

**TOWN OF INDEPENDENCE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2023
6:45 P.M.
INDEPENDENCE FIRE DEPARTMENT
329 DAVIS STREET; INDEPENDENCE, VA 24348**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Ronald Sexton, Vice Mayor Jim Meier, Jason Cassell, Buddy Halsey, Joan Collins, Kit Marshall, Mark Miller

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Laura Ratcliffe, incoming Town Manager.

CITIZENS & GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER:

The Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Ronald Sexton on this 23rd day of February 2023 and declared that a quorum was present.

Mayor Ronald Sexton made a recommendation that council appoint the new Town Manager, Laura Ratcliffe, to the board of the Virginia Carolina Water Authority effective March 1st, 2023. **COUNCILMAN JASON CASSELL made a motion to appoint Laura Ratcliffe to the board of the Virginia Carolina Water Authority effective March 1st, 2023. COUNCILMAN BUDDY HALSEY seconded; motion carried with all a yes.**

Mayor Ronald Sexton made a recommendation that council approve adding the new Town Manager, Laura Ratcliffe, the Town Clerk, Kim Farmer, and the new Town Councilwoman, Kit Marshall, to all town banking accounts. **COUNCILMAN JIM MEIER made a motion to approve adding the new Town Manager, Laura Ratcliffe, the Town Clerk, Kim Farmer, and the new Town Councilwoman, Kit Marshall, to all town banking accounts. COUNCILMAN MARK MILLER seconded; motion carried with all a yes.**

Mayor Ronald Sexton made a recommendation to form a Special Committee for the Town Park project and to name Councilwoman Joan Collins, Chair and Councilwoman Kit Marshall and Councilman Mark Miller to serve on the committee. **COUNCILMAN JASON CASSELL made a motion to form a Special Committee for the Town Park project and to name Councilwoman Joan Collins, Chair and Councilwoman Kit Marshall and Councilman Mark Miller to serve on the committee. COUNCILMAN BUDDY HALSEY seconded; motion carried with all a yes.**

Mayor Ronald Sexton **appointed Councilman Buddy Halsey to serve as Chair of the newly formed Fiber Special Committee. He also appointed Jim Meier and himself to serve on the committee.**

With no other business Mayor Sexton closed the meeting.