
Clifton Forge native
Pastor, Piney Grove Baptist Church



"Shirley Temple? Oh, my! I wanted to be just like her. I took dance lessons, and we had our recitals at the Masonic. The curtain would open, and the music would start, and we tapped our way to fame on that stage!"

Nadine Rankin
92 years old
Clifton Forge native



"My hat goes off to those who had this vision, who have poured their hearts and souls into bringing Clifton Forge back to its former days. When I was growing up here, Clifton Forge was vibrant...people walked and talked. I hope the Theatre will again become a place to come to: a gathering place."

Etrulla Moore
Clifton Forge native
Retired teacher, Alleghany Highlands



"I have a picture of me and my friends clogging on the stage. We had on our mom jeans and our red vests and it was – that was the beginning. That was my first piece of stage. That was where it all started. I might have kicked a tap off into the front row, but I was having fun, daggone!"

"That's the beauty of the Masonic: there are no strangers. There wasn't anyone who wasn't welcomed."

Magnolia Purdue
Clifton Forge native
Studied at the American Academy
of Dramatic Arts, New York City



Your Investment

- Seeking funding for initial volume printing.
- Revenue will go back into the project and to the book sellers.
- After Volume I, What's Your Story? will seek grant funding from the Alleghany Foundation.

Donations

What's Your Story? operates under the nonprofit status of Clifton Forge Main Street, Inc.

Donations should be made out to "Clifton Forge Main Street – What's Your Story? Project" and mailed to:

Clifton Forge Main Street
501 East Ridgeway Street
Clifton Forge, VA 24422

All contributors will be recognized as donors; proceeds from book sales will be used for subsequent printings.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. MINUTES May 10, 2016 Council Meeting

RECOMMENDATION: Approve minutes from May 10 and 17, 2016

Motion to approve minutes

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye
Councilman Brinkley	Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

2. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Police Department
- Public Library
- Public Works Department
- Water Treatment Plant
- Community Development
- Fire Department
- Finance Department

RECOMMENDATION: Accept reports as written

Motion to accept reports as written

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

- Councilman Irvine** Aye
- Councilman Umstead** Aye
- Councilwoman Roberts** Aye
- Councilwoman Hillert** Aye
- Councilman Brinkley** Aye

Motion passed: 5-0

INFORMATION

Town offices will be closed on May 30, 2016 for the Memorial Day holiday.

Summer Meals Program for Kids will begin June 6, 2016 and continue through July 28, 2016. Meals will be provided to all children 18 years or younger—FREE!

Locations included are: Alleghany High School (11 AM – Noon), Alleghany Highlands Regional Library (11:30 AM – 12:30 PM), Clifton Forge Fire Department (11:30 AM – 12:30 PM), Mountain View Elementary School (Breakfast 8-9AM, Lunch 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM)

The DMV2Go bus will be at Town Hall June 14, 2016, 9 AM – 4 PM

A representative from Congressman Griffith's office will be available in the Armstrong Room at the Library from 10 AM – 12 Noon on Thursday, June 16, 2016.

MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Mrs. Burcham stated that she would like to take the time to clarify a statement she had made in regards to the amount that the Town will now be paying the County through the settlement agreement. She stated that the Town will be paying a total of \$200,000 over the next 5 years at 0% interest.

Mrs. Burcham mentioned that the surveys for the Broadband study are still being collected in an effort to see exactly what is needed and to seek the funding for improvements. She encouraged anyone who has not completed a survey to please do so and return it so that it may be included.

Mrs. Burcham advised that the Corridor Curb Appeal Committee will be hosting a paint party on June 11 and a neighborhood clean-up event on Roxbury Street on June 18. She encouraged anyone wishing to volunteer to help with either event.

Lastly, Mrs. Burcham provided a brief slideshow presentation showing the damages that were made to the Skate Park during 4 recent incidents of vandalism. She stated that all four incidents took place within the two weeks prior to April 4 when the last event ended in the decision to close the Skate Park in an effort to try to determine who was doing the vandalism. She mentioned that the vandalism on April 4 was significant and involved the removal of some of the manhole covers in the area which were used as ramps and created a definite safety issue with the uncovered areas as well. She announced that the park will be reopened on Saturday, May 28, 2016 with the understanding that if there is further vandalism, the park will once again be closed. She encouraged anyone with information regarding the vandalism or those who may witness any type of vandalism or damage being done to please report it.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CLIFTON FORGE MAIN STREET

DOWNTOWN MARKET—EACH FRIDAY, THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2016, 8 AM - NOON

CLIFTON FORGE SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

JAMMIN AT THE MILL—FRIDAY, JUNE 17, 2016, 7 PM

MASONIC AMPHITHEATRE

OPEN MIC NIGHT, FEATURING NICKIE CALHOUN & JOSEPH LOMBARD—FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2016, 7 PM (DONATION)

HERITAGE DAY EVENT—CIVIL WAR HISTORY MOBILE—FRIDAY, JUNE 3, 2016, 4-6 PM AND MOVIE PREMIER OF DOCUDRAMA, “GIFT FROM A YANKEE”, 6 PM RECEPTION, 8 PM FILM, MASONIC THEATRE (RECEPTION/PREMIER \$30/\$20, PREMIER ONLY \$10/\$5)

HERITAGE DAY AND C&O RAILWAY FESTIVAL—SATURDAY, JUNE 4, 2016, 10 AM – 6 PM (FREE)

EVENING WITH “BRIGHTWORK WITH SEAY BROTHERS & FRIENDS”—SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2016, 6:45-10 PM (\$12, \$10, \$8)

FLAG DAY CEREMONY & PICNIC—TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2016, 5:30 PM

“STARS”, SPONSORED BY APPALFOLKS—SATURDAY, JUNE 19, 2016, 2-4 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Clarence Cullis of Jefferson Street stated that he had read in the newspaper that a lady had come to help the Town with the utility rate issue, he believed her name to be Lori Kroll and he asked if she covered the law of diminishing returns. He stated that this is a poor community and is made of

mostly renters which means there is not a fixed amount of accounts to rely on each month and it varies. He stated that the law says that if the cost of living continues to increase, that people will move out of the community and slowly there will be nothing left. He stated that instead of income increasing it will decrease.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilman Irvine thanked everyone for coming and stated that Council has heard the concerns and will do their best to consider them all. Mr. Irvine stated that several people have mentioned raising taxes within the Town and that he is pleased to know that the Town has not had to raise taxes, but asked that everyone keep in mind that while the Town has not raised taxes, the County has and those increases affect the Town as well. He stated that more people are needed within the community to help, both in the business community and residential. In closing, Mr. Irvine mentioned the Memorial Day program to be held in Veteran's Memorial park on Monday, May 30.

Councilwoman Roberts thanked everyone for coming and stated that all comments are appreciated. She stated that it is not an easy decision on the budget and that all of Council, including the Mayor, have and will continue to consider all of the citizens and try to do the best they can for them. She thanked Joan Vanorsdall for her presentation and stated that she is looking forward to getting a copy of the book. Lastly, Mrs. Roberts provided a brief report on the Roxbury project. She stated that the last meeting was held on May 19 and all of the infrastructure work has been completed. She stated that there are a number of homes under construction or which have been completed and that work on two additional homes will begin this week. There is an effort in place to try to resolve the issue with the bids that are being received. The next meeting will be held on June 16.

Councilman Umstead thanked everyone for coming out and stated that the decisions regarding the budget are almost unbearable, but have to be made because if not done now, he feels that would mean leaving it for everyone's children to have to address later. He thanked Joan for her presentation and for everyone who provided their input and asked to please understand the decisions are not easy.

Vice Mayor Hillert thanked Joan Vanorsdall and LeeAnna Tyler for their presentations and thanked all who commented for their input. She stated the Council has and will

continue to consider everything heard and that as everyone has said it isn't an easy issue to have to vote on at all.

Mayor Brinkley stated that it has been a very interesting meeting but that if the Town is going to stay in business it must have the monies needed to do so. He stated that there is a lot more going on in the town that is thought and that new business have and continue to locate within the town. He stated that the cost of living increases yearly and it is something that must be dealt with in all communities. In closing, he thanked everyone and stated that he hopes to be able to return and see everyone at the next meeting.

Mayor Brinkley left the meeting at this point and the remainder of Council went into closed session as stated below.

CLOSED SESSION – PURSUANT TO SECTION CHAPTER 2.2-3711 A-1 PERSONNEL

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts **TIME:** 8:30 PM

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine	Aye
Councilman Umstead	Aye
Councilwoman Roberts	Aye
Councilwoman Hillert	Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to return to open session **TIME:** 8:57 PM

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Vice Mayor Hillert

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to certify only indicated items were discussed

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to appoint Deborah Umstead to the Library Board

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Irvine

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye
Councilman Umstead Aye
Councilwoman Roberts Aye
Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to appoint Barbara Boone to the Citizens Advisory Committee

Motion made by: Vice Mayor Hillert

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye

Councilman Umstead Aye

Councilwoman Roberts Aye

Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to adopt new policy on signage as follows:

Motion made by: Councilman Irvine

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye

Councilman Umstead Aye

Councilwoman Roberts Aye

Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

**CLIFTON FORGE TOWN COUNCIL
POLICY PERMITTING TEMPORARY
SIGNS IN LIMITED SITUATIONS**

Temporary directional signs in conjunction with a special civic or cultural event, such as a festival or concert sponsored by a governmental, charitable or non profit organization may be permitted, subject to the following conditions:

1. Town Council must approve the event for the use of the temporary signs.
2. The event sponsor shall submit the proposed signage: including content, size, number, proposed location, graphics, and proposed method for displaying the signage to the office of the Town Manager for review.
3. Said signage shall be reviewed by the Office of The Town Manager for suitability based on the foregoing criteria and potential benefit to visitors and citizens in providing directions to said event.
4. The office of the Town Manager after its review may require changes to the proposed signage and shall withhold approval until the signage is in compliance.
5. No signage shall be permitted until approved by the office of the Town Manager.
6. After approval by the office of the Town Manager the event sponsor shall be permitted to erect the signage.
7. Any signage not in compliance will be removed by the Town.
8. The temporary signage shall be authorized one day prior to the event and shall be removed by the event sponsor on the day the event is concluded.

Motion to approve the use of signs for Heritage Day

Motion made by: Councilwoman Roberts

Seconded by: Councilman Umstead

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye

Councilman Umstead Aye

Councilwoman Roberts Aye

Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0

Motion to adjourn

TIME: 9:30 PM

Motion made by: Councilman Umstead

Seconded by: Councilwoman Roberts

ROLL CALL VOTE

Councilman Irvine Aye

Councilman Umstead Aye

Councilwoman Roberts Aye

Councilwoman Hillert Aye

Motion passed: 4-0