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**Town of Louisa  
Monthly Meeting  
June 17, 2014**

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**Present:** James S. Artz, Mayor; Mary Jane Clarke, Vice-Mayor; Matthew L. Kersey, Warren D. Gehle, R. Garland Nuckols, A. Daniel Carter, Council Members; Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel; Brian W. Marks, Town Manager; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk; Carol A. Brown, Treasurer; M. Brad Humphrey, Project Manager

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**Also Attending:** Kettrina M. Merkel, Receptionist/Administrative Assistant for the Town of Louisa; Donna L. Pinter, previous Town Treasurer; Paula Hawthorne, reporter for The Central Virginian; Mr. & Mrs. John Fenner, new business owner; Nelson Smith, town resident at 200 Lyde Ave

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**Absent:** None.

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***All copies including: reports, handouts, and documents can be found following the minutes.***

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Mayor Artz called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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Council Member Kersey gave the invocation.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

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**CONSENT AGENDA**

Council member Kersey made the motion to approve the consent agenda with the addition of one item under New Business. Council member Gehle seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Proposed Lease of Town Property**

Mr. Marks reported that the public hearing had been advertised in the newspaper as required.

Mrs. Fenner stood and spoke briefly to Council explaining that they would like to make their mobile business more stationary by setting up at the 301 W. Main St. location. They also vocalized their plans to renovate the building and grounds to make it more functional and visually appealing.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the proposed lease of town property. Mr. Marks added that he had not received any comments from the public on the matter.

Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:07 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1) Action/Discussion: Proposed Lease of Town Property**

Council member Nuckols made the motion to approve the lease. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**2) Action/Discussion: VRA Commitment Letters**

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After a brief update, Mr. Marks suggested tabling the issue until the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting to allow further review.

**3) Action/Discussion: CVCJA Charter Agreement Amendments – Resolution of Support**

After a brief discussion, Council member Clarke made the motion to approve the resolution. Council member Kersey seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**4) Action/Discussion: Support of BBRR Rail Preservation Fund Grant**

Mr. Marks reported that he drafted a letter and, prior to sending it further up the ladder, he sent it to Mr. Morris with the Buckingham Branch Rail Road in hopes that Mr. Morris could provide more help with opening a better line of communication with CSX. Mr. Marks noted that he included the response to his letter in the packet.

Mr. Gore suggested that Council authorize him and Mr. Marks to make contact with CSX’s Government Affairs department and our legislative delegation for more assistance.

Council member Kersey made the motion authorizing Mr. Gore and Mr. Marks to make contact with CSX and our legislative delegation. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**5) Action/Discussion: Delinquent 2013 RE Tax List, Authorization for Publication and Collections**

Council member Gehle made the motion authorizing the publication of the delinquent Real Estate tax list. Council member Nuckols seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**6) Action/Discussion: Adopt FY 2014-2015 Budget and Fee Schedule**

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2 Council member Gehle made the motion to adopt the FY2014-2015  
3 Budget and Fee Schedule with the water rate increase taking place  
4 on November 1, 2014. Council member Clarke seconded the motion.  
5 During communications, town resident, Nelson Smith, requested to  
6 speak. Mayor Artz allowed him to speak briefly, whereas he  
7 expressed his opposition to the water rate increase. Mayor Artz then  
8 called for the vote. The vote went as follows: Nuckols, for – but  
9 wanted to state for the record that he did not agree with the increased  
10 water rate; Gehle, for; Carter, for; Kersey, for; Clarke, for (5-0 in  
11 favor).

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13 **NEW BUSINESS**

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15 **1) Discussion/Action: Parade Permit – LCVFD**

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17 Council member Kersey made the motion to approve the LCVFD's  
18 parade permit. Council member Gehle seconded the motion. The  
19 vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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21 **2) Discussion/Action: Bingo Permit – LCVFD**

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23 Council member Nuckols made the motion to approve the LCVFD's  
24 bingo permit. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The  
25 vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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27 **3) Discussion/Action: Appointments to the Planning**  
28 **Commission & Board of Zoning Appeals**

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30 Mr. Marks reported that the terms for Mr. Carter Cooke and Mr.  
31 Ronald Bullock expire on June 30, 2014, but that both are willing to  
32 serve again if reappointed.

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34 Mr. Marks also noted that Mr. Cooke's term on the BZA expires on  
35 June 30, 2014, but will serve again if reappointed.

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37 Council member Kersey made a motion to reappoint Mr. Cooke and  
38 Mr. Bullock to serve another term on the Planning Commission and  
39 well as reappoint Mr. Cooke to serve another term on the BZA.

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Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**4) Discussion/Action: Appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals**

This item was handled in conjunction with item number three above.

**5) Discussion/Action: Acceptance of Mayor's Resignation as Liaison on the Louisa County Planning Commission & Presentation of Resolutions of Service & Support**

Council member Kersey made the motion stating that Council regrettfully accepts the resignation set before them. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Council member Clarke then stood and spoke fondly of her time serving with Mayor Artz before reading a resolution of service on behalf of the Louisa Town Council.

Town Receptionist, Kettrina Merkel, stood on behalf of all town employees and read aloud a resolution of support.

(Copies of resolutions presented to Mayor Artz can be found following the minutes.)

**STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Police Department:

(Please refer to the Police Department report.)

Mr. Marks stood and quickly updated the Police Department's report and fielded questions from Council. Mr. Marks stated that he was filling in for Chief Shupe while he finished out his last two weeks with the Town of Louisa on vacation.

Water & Sewer Department:

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(Please refer to the Water & Sewer Department report.)

Mr. Humphrey stood before Council and read aloud from his report, highlighting areas of interest.

Litter Committee:

No report.

Streets & Sidewalks

No report.

Cemetery

No report.

**REPORTS FROM STAFF**

Counsel

Mr. Gore reported that the State Budget has been adopted and is on its way to the Governor's Office for approval by July 1, 2014.

Clerk

No report.

Treasurer

No report.

Manager

Mr. Marks reported:

- Waverly Place will be having a soft opening on June 23<sup>rd</sup> that will be by invitation only and Council should receive invitations very soon.

- WWTP construction is going well and is expected to be complete in approximately 75 days.
- A resolution from the Town of Mineral was received thanking the Town of Louisa for all their support.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Mayor Artz took a few moments to read his fair well address to Council and staff. Mayor Artz submitted a copy of his prepared speech to be entered into the minutes. The copy can be found following the minutes in the record books.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Council Member Carter made the motion to convene in closed session to discuss the following: as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1) to discuss a personnel matter. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Council went into closed session at 7:55 p.m.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

Council Member Clarke made the motion to go back in to Open Session. Council Member Kersey seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Council returned to regular session at 8:06 p.m.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

*Council member Kersey made the motion certifying that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the*

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*provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information act cited in that motion. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Gehle, for; Kersey, for; Clarke, for; Nuckols, for; Carter, for (5-0 in favor).*

**ACTION:**

Council did not take any action following Closed Session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:07 p.m., Council Member Kersey made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk