

Council Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 10, 2025 - 6:30 p.m. - 413 Front Street East

Attendees:

Upon roll call, all members of council were present: Jimmy Williams - Town Manager, Cathy Sharpe - Clerk/Treasurer, and William Sturgill - Town Attorney, were also present.

Call to Order:

Mayor Deventae Mooney called the meeting to order. Mr. Joe Still gave the invocation. The group remained standing for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Deventae Mooney.

Public Expression:

There was no Public Expression. Public Expression was closed.

Response to Public Expression:

There was no Response to Public Expression.

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Joe Still made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Vice Mayor Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Reports:

Fire Department

Mr. Roger Stanley, Assistant Chief, reported that the department has not had as many calls since Pro Med has begun taking calls. The department is going out less on lift assist calls, and spending time on accidents, rescue calls and structure fires. The department had pump tests done on both trucks and both trucks passed the tests. Assistant Chief Stanley reported that the 1998 truck will need pump packing done in the next year and says the repair will be expensive to do, stating that the seal kit will cost over \$1,000.00. Mr. Stanley said the Wise County Regional Fire School will be in town this weekend and the department will be hosting two classes. Ms. Still asked where the classes will be held. Mr. Stanley said one class is expected to be held at the fire department and one at the training center.

Assistant Chief Stanley reported the Guest River Rally went well and the Fire Department Duck Race was a success. Ms. Still reminded the group assembled of the Spooktacular event coming up on October 31st and encouraged the department to increase advertising for the event. There is also an issue with other groups and the school doing events around the same time. Mr. Stanley

said he would like to combine the Jeepers Creepers event with Spooktacular and knows there would be a big crowd for that. He asked if the fire department would be able to access the power at the depot building since it is no longer in use, and if there would be portable toilets set up for the event. Ms. Still said the power would be accessible; the bathrooms at the rally shack are available. Mr. Jimmy Williams, Town Manager, will look into pricing for portable toilets for the weekend, and Mr. Mooney asked to be notified of the price before Mr. Williams makes the decision.

Mr. Stanley said the department will be working at the schools for Fire Prevention Week.

Police Department

Mr. Travis Mullins, Police Chief, shared a copy of the August report with Council. The call volume was up in August and the calls were more time consuming. The department made twenty-four arrests and fifty-seven charges. The department is wrapping up some cases they are working on, and Chief Mullins reported things are going well at the department. The department completed some training and Chief Mullins thanked everyone for their work at the Guest River Rally. The department will be working with some upcoming events on Patriots Day and will be working during the Jeepers Creepers event and the Spooktacular.

Mr. Joe Still asked if the department still does a walk through at the Lays Building on Friday nights. Chief Mullins said the department does a walk through and the people at Lays seem appreciative of that. Mr. Mullins reported some incidences of speeding, stating it is fairly normal right after school starts. Mr. Mooney said he had spoken with an individual that said she was appreciative of the department for coming to Crab Orchard about the speeding situation and asked Chief Mullins to continue that for the next little while.

Town Manager

Mr. Jimmy Williams, Town Manager, reported that most of what he has is on the agenda. He said he has been looking into the applications for the committees and the members and said most of the information is outdated. Mr. Mooney asked for a copy of that information to be sent Council. Mr. Williams said he has been working on a cost comparison report for the pool and distributed copies of that to Council. The report covers costs from 2018 through 2025. Mr. Mooney verified the numbers for the profits made from concessions and Ms. Still said there needs to be \$216.00 added to that number from the basketball team. Ms. Still asked about the numbers under repairs and supplies and asked what that includes. Mr. Williams said it includes the work done by Mr. David Carter and the town crew and the amount for supplies includes trash bags and paper products. Ms. Still mentioned that water costs were down from previous years.

Mr. Williams said he met with Clisso Engineering and was told that before anything can be examined at the depot, everything that is stored under there must be moved to have the ability to look around and map the area. He said once the mapping is completed, there will be an estimate of work needed and costs. Mr. Mooney asked if there was a cost. Mr. Williams said there is no cost for what has been done, and he is waiting to hear about the cost of the mapping. Mayor Mooney would like to know any costs before approval is given to have anything done.

Public Works

Mr. Jeff Livingston, Public Works Supervisor, was absent. Mr. Williams said public works has been working on work orders, cleaning at the shop, and hauling off scrap metal. The department has been busy repairing leaks. Mr. Mooney asked about the water report and water loss. Mr. Williams said he has the report and did not print it, but the town is at a 52% water loss.

Ms. Still asked about auctioning the surplus equipment at the shop. Mr. Williams said public works is working on a list of items and any issues the item has and cleaning up the equipment for auction photos. Mr. Still asked if there was a vehicle missing, because he noticed an empty spot. Mr. Williams said the crew moved the flatbed for cleanup.

Ms. Still asked about the salt situation for winter, and if the town would be getting the salt through VDOT this year. Mr. Still said he thought the town had some salt coming. Mr. Williams said that supplier has filed bankruptcy. Mr. Williams will be speaking with VDOT to arrange for the town to do salting for them and salting the town roads as well. Ms. Still said that would be in the town's best interest as VDOT will pay labor and the town will be able to clear all the roads in town. Mr. Mooney said it is already September, and it would be beneficial to reach out to VDOT and have the plan together before the snow starts falling.

Mr. Still asked Mr. Williams about the two dumpsters owned by the town at Superior Trucking. Mr. Still said the dumpsters need to be picked up. Mr. Collins said the bottom is out of one. Ms. Still said it needs to be picked up and brought back to the town's property. She said the technical school or the Job Corps may want to do the welding as a project.

Mr. Still said there is an issue at the primary school where the dumpster is not big enough and the trash sometimes ends up on the ground. The problem with a bigger dumpster would mean that it would be more difficult to get the lawn mower out of the shed. Mr. Mooney said the town needs to reach out to the principal and make sure expectations are set about what needs to be in the dumpster and that as it becomes full, someone at the school needs to call before there is a problem.

The Lane Group

There was no representative from The Lane Group present. Mr. Williams had spoken with someone from The Lane Group and was told that the bidding was in for the PSA project and the cost was astronomical; the project may be cancelled. The Lane Group is not sure what this means for the Town of Coeburn currently. Mr. Williams said the town will be postponing their project at this time as well.

Treasurer Report

Ms. Cathy Sharpe, Clerk/Treasurer, reported a posted cash balance of \$65,973.23 as of 8/8/2025. She reported \$18,539.92 in outstanding checks, accounts payable due in the amount of \$18,406.84 and interim accounts payable in the amount of \$117,548.55. After deducting the accounts payable due and outstanding checks, the reconciled balance was \$29,026.47.

Ms. Sharpe presented the meeting minutes for August 11, 2025, regular meeting and August 14, 2025, public hearing meeting.

Ms. Sharpe reported three additional deposits since reports had been presented for the meeting. Monday's deposit was \$9,011.07, Tuesday's deposit was \$11,790.65, and today's deposit was \$11,033.83, making the combined cash availability of \$60,862.02.

Mayor Mooney asked about the \$12,216.00 FMS Hosting bill on the interim accounts payable. Mr. Williams said that is the fee for cloud storage for Southern Software. Mr. Mooney asked Ms. Sharpe to look into that and let Council know the frequency of that payment. Ms. Sharpe said she believes it is paid yearly.

Sharon Still made a motion to approve the total accounts payable due as presented. Ms. Lisa Woodruff seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Sharon Still made a motion to approve the interim accounts payable as presented. Lisa Woodruff seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Sharon Still made a motion to approve August 11, 2025, regular meeting minutes as presented. Lisa Woodruff seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Sharon Still made a motion to approve August 14, 2025, public hearing meeting minutes as presented. Deventae Mooney seconded the motion, which resulted in Ayes. Lisa Woodruff abstained.

Mr. Mooney thanked Ms. Sharpe and her staff and Mr. Williams for all the work they did and keeping him in the loop of what is going on. Mr. Mooney asked Ms. Sharpe for an update on the Debt Set Off process. Ms. Sharpe said all those are keyed in and the town had begun getting matches for some of them.

Attorney Report

Mr. William Sturgill, Town Attorney, had nothing to report. Ms. Still had spoken with Mr. Sturgill to ask if the water tank maintenance fee could have the name changed to water tank and line maintenance in order to have funds available to pay for work on the lines if it is needed. Ms. Still reported to Council that Mr. Sturgill felt that could not be done because the public was informed that the money was specifically for the maintenance of the water tank and the name could not be switched. Mr. Sturgill said they could discuss that in closed session, along with some other issues.

New Business:

- A. Food City Gas and Go New Location - Mayor Mooney said Council was given a letter concerning paving the street that runs by the new store and a copy of an email. Mr. Williams said Food City is estimating \$30,000.00 will be needed to pave the right of way between the new Gas and Go and Hardees. He said the company would like to do the paving with their equipment and resources and asked the town to support the cost of the

paving. Mr. Collins asked if the pavement thickness would be increased to support the weight of big trucks. Mr. Williams said the company would do all paving and striping of the road. Ms. Still said the email said they could work something out and asked if Ms. Sharpe had pulled the revenue numbers for that business. Mr. Williams said she did not. Mr. Mooney said a decision could not be made at this time and Ms. Still said a decision needs to be made by November. Mr. Mooney said a building is going up whether the town pays for the paving or not and does not consider this a priority for the town at this time. Mr. Collins stated that the town owns the street. Ms. Still has a question for Mr. Sturgill during closed session. Ms. Still suggested tabling the issue until next month.

- B. Buchanan Pump - Food City Lift Station Starter Panel - The grinder pump was installed, and the electrician said the wiring that is in place is not adequate to serve the pump that was installed. The electrician said the starter panel needs to be replaced in order to protect the pump. As things are now, the electrical issue is causing the pump to make noises when it starts up and the technician said this will shorten the life of the pump. The price to install the starter was quoted at \$7,982.78. Mr. Still and Mr. Williams have looked online at prices to see a comparable starter and found that prices vary. Mr. Williams said he feels comfortable going with Buchanan Pump for this project because they are knowledgeable and able to complete the job properly. Mr. Still agrees. Mr. Mooney asked about the warranty on the pump and wanted to know if the warranty would be voided if the proper hookups were not in place. Ms. Still said she doesn't know the specifics of the warranty but is confident that the correct installation needs to be in place in case something comes up with the pump.

Sharon Still made motion to spend \$7,982.78 from the ARPA funds to purchase the Freedom size 2 starter and all items listed and have them installed from Buchanan Pump. Joe Still seconded the motion. Council discussed the pros and cons of the purchase. A roll call vote resulted as follows:

Carles Collins - No
Deventae Mooney - No
Joe Still - Aye
Sharon Still - Aye
Lisa Woodruff - No

Mr. Mooney asked Mr. Williams to gather more information and get more quotes for the repair. Mr. Still said he knows an electrician that may be of assistance.

- C. MEOC Building Roof Repairs - Mr. Williams said there was a work order last week to go over to the MEOC building and replace some water damaged ceiling tiles. Mr. Randy Wireman discovered water damage and accompanied Mr. Williams to the upper two floors of the building where they discovered the roof was leaking and water was running down to the floors below. Mr. Williams said the roof and the upper floors are in bad shape and included pictures of the damage in the council packets. Ms. Still asked if the town had fixed the roof of the MEOC building a while back. Mr. Williams said he's not sure if the roof had undergone any work and said Mr. Carles Collins asked the same question. Ms. Still asked if anyone had gone onto the roof to look at it and Mr. Williams said Mr.

Wireman went up in the bucket lift to check the guttering to see if a blockage was causing the issue with the water. He said the issue is not being caused by the guttering, but no one has gone out onto the roof at this time. Ms. Still would like to have LaFerney come look at it and asked who fixed the roof at the library and the Lays building. Mr. Williams said the Lays building did not need roof repair, the leak was caused by a blockage in the guttering, and the library will need a new roof because there is standing water on the roof. Mr. Mooney thought the roof work had been done at those buildings and Ms. Still asked Mr. Williams to look into that and see who did that work. Ms. Still would like to have three quotes on those jobs.

Deventae Mooney made a motion to enter into closed session in accordance with Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A7) to discuss actual or probable litigation, and Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A8) to consult with legal counsel specific to legal matters. Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Closed Session:

Immediately following closed session, Ms. Cathy Sharpe, Clerk/Treasurer, read “Certification of Closed Meeting”, which is attached to these minutes and made a part hereof. A roll call vote certifying that only business matters that were identified in the motion convening were discussed or considered. A roll call vote resulted as follows:

Carles Collins - Aye
Deventae Mooney - Aye
Joe Still - Aye
Sharon Still - Aye
Lisa Woodruff - Aye

Actions Resulting from Closed Session:

Sharon Still made a motion to open a new account labeled Water Maintenance Fee. The \$2.00 monthly fee charged for water tank maintenance will now be deposited in this account and the water bill message will be changed to water maintenance fee from water tank maintenance fee. Mr. Joe Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Council Comments and Concerns:

Carles Collins - Mr. Collins had no comments or concerns.

Joe Still - Mr. Still had no comments or concerns.

Lisa Woodruff - Ms. Woodruff had no comments or concerns.

Sharon Still - Ms. Still appreciates all the work everyone does from day to day and thanked all the Council members for the behind the scenes work they do and expressed her appreciation for everyone and for Mr. William Sturgill.

Deventae Mooney - Mr. Mooney reminded everyone that the October meeting will be held October 20, 2025, at the Lays Hardware building at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Mr. Deventae Mooney made a motion to adjourn this meeting. Ms. Sharon Still seconded the motion, which resulted in all Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cathy Sharpe
Attest: Cathy Sharpe, Clerk

Deventae Mooney
Deventae Mooney, Mayor