



**Minutes of the
Colonial Beach Town Council**

**A Special Meeting
To Hold a Public Hearing on the
Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget**

Thursday, June 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Colonial Beach Town Center
22 Washington Avenue
Colonial Beach, VA 22443

Present

Mayor, Mike Ham
Vice Mayor, Eddie Blunt
Member, Wayne DiRosario
Member, Tommy Edwards
Member, Wanda Goforth
Member, Burkett Lyburn
Member, Mike Looney

Absent

All council members were present.

Also Present

Town Manager, Val Foulds
Town Clerk, Kathleen Flanagan
CFO, Joan Grant

Call to Order

Mayor Ham called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Roll Call of Members

Mayor Ham called for the roll of members. Mr. Edwards answered “here,” Mr. Lyburn answered “here,” Mr. Blunt answered “here,” Mr. DiRosario answered “here,” Mr. Looney answered “here,” Ms. Goforth answered “here,” and the Mayor noted he was “here”. *All council members were present.*

Public Hearing, Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Budget

At 7:03 p.m. Mayor Ham opened the Public Hearing on the FY 15-16 Budget. Mayor Ham noted that the Public Hearing on a proposed tax increase will be held on June 17, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Ham further noted council will take no action on the budget at this meeting.

Public Input

Bill Flammer, 2802 Dwight Avenue, noted there are a lot of people in town that cannot afford any more taxes. There are citizens in the Meadows who have no roads, but council is asking for more tax dollars to throw away; the whole towns needs to be turned over to the county.

Sean Klaver, 100 1st Street, teacher for the last three years, spoke to the benefits of having a school and that the school was an investment to the town’s future.

Barbara Hathaway, 115 Garfield Avenue asked how the town is \$400,000 over budget.

Bill Dellar, 1333 Monroe Bay Avenue spoke to the proposed budget as compared to 2015 reveals council priorities, such as funding for streets and sidewalks has been reduced; sewer and wastewater treatment has been reduced; clean drinking water has been reduced. Conversely, general fund debt service has increased by 65%; school transfer is up \$200,000 and has continued to grow and is no longer reasonable. It is time for school consolidation and to reduce the school transfer and to defer building a new school.

Joyce Gunderson, 919 Bryant Avenue, noted she will speak next Thursday.

Jim Chiarello, 1008 Monroe Bay Avenue, asked to see a plan and suggested consolidation of the schools with Westmoreland County, which would save money and provide children with a better education and more opportunities.

Linda Brubaker, 17 Lincoln Avenue, disagreed with the first speaker, saying the school is a burden to the taxpayers and recommended merging the schools with Westmoreland County.

Jennifer Grigsby, High School Principal, 81 Shore Street asked council to fully fund the school’s request for funding.

Madeline Fisher, Bonnie Knight and Joyce Gunderson, spoke as property owners of 509 Colonial Avenue to an incident that occurred in February when the pipes froze and a water leak was discovered under the property. On a Sunday, a public works employee was driving by, flagged down, and asked to turn off the water immediately. It took four hours to get the water shut off.

The owners requested the town issue a credit of \$529.73, saying that the town often ignores water line breaks.

Mr. Blunt asked when a request was made to the town for reducing the bill.

Ms. Goforth promised the owners that this will come up at a council meeting.

Janet Dunderdale, teacher, 9316 Inaugural Drive, King George, spoke in favor fully funding the school's request.

A citizen shouted out from the audience saying no speakers were giving addresses.

Mayor Ham noted the addresses all appear on the sign up sheet.

Michelle Payne, 106 Potomac Court, spoke in favor of a \$.13 cent increase in real estates to support the needs of the town and school system. Ms. Payne noted only \$1.3 million comes from the town and the county.

Jennifer McLaughlin, teacher, 620 Greenbrier Court, Fredericksburg, spoke in favor of fully funding the school.

Ms. Goforth requested that all speakers give their addresses.

Mayor Ham noted the addresses are on the sign in sheet and anyone can contact the Town Clerk to receive a copy of it.

Mayor Ham agreed to call upon each previous speaker and have them publicly give their address and asked each upcoming speaker to give their address before they comment.

Veronica Reynolds 95 Lea Road, passed until next week.

Wendy Sewell, 117 Bancroft Avenue passed until next week.

Jeannette Holman, 156 4th Street supports a quality education, but repairing infrastructure should come first.

Kevin Newman, Superintendent, CB Schools, King George requested council provide requested funding for the school system.

Sara McCasky, 119 2nd Street, parent, noted she would leave if school consolidation took place.

Glenda Chiarello, 1008 Monroe Bay Avenue, would like more detail presented as to the budget and recommended not raising taxes over \$.08.

Walter Kern, 2400 McKinney Boulevard gave a historical report on how the town of Colonial Beach, in 1959, decided to create an independent school system, noting the elementary school has always been in town, whether operated by the county or operated by the town.

Tim Trivett, Chairman, CB School Board, 3407 Wakefield Street commended council on an outstanding job this year.

Mayor Ham then allowed several speakers to have one more minute of time to comment.

Bill Dellar, 1333 Monroe Bay Avenue, noted there are more taxpayers in Westmoreland than Colonial Beach if the schools were consolidated.

Joyce Gunderson, 919 Bryant Street invited all in attendance to attend all town and school functions.

There being no further public comment, at 8:00 p.m. Mayor Ham closed the Public Hearing.

Adjournment/Recess

Mr. DiRosario made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Lyburn seconded the motion.

Mayor Ham called for a voice vote on the motion to adjourn. All in favor, signify by saying “aye.” The “ayes” were unanimous.

At 8:01 p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Kathleen Flanagan, Town Clerk

Mike Ham, Mayor