

# **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**TOWN OF CHASE CITY, VA**

**Monday, May 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM**

525 North Main Street, Chase City VA 23924

Phone: (434) 372-5136 | [www.chasecity.org](http://www.chasecity.org)

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## **MINUTES**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Fahringer at 7:00p.m.

#### **PRESENT**

Town Manager Dusty Forbes

Mayor Alden Fahringer

Vice-Mayor James Bohannon

Council Member Brenda Hatcher

Council Member Pauline Keeton

Council Member Michelle Wilson

Council Member Latrisha McCargo

#### **ABSENT**

Council Member Marshall Whitaker

### **Urgent Meeting Items**

Public Hearing for sale of surplus property - No comment. Closed

Public Hearing on surplus property.

Presentation by the MFL Group concerning the proposed Lee Building purchase and usage by Dre Watkins. Mr. Watkins spoke about ideas of how the Lee Building could bring people to Chase City at length. He then showed a video presentation relating to that. After the video presentation the floor was open to Council for comment.

Mayor Fahringer spoke about concerns he had about the validity of the proposal. He had doubts about the ability and capability of the MFL Group to do what they proposed to do with the building structurally.

Member McCargo also voiced concerns. She stated that if the MFL Group was getting to know Chase City, their comments about local businesses were very outdated. She also had concerns about how Mr. Watkins thought 10,000 people would be coming to Chase City just because of an entertainment center. Mr. Watkins gave little clarification on this.

Fahringer stated that when he went online to see the company's information, that the links on the page were not functional. It gave him pause as to whether any of this was legitimate. Fahringer reminded Mr. Watkins that he had asked several times for proof that his company had done anything like this project in the past. He has yet to receive proof from Mr. Watkins or anyone else that was with this group. Fahringer felt like this proposal had too many generalities and claims but no real substance. Mr. Watkins felt he had provided the answers asked.

Member Wilson stated that she received a picture of a porch, and it looked like a child had built it. She didn't understand how she could compare a porch to an 11 million dollar project as proof that this company could undertake this project.

Fahringer wrapped the discussion up by saying that he didn't feel like the MFL Group was a real thing and that they had not provided any real evidence of their legitimacy or capabilities. They had not shown any prior work on any projects that were of the size of the Lee Building.

Public Hearing for easement of Grace Street alleyway.

Town Manager Forbes stated that the easement was for 30 ft. by 111 ft. on the backside of the Lee Building to get to the rear of the building.

Members of the Fire Department discussed concerns on back door usage of the Lee Building and its proximity to the Fire Department. Forbes stated that there could be a conditional use addendum.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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**Alden Fahringer, Mayor**

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**Virginia G. Walker, Treasurer**