



Town of Independence Committee Work Session Minutes
August 7, 2025, 6pm
136 East Main Street (Upstairs)
Independence, VA 24348

Members Present: Mayor Mark Miller, Vice Mayor Joan Collins, Buddy Halsey, Aaron Davis, Town Manager Kathy Knutson, Police Chief Matthew Adams, Utility Supervisor Terry Osborne, and Town Clerk Kim Farmer

Members Absent: Jason Cassell, and Kit Marshall

Mayor Mark Miller called the Committee to order this 7th day of August 2025 and declared a quorum present. Mayor Miller stated the special meeting is to have a committee work session.

Mayor Miller asked Town Manager Kathy Knutson for her presentation. Town Manager Knutson handed out a draft dog leash ordinance. Town Manager Knutson asked for any recommendations. Police Chief Adams recommended adding the Virginia state code reference. Police Chief Adams stated that the Town needs to give Grayson County Sheriffs office the authority to enforce the Town code.

Town Manager Knutson gave the committees a worksheet regarding income and expenses for the building on North Edgewood Drive.

Town Manager Knutson stated that the new code books came in. Town Manager Knutson suggested taking out the fee chart for the water and sewer rates. The rates may be changed by council as needed. Town Manager Knutson recommended to put in a generic form referencing a section that can be replaced when rates change.

1. Finance: (Chairwoman Joan Collins)
 - a) Chairwoman Collins stated she did not have anything to report on.
2. Infrastructure: (Chairman Buddy Halsey)
 - a) Chairman Buddy Halsey stated he did not have anything to report on.
3. Community Development: (Chairwoman Kit Marshall)
 - a) Absent-Nothing to report
4. Personnel: (Chairman Jason Cassell)
 - a) Absent-Nothing to report

Mayor Mark Miller asked for a motion to go into closed session.

COUNCILMAN AARON DAVIS made a motion for Council to go into closed session citing VAFOIA Section 2.2-3711, to discuss personnel litigation and contract negotiation. **COUNCILMAN BUDDY HALSEY** seconded; motion carried with all ayes.

Adjourn – there being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.