Virginia: **At the Joint Council meeting of the Chilhowie Planning Commission held Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.**

Present: **David Blevins, Donna Blevins, Jim Bonham, Flave Davis, and Jim Paine**

Council: **Honorable Gary L. Heninger, Mayor presiding; Councilors Bill Clear, Shannon Donnelly, Brent Foster, Julie Sturgill, and P.J. Wolfe.**

Absent: **Bob Jeter.**

Also Present: John E.B. Clark, Jr., Town Manager/Zoning Administrator; David Haynes, Building Inspector and Felicia Eller, CMC, Secretary.

Public Hearing:

- Joint Public Hearing with Planning Commission for a Special (Conditional) Use Permit in the R-2 General Residential Zone From the Chilhowie Community Apple Festival, LLC for a Storage Building at Tax Paracel 53-A-54A Off Sulphur Springs Road – Mrs. Eller presented the following:

Notice of Joint Public Hearing
Of Special (Conditional) Use Permit
Town of Chilhowie, Virginia

The Chilhowie Tow Council and Planning Commission will be holding a Joint Public Hearing on an application for a Special (Conditional) Use Permit in the (R-2) Residential General Zone, as required by Section 3.3-2 of the Zoning Ordinance of the Town of Chilhowie, for a storage building. The application for the permit is being sought by the Chilhowie Community Apple Festival Committee, LLC. The proposed building on Sulphur Springs Road will be 60 feet by 80 feet on property identified as 53-A-54A on the Smyth County GIS Tax Maps. Therefore, pursuant to Section 15.2-2204 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, notice is hereby given of the Joint Public Hearing to be held at 7:00 p.m., or shortly thereafter, at the Chilhowie Town Hall 325 East Lee Highway, on March 14, 2024 in which citizens may attend and state their views thereon. Following the Joint Public Hearing the Planning Commission will recommend approval or denial of the Permit to the Town Council, or defer its recommendation to a later date. Persons wanting more information on this matter may contact the Town Hall.

By the Order of the Mayor and Chilhowie Town Council,

John E.B. Clark, Jr.
Town Manager

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Mayor Heninger opened the Public Hearing at 7:11 p.m.

Tom Bishop: After figuring about eight different sets of plans at the store for the Apple Festival, I decided they needed a little assistance to help get this done. I volunteered to be the Project Manager on this job. I am here to say we need this thing passed tonight, if there is not anyone going against it. The Apple Festival, Bo Bonham and I both were born the same year as the Apple Festival started. I have been here ever since, born in the clinic if you are taking notes, there are not many of us born in the clinic before the County had the hospital. I try to help anyone I can through the years with the Apple Festival. When I saw the crowd, we had here in this Town the last Apple Festival; I think everyone is proud of the Apple Festival and everyone loves our Apple Festival. I go back to one thought, years ago when Charlie Haynes was on the Town Council and they were buying the first new fire trucks; I told Charlie, do they need those trucks? Charlie said, well, Tom they all volunteer and what else do they have other than their equipment? He changed my mind totally. When I looked at this project whatever help I can give I told them I have a lot of surface equipment. I am helping them reduce the cost. I have already gotten stone donated from the quarry, Daniel and Travis, whatever shale we need we will have donated. I am pulling all the resources I can and it is kind of like what does this Committee have? They need to have a place to store their goods and keep the Apple Festival going. I have designed it. I went over there and showed them a barn I have built. We will have limited electricity, it's a 40 x 80 room with two drive through doors for the float, fixing the float, and storing. We are going to fix a 20 x 80 room for a meeting area and a restroom. Over that we are making it to where we can get a row of lights over the top which we are using out of date patio doors that I have in inventory that are extra panels that we are going to make real nice glass over the top of the meeting room. And what is the use going to be? How much is it going to be used? No one should object, it is just not going to be used other than a month before Apple Festival. How often do you have meetings now? Once a month. It will be very presentable building. We have already, if you can see, what we have done to the lot out there. The lot was terrible and we have cleaned all that lot out and took about half a day. We had equipment to do it with. It is going to be a nice spot. Everyone in the neighborhood all approved. Cleaned up all the dead trees and tried to make it presentable. Had to, to see where the best spot to set the building would be. The building will be 16 feet, 16 x 12 doors in each end. That will give us a good room for a meeting room or two.

Mayor Heninger closed the Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Old Business:

- Planning Commission Comments and Recommendation to Town Council on Apple Festival Special Use Application Following Instructions from Town Attorney – Mr. Trent Crewe, Town Attorney, explained the current Town Code does not allow the structure to be built. The structure is not an approved special exception. Mr. Crewe is recommending that neither the Planning Commission or the Town Council take any action. The Town will advertise for a change in the Town Code and add Meeting Room and Storage Building as

one of the Special Exceptions. Mr. John Clark, Town Manager, will advertise the Public Hearing in the Smyth County News Paper on March 20, 2024 and March 27, 2024. Council and Planning Commission has agreed to continue the meeting until March 28,2024.

Motion by David Blevins, second by Jim Paine the Planning Commission continues the Joint Council Meeting to March 28, 2024 at 7 p.m. The motion was approved with following recorded vote:

David Blevins	Aye	Donna Blevins	Aye
Jim Bonham	Aye	Flave Davis	Aye
Jim Paine	Aye		

Felicia Eller, CMC, Secretary