

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

Gate City Town Council Minutes
March 14, 2023 / March 21, 2023
156 E. Jackson St., Gate City, VA
6:30 PM

I. COUNCIL MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 6:32 PM BY: Mayor – Bob Richards

II. ROLL CALL – Town Clerk – Lora Matthews

	March 14, 2023		March 21, 2023	
	PRESENT:	ABSENT:	PRESENT:	ABSENT:
Mayor, Bob Richards	X		X	
Vice-Mayor, Tyler Kilgore	X		X	
Council Member, Allan “Cotton” Roberts	X		X	
Council Member, Wallace W. Ross, Jr.	X		X	
Council Member, Pat Elliott	X		X	
Council Member, Dexter Harmon	X		X	
Town Manager, Greg Jones	X		X	
Town Attorney, Michele Brooks	X		X	

Others present (3/14/23): Gabe Edmunds (VA Star), Jason Snapp (Mattern & Craig), Chief Justin Miller, Nick Watts, Christina Hurd, Sam Dockery, Cindy Dockery, Aaron Edens (Pastor, Crossway Baptist Church), Kevin Helms

Others present (3/21/23): Gabe Edmunds (VA Star), Chief Justin Miller

III. INVOCATION – Aaron Edens, Pastor – Crossway Baptist Church

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chief Justin Miller

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made to approve the March 14, 2023, agenda

Motion by: Pat Elliott 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain: Motion carried

VI. PROCLAMATIONS, CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTIONS, AWARDS, APPOINTMENTS, RESIGNATIONS AND CONFIRMATIONS, ADMINISTRATION OF OATHS AND INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approval of February 14, 2023, Town Council Minutes

Motion made to approve minutes as presented.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Dexter Harmon

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain: Motion carried

VIII. APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS

- Motion made for approval for payment of bills for February 2023 as presented.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Pat Elliott

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain: Motion carried

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT (Will be limited to 3 minutes per speaker.)

Christina Hurd: Ms. Hurd states that she is seeking the Republican nomination for Commissioner of Revenue. (Handout) She believes that Town Councils are vital because they see more of the town than those in the Commissioner's office. She would like, if elected, to attend the Town Council meetings and give updates of what is going on in the Commissioner's office, to keep everyone in the loop. She asked everyone to look over the handout and to please let her know if they had any questions.

Sam Dockery: Mr. Dockery states that he was at the last Town Council meeting and they were supposed to be finding out about his property on Highland St. Mayor Bob Richards states that this issue is on the agenda and will be discussed.

Kevin Helms: Mr. Helms states that he is a candidate for Treasurer in this November's election. He has been a lifelong resident of Scott County and is aware of the difficulties county and town residents are having. This election is about the future of our county. After going through Covid and rampant inflation, we've been presented with some unique challenges. Scott County needs leadership that is looking toward the future. He's looking to fulfill that role in the Treasurer's office and work with county and town leaders to make this area is the best it can be. The focus of his campaign is to improve the economy of Scott County by investing it's money. He states that for the last 10 years, the County's money has been essentially sitting in a checking account. That it hasn't been invested to draw interest like it should have been. That is just money that is being left on the table. If elected, he plans to invest the County's money as allowable. He states that money that could have been earned in interest could have helped with budget cuts. He states that he is also looking to change the tax date to another time of year or possibly have twice a year billing. He states that with the current employees, he would have the office be open during lunch and on Saturdays. He pledges to stay active in the community and would appreciate votes and support.

Nick Watts: Mr. Watts states that he is running for Board of Supervisors, District 4. He realizes there are differences between the County and the Town, but if elected would attend Town Council meetings and offer whatever support he can.

Mayor Richards closed the public comment session at 6:43 PM and opened the consent agenda session.

X. COMMUNICATIONS – None

XI. REPORTS (All reports given will be included with your packet. Any questions about the reports will need to be discussed with the department head PRIOR to the meeting.)

- A. **Engineer's Status Report** – Presented by Jason Snapp – Daniel Boone meter 3/10/23



Engineer Report
Town of Gate City, VA
Status as of 3/9/23

H/C Ramp HSIP Project: Project Construction is complete. The contractor has submitted the final (only) Construction Pay Application for approval. Once approved the Town can submit all remaining invoices to VDOT for reimbursement and M&C will file all the closeout documents with VDOT. M&C has received all needed documentation from the contractor and is in the process of submitting the final pay app to the Town.

VDH Backup Generator Project: Project is considered 30% complete currently. Survey portion of the project has been completed and preliminary design on both the site work and electrical has commenced. M&C, Blaser and the Town staff met onsite Thursday February 23rd to gather additional site data required for both the electrical and site design as well as verify the level of environmental clearance required with VDH. Preliminary plans will be submitted to the Town for review once completed. Upon town approval final construction plans will be completed and submitted to VDH for review.

Kane St. Sidewalk Transportation Alternatives Funding Application: Project has been awarded funding by VDOT. VDOT, the Town, and M&C held a kick-off meeting on 2/7/23. Upfront efforts and schedules were discussed at this meeting and the Town is now approved and ready to proceed with design of the project. M&C has submitted the agreement to VDOT for review and will start the survey portion of the project once the review is complete and the Town is able to sign the agreement. It is expected the design process will wrap up and construction will start in early 2025.

Manville Road Highway Safety Improvement Plan Funding Application: Project has been awarded funding by VDOT. VDOT, the Town, and M&C held a kick-off meeting on 2/7/23. Upfront efforts and schedules were discussed as well as the expected funding shortfall. An updated project cost estimate was provided to VDOT for consideration of additional HSIP funds. Additional funds have been approved by VDOT bringing the project estimate from the original \$400,000 +/- to the current amount of \$1,672,787.89. All funds for this project are 100% grant.

VDH ARPA/BIL/DWSRF Applications: M&C has submitted 2 separate projects to VDH for consideration for funding. The first project consists of the recoating/rehab of 3 of the Town's water storage tanks, the second consist of installing a Town wide Advanced Meter Infrastructure network. ARPA, BIL, and DWSRF applications were submitted for each project with the hopes of securing the most economical funding package for the Town. All 6 applications were submitted prior to the May 6th deadline.

VDH is currently ranking projects to determine funding availability. BIL and ARPA funding has been denied for both projects. SRF funding decisions are still in the process of being ranked by VDH for funding consideration.

Theatre Beam Rehabilitation: Project has been awarded to TJC Painting. M&C is working with the sub-contractor to set a begin construction date ASAP.

Daniel Boone Master Meter Replacement: Pricing has been submitted to the Town and approved. The contractor has ordered the replacement meter equipment and will install once it arrives. The Town will need to coordinate a broadband connection at the site.

DEQ Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Study: Study is complete and has identified 5 separate projects to address infiltration and inflow within the Gate City Sanitary Sewer System. M&C has submitted a DEQ ARPA application for funding consideration for Project #1 which involves the replacement of the collector line that serves the High School/Middle School and National Guard Armory areas. The total cost of Project #1 is expected at approximately \$704,000. Addition SSES funds can be solicited this summer for additional projects at the Town's request. **ARPA funding has been denied for this project.**

B. Gate City Frontier Report

Gate City Frontier Report February

Please accept this brief report on behalf of GCF director, Leslie Crawford. This report will outline the capacity at which GCF has been actively working towards foundational growth and organization, business outreach, community outreach, events, and downtown revitalization through Virginia Main Street.

I. Foundational Growth and Organization

- Worked to complete all necessary documents/tasks to attain a UEI number for tax purposes.
- Worked to complete all necessary documents/tasks to get our DHCD CAMS profile request approved.
- Worked to create an outline for a spring campaign in town to address the trash control issue that keeps being brought up by citizens, town guests, and businesses. This will be voted on at my GCF board meeting on Monday, March 13th.
- Planned a meeting in March with Michelle Workman from VTC to discuss possibilities for Gate City Frontier.
- Registered for the VTC orientation in March.

II. Events

- **Community Meet & Greet (February 13, 2023)**
 - Presented upcoming events for the remainder of 2023 and potential events in 2024. During this time, we had two groups speak about being committee heads for two of the events.
 - Held a guided Think Tank session with 35-40 community members and stakeholders. This portion was very informative for the GCF board and myself. Guests from all facets of life came together to discuss the good and bad of our town and how we can work to improve.
 - The think tank session resulted in seven pages of streamlined ideas that focus on downtown design and ideas for economic impact that appeal to both adults and

children.

III. Business & Community Outreach

This month GCF focused on business and community engagement through continued preparations for the upcoming Jeep Jamboree.

IV. Upcoming Events:

- Spring Cleanup Campaign (voting on March 13th for name, date, and further details)
- Jeep Jam (May 27, 2023)
- Gravel at the Gate (June 24, 2023)
- Red, White, and Blue Bash (July 1, 2023)

February Part-Time Hours:

February 1-4 (16 hours)

February 5-11 (28 hours)

February 12-18 (36 hours)

February 19-25 (28 hours)

February 26-28 (12 hours)

V. The following portion of this report is in response to an inquiry at the January Town Council Meeting by Mayor Bob Richards.

Think Tank Follow Up

The following information was collected from a sample of community members, business owners, and stakeholders. I am including the top ideas for each component that was focused on by the groups.

DESIGN- Our goal is to implement a people-centered design process where good public space and street design can dramatically improve a downtown's **walkability** and to enhance **social** and **commercial** activity.

1. Lighting Repairs/Improvements: This would include lights on the east end of Jackson being repaired, more lighting installed for safety, and smart light poles with music/announcement capabilities.

2. Wayfinding/Signage: Currently there is no signage to advertise and/or market the Downtown Historic District. Traditional wayfinding signage as well as billboards were discussed to help promote Gate City.

3. Streetscape Plan: It was mentioned by all groups that Jackson Street needs to be planned and maintained better for our guests including functional and aesthetic items that provide amenities and utilities to pedestrians (ex: benches, safer crosswalks, public art, planters). Specifically, new trash cans, planters, and the flower “pot holes,” were extensively discussed by all groups.

4. Litter Prevention Campaign: Many community members spoke about the trash that is found on the sidewalks and in the street. Gate City Frontier is working on a Spring Campaign for this, but we do need help in reinforcing this with community members, businesses, and guests in town. Gate City Frontier had two clean up days last year which both resulted in dozens of garbage bags

of trash and unkempt landscaping debris. We can work together as a town to make this situation better.

5. Art: Many mentioned having murals, stand-alone art pieces, and interactive art displays as an excellent way to increase foot traffic in the town. A selfie trail was even mentioned to have guests document their trip and encouraged to post online to drive more traffic into Gate City.

ECONOMIC VITALITY (ADULT VERSION)- The idea is to build a strong commercial district that creates a supportive environment for small businesses, entrepreneurs, and consumers.

1. **Sit Down Restaurant:** Many spoke about wanting more sit down options for dinner so they don't have to travel elsewhere for a steak or nice Italian meal.
2. **Brewery/Cider Company:** Each group also mentioned this, but suggested that it could be tied in with a nice dinner location.
3. **Live Music/Entertainment:** Weekly live music and entertainment options such as an axe house, a Crooked Road affiliated indoor music venue, and family movie nights were at the top of each list. In addition, an "Art in the Park" event was discussed.

ECONOMIC VITALITY (KID VERSION)- The idea is to build a strong commercial district that creates a supportive environment for small businesses, entrepreneurs, and consumers.

1. **Multi-Use Entertainment Area:** A multi-use outdoor area was discussed that could house a splash pad, tennis/pickle-ball court, benches, and dedicated spaces for food trucks.
2. **Updates to Grogan Park:** Safety issues were raised by several in regards to the current structures.
3. **Hands on Museum:** A museum that could house regional displays, a STEM gym, a candy shop, and indoor rainy day activities for families and schools to utilize.

Gate City Frontier Event Budget FY2023- In reference to Mayor Richards questions at the January Town Council Meeting, I am providing you with pertinent information in regards to how GCF has worked to cut the events budget in town with the output of additional events that we were able to add.

Table 1 shows the original draft of a town proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2023. Table 2 shows a much lower proposed budget worked on by Frontier with Town Manager, Greg Jones. The budget for Table 2 did not cut any events from Table 1, only the cost at which we could facilitate each event.

Table 1		Table 2	
Gross FY 2023 Event Cost	\$ 84,300	Gross FY 2023 Event Cost	\$ 54,950
Sponsorships	\$ -	Partnership Revenue Offset	\$ (10,000)
Contingencies	\$ 4,215	Contingencies	\$ 2,748
Net FY 2023 Event Budget	\$ 88,515	Net FY 2023 Event Budget	\$ 47,698

To go into further detail on cost cutting of specific line items, the town had earmarked a budget for \$2,000 for inflatables at King Alleyween. GCF was able to book two inflatables for the Back to School Bash, two inflatables at the Harvest Moon Celebration, and four inflatables for King Alleyween for a total of \$1,700.

We have been working hard to find companies that will work with our budget and that will offer savings for non-profit organizations. We have gained several partnerships for events and that has helped us hold a balance in the events budget of \$11,697.26. We have two future events coming from this budget, the Jeep Jamboree and Gravel at the Gate. However, we will have a positive balance showing at the end of fiscal year 2023, at which I will give a report of that balance at the July board meeting.

C. **Town Manager's Report** – Greg Jones – Delinquent taxes as of 5/1/23 will be sent to TACS.

Town Manager Report – March 2023

- **Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD): Park Street Housing Rehabilitation Project: Phase II**

Phase two of the Park Street project includes the rehabilitation of five housing units, the substantial reconstruction of one unit and the clearance and demolition of two blighted units, serving 19 low- to moderate-income persons.

December 2022 – DHCD awarded funding for the Phase II Park Street Housing Rehabilitation Project on November 16th, 2022.

Funding Awarded:

DHCD: CDBG:	\$687,968
AEP	\$35,000
Town (In-Kind)	<u>\$12,000</u>
Total	\$734,968

January 2023 – Mayor Richards, Councilman Elliot, and Town Manager Jones met with DHCD Director Bryan Horn and staff during our legislative visit to Richmond, VA on January 31st, 2023. We briefly reviewed the phase II project. We are currently waiting on DHCD for a kick-off meeting.

- **Estil Cemetery Restoration Project**

November 2022 – Work is ongoing. Highland Monument has been onsite for the past several weekends. 90% of monuments have been cleaned and we still have a relative handful to re-level and reset. Highland Monument has been posting updates on the Estil Cemetery Facebook page.

- **Banner Project**

March 2023: We have a number of banners down due to wind. We have ordered and received stronger banner brackets and the bucket truck has been repaired. We are anticipating the banners to be reinstalled this week depending on the weather.

- **Dog Park Project**

January 2023 – The repairs have been made to the outer perimeter fence line. We are currently waiting for the contractor to install the interior fence line. At the January 2023 Council meeting, Council voted to name the Dog Park: “The Bark Park”

- **ARPA – VDH Grant - Water Tank Rehabilitation Project**

July 2022 - ARPA Grant Application for rehabilitation of three (3) of the Town’s water storage tanks including the Smith-Elliott Tank, Williams Mill Tank, and Quillen (Estil Hts.) Tank was submitted on May 6th, 2022. The total grant funding requested is \$491,000.

Grant application has been made to VDH. We are currently awaiting an award notice.

January 2023 – Mayor Richards, Councilmember Elliott, and Town Manager Jones met with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) during our legislative visit to Richmond, VA on January 31, 2023. VDH informed the Town that it was not likely this project would be funded through the ARPA funding due to the volume of request that they received. It is still possible that our SRF application will be funded.

- **ARPA – VDH Grant – Advance Meter Infrastructure Project (AMI)**

July 2022 - ARPA Grant Application for the installation of AMI to allow the more efficient collection of water system flow data. The total grant funding requested is \$812,240.

Grant application has been made to VDH. We are currently awaiting an award notice.

January 2023 – Mayor Richards, Councilmember Elliott, and Town Manager Jones met with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) during our legislative visit to Richmond, VA on January 31, 2023. VDH informed the Town that it was not likely this project would be funded through the ARPA funding due to the volume of requests that they received. It is still possible that our SRF application will be funded.

- **VDOT TAP Project: Kane Street & Manville Sidewalk Project**

March 2023 – VDOT has awarded the Kane Street Sidewalk project to the Town. The total project cost is \$1,450,190.00 with VDOT and ARPA providing 100% in grant funding. The total updated project cost for the Manville Sidewalk project is \$1,672,788 which is 100% funded through VDOT’s HSIP program. VDOT has approved the additional funding for the Manville Sidewalk project and will be merged together with the Kane Street Sidewalk project. The kick-off meeting for this project was held on February 7th, 2023.

- **Gate City to Weber City Trail**

February 2023 – During our legislative trip to Richmond, we met with VDOT and Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) and discussed the proposed walking trail. We were informed

of a potential funding source for the planning phase: Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment. I have relayed this information to LENWISCO for further discussion.

March 2023 - Dr. Amy Greear, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, Mountain Empire Community College is writing a grant through Cumberland Forest Opportunity Fund for \$25,000 to fund the planning phase of this project (PER). Mattern & Craig, Inc submitted a proposal for the Professional Engineering Report for this project at a cost of \$50,000. The remaining cost to fund this project will need to be discussed.

- **Daniel Boone Master Water Meter Replacement Project**

January 2022 - Cantrell Automation has submitted a quote through Mattern & Craig, Inc. to replace the master water meter located at the Daniel Boone Pump station for \$19,529.00. Council has approved the purchase and we are now working with the contractor to install.

March 2023 – The Daniel Boone Master Water Meter was replaced last Friday. The telemetry will be installed once the parts come in.

- **2022 Real Estate Taxes Billing Status**

The Real Estate taxes have been mailed on January 13th, 2023. The deadline for payment is on February 17th, 2023.

The late notices were sent out on March 3rd, 2023. Delinquent balance as of May 1st, 2023 will be sent to Taxing Authority Consulting Services, PC (TACS – collection services).

- **2023 Kenworth Trash Truck and Dump Truck**

The new Trash Truck and Dump Truck that is being purchased through our ARPA funding allocation should be delivered in two weeks. We are currently working on developing protocols to deliver the new trash cans and implement our new trash collection policy.

March 2023 – The new Kenworth Trash Truck was received, but it had a wiring issue. It was sent back for repairs.

- **Virginia Tourism Corporation: Marketing Leverage Grant**

March 2023 - The Town applied for the VTC's Marketing Leverage Grant. The proposed funding will be used to create a new website for our tourists: YourGateCity.com. The proposed funding will also include marketing and web page utilization funds for the new website. The total funds requested for the project are \$15,000 with a 50% match from the Town.

- **Finance Committee Meeting**

March 2023 – The Finance Committee met on March 9th, 2023. The committee discussed the following issues:

- DCJS/ARPA allocated \$152,000 for police equipment. The grant deadline is March 24, 2023. **Continuation of Council Meeting will be needed.**
- Little League Funding Request: \$10,600 for new soil: **Council Action: Approve funding. Can use ARPA funds for this request.**
- Multi-Year Contract with Gate City Frontier, Inc. **Council Action: To be discussed under new business.**
- Industrial Revitalization Fund Grant Award (IRF): The planning grant in the amount of \$44,800 has been awarded. **Council Action: Accept grant funding.**
- Discussed ARPA fund budget. Committee was given the updated budget report.
- Street Committee evaluation of street. The Street Committee street evaluation is due on March 14th, 2023. **Council Action: Discuss and review Street Committee recommendations.**
- Health Insurance Cost has increased 9.1% for FY 2024. Our retirement rate will remain unchanged from FY 2023.
- The Finance Committee is recommending a 3% Cost of Living (COL) increase for the employees for the FY 2024 budget year. **Council Action: Approve recommended COL increase for the employees.**
- The Finance Committee review the Water Fund Forecast through FY 2030. Water rate increases for FY 2024 will be forthcoming.
- The Finance Committee was updated on the Water Business Operation Plan (WBOP) status. The plan was due to be completed by Mattern & Craig, Inc by December 31st, 2022. As of this date, the plan has not been delivered.

- **Request for Proposals: Scott County Historic Society Building and Wall Repair**

The deadline for the RFP has been extended to April 5th, 2023. Currently we have not received any proposals from eligible contractors.

- **Water Leaks Repaired**

No repairs made in February 2023.

D. **Attorney's Report** – None

E. **Council Reports** (Any new business from Committees that needs to come before the Council.)

Council Member Pat Elliott – Frontier report. Waiting for more information on Budget/Finance.

Council Member Dexter Harmon – None

Vice-Mayor Tyler Kilgore – Nothing at this time. Will discuss under new business.

Council Member Allan Roberts – None

Council Member Wallace W. Ross, Jr. – Infrastructure needs improvement to enhance the town.

- There are no “Welcome to Gate City” signs on the north and south sides of town.
- Would like a green overhead sign (VDOT) at light intersection (23 & Business 23).
- Would like to add Mac McClung to the sign honoring Jerry Kilgore.

F. Police Department – Chief Justin Miller

G. Sanitation Authority – Mayor Bob Richards – Next meeting will be 4/10/23

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Codification Committee: 160 Anderson Street Review

Report by Tyler Kilgore: Codification Committee met on 2/24/23 to address the complaints around the alleged business operation being conducted in a residential zone. The committee members conducted multiple interviews and on-site visits in the neighborhood and along that street. Based on the feedback received from 4 or 5 individual interviews of people on that street, they could find no factual grounds for the allegations presented. They are pursuing no further action at this time.

2. Codification Committee: 362 Highland Street Review

Report by Tyler Kilgore: The Codification Committee made an attempt to meet with the contractor, but were unable to do that since the last Town Council meeting. The Codification Committee is requesting an RFP for the 2023 mowing season, to assess current rates for mowing services and to make sure the Town is not getting price gouged. The Committee is also making recommendations to update the Property Maintenance process, especially regarding complaints.

**3. Codification Committee: Recommendation on Property Maintenance Process (Handout)
Motion made to go with the Codification committee's recommendations on the Property Maintenance Process that they have presented.**

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore

VOTE: Aye: 5

 Nay:

 Absent:

 Abstain:

Motion carried

**4. Street Committee: Recommendation on TrueBlue Speed Monitoring at School and Work Zones
DISCUSSION ONLY – Will be at the Council Meeting in April**

5. Mac McClung: Key to the Town and Resolution

Motion made to pass the resolution. Also to give Mac McClung the key to the Town and move the April Council meeting to the Board of Supervisors meeting room.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Dexter Harmon

VOTE: Aye: 5

 Nay:

 Absent:

 Abstain:

Motion carried

6. FY 2024 Employee Wages

Motion made to give a 3% increase to employees beginning 7/1/23

Motion by: Pat Elliott 2nd by: Allan Roberts

VOTE: Aye: 5

 Nay:

 Absent:

 Abstain:

Motion carried

7. **Gate City Frontier Contract** – Request by Gate City Frontier for 2-3 year contract
Motion made to enter into a 3 year contract with Gate City Frontier beginning 7/1/23
Motion by: Tyler Kilgore 2nd by: Dexter Harmon
VOTE: Aye: 3
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: 2 Motion carried
8. **Little League: Request for Funding to replace soil** – Grogan Park Ball fields
Motion made to pay for \$10,600 to replace soil
Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore
VOTE: Aye: 5
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: Motion carried
9. **Approve RFP: Mowing contractors**
Motion made to advertise for mowing contractors for 2023 season
Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore
VOTE: Aye: 5
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: Motion carried
10. **Approve IRF Grant Funding: \$48,600**
Motion made to Approve IRF Grant Funding: \$48,600
Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore
VOTE: Aye: 5
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: Motion carried
11. **Continue Council Meeting until March 21, 2023**
Motion made to Continue Council Meeting until March 21, 2023
Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore
VOTE: Aye: 5
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: Motion carried

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT – NEW BUSINESS

XV. CLOSED SESSION

Motion made for Council to enter into closed session to discuss 1.) Legal issues

2.)

3.)

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Pat Elliott

VOTE: Aye: 5
 Nay:
 Absent:
 Abstain: Motion carried

Mayor Richards opened the closed session at 8:12 PM

XVI. RETURN FROM CLOSED SESSION

Motion made for Council to return from closed session.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

Council returned from closed session at 8:43 PM

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING – Read by: Town Attorney Michele Brooks

WHEREAS, the Gate City Town Council has convened a Closed Meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-7312 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Gate City Town Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirement by Virginia law were discussed in closed meeting to which this certification applies and (2) only such business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Gate City Town Council.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Aye: Tyler Kilgore, Allan Roberts, Wallace W. Ross, Jr., Pat Elliott, Dexter Harmon, Bob Richards

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

XVII. MOTIONS FROM CLOSED SESSION: None

XVIII. ADJOURN

Motion made to adjourn until March 21st, 2023.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Wallace W. Ross, Jr.

VOTE: Aye:5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

*Mayor Richards adjourned the meeting at 8:46 PM, until the continuation of the March 14th, 2023 Council Meeting on March 21st, 2023 at 6:30 PM

***Town Council reconvened on Tuesday, March 21st, 2023 at 6:33 PM
by Mayor Bob Richards***

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion made to amend the March 14, 2023, agenda to review the current contract for use of the fields at Grogan Park

Motion by: Tyler Kilgore 2nd by: Allan Roberts

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

12. Street Committee: Evaluation of Streets

Street Committee recommends Walnut St. and McConnell St. be added to the plan.

13. Approve DCJS/ARPA budget and grant - \$152,000

Motion made to approve applying for the DCJS/ARPA grant for \$152,000

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Tyler Kilgore

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

14. Review the current contract for use of the fields at Grogan Park

Motion made to authorize the Town Attorney to revamp the Town's contract with Little League

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Dexter Harmon

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

ADJOURN

Motion made to adjourn.

Motion by: Allan Roberts 2nd by: Pat Elliott

VOTE: Aye: 5

Nay:

Absent:

Abstain:

Motion carried

*Mayor Richards adjourned the meeting at 7:16 PM, until the next scheduled Council Meeting on April 11, 2023, at 6:30 PM

Bob Richards – Mayor



Lora Matthews – Town Clerk



Tyler Kilgore – Vice Mayor