

**ROUND HILL TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
September 7, 2022**

A Regular Meeting was held by the Round Hill Town Council on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Town Office, 23 Main Street, Round Hill. Instructions for participating remotely were provided on the meeting agenda.

**Council Members Present**

Scott T. Ramsey, Mayor  
Mary Anne Graham, Vice-Mayor  
Michael Hummel  
Paula James  
Sean Lloyd  
Isaac Pacheco

**Council Members Absent**

Jesse Howe

**Staff Members Present**

Melissa Hynes, Town Administrator/Zoning Administrator  
Maureen Gilmore, Town Attorney  
Robert Lohr, Project Manager  
Bobby Lohr, Town Planner  
Marty Feltner, Utility Supervisor (participated remotely)

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Ramsey called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Vice-Mayor Graham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call was held. Mayor Ramsey, Vice-Mayor Graham, and Councilpersons James, Hummel, Lloyd, and Pacheco were physically present, constituting a quorum. Councilperson Howe was absent.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mayor Ramsey explained the process for public comments. The Mayor provided background on the Board of Supervisors' initiative to rename certain streets identified through the 2021 Inventory of Confederate & Segregationist Symbols; he noted that the Council had agreed to follow the County's process for renaming Mosby Court, which is located entirely within the Town, so that the Hillwood Estates neighborhood would be treated as a whole. He further explained the Council could decide to leave the name of Mosby Court as it is.

**David Hay**, 16834 Tree Crops Lane, spoke about his concerns for the reservoir and the three-acres located inside his property. He stated he is the President of the Tree Crops Lane Association which submitted a bid on the property. He questioned why the additional parcels were included in the sale. Mayor Ramsey stated this is a real estate sale not a public auction, and the Council determined that the springs and the reservoir should stay under common ownership.

**Susan Kasper**, 16852 Tree Crops Lane, spoke about her concerns regarding the sale of the reservoir, the 2014 dam inspection report, and the Town's responsibility and liability for maintaining the dam. Ms. Kasper said the Town has not adequately addressed residents' letters about public safety concerns.

A discussion ensued regarding the condition of the dam and the ability of the purchaser to properly maintain the dam.

**Bryan Cornell** questioned why the Town included the springs in the sale after the bidding was closed. He owns the property next to the springs and would have bid on it if he had known the springs were included in the sale. Mayor Ramsey stated that the letter the Town provided explains the process for the sale of the property.

Mayor Ramsey asked if there were any additional comments regarding the sale of the Tree Crops Lane property; hearing none, the Mayor explained this is a private sale that is going forward, and it is not on the agenda.

**Karen Becker**, 3 Mosby Court, stated she has lived at this address for 37 years and she has been in Round Hill for 55 years. She does not think of Mosby Court as something that happened 150 years ago. She noticed that Fairfax County, unlike Loudoun County, is leaving it up to the residents to petition if they want their confederate street names changed. She asked the Town Council to leave Mosby Court alone because the residents are happy with the name. She presented a postcard she received about the street renaming, which she provided to the Mayor and Council. She asked the Council to work with the residents of Mosby Court.

**David Becker**, 3 Mosby Court, stated there has been a lack of communication from the Town regarding the street renaming. A discussion ensued about the County taking the lead in sending out letters to property owners and public safety issues for some of the street addresses. Mr. Becker said his neighbors agree with keeping the street name the same.

**Margaret Huff**, 6 Mosby Court, said she has lived there for 45 years and there was no consideration for not moving there due to the name. Her opinion is that Mosby Court should stay as is. The Mayor and Council represent the citizens of Round Hill and all the residents have signed a statement that they would like the name of the street to remain the same. She stated that the Loudoun County Board of Supervisors has been inconsistent with renaming roads and streets. She asked the Council to take the residents' wishes into consideration when making a decision on renaming Mosby Court.

**Linda James**, 5 Mosby Court, said that 100% of the property owners on Mosby Court would like the name to stay the same.

Mayor Ramsey suggested possible explanations for why the County's street renaming may appear inconsistent. He noted that the County did not have the authority to change names inside of the towns and that the County only included street names that they could determine the origin of. Mosby Court was formerly known as Lyneldo Lane. The Mayor explained the political context in 1963 when Loudoun County was part of a massive resistance campaign following desegregation resulting from the 1954 Supreme Court decision, *Brown vs. Board of Education*. In 1963, there was a Federal Court order for Loudoun County to integrate its schools. It was not a coincidence that the streets in Hillwood Estates were named after Confederate generals.

Mayor Ramsey thanked everyone for coming tonight. He noted it was up to the Council regarding Mosby Court and that it was a County decision for the other streets. The Mayor stated the Council had received and read all of the letters that were submitted. He noted this item is on the agenda for discussion tonight.

**Loudoun County Deputy Sheriff Joshua Edney** introduced himself as the Community Resource Officer for Western Loudoun. He gave an update on the "Coffee with a Cop" meetings and said the financial crimes unit is investigating the fraudulent check reported by the Town.

#### **ADOPTION OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA (Amendments & Deletions)**

Vice-Mayor Graham moved **to amend the agenda to have *Discussion of Letters from Residents about Street Renaming* moved up to Item 5, before Disclosures**. Ms. Hynes said Councilperson Howe had asked that the Proclamation for Constitution Week be added to the agenda. Following discussion, it was agreed that since Councilperson Howe, the sponsor for this item, was not present, this item would be placed on the agenda for the next Council meeting. Councilperson Pacheco seconded Vice-Mayor Graham's motion. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 5-0, with Councilperson Howe absent. The vote is recorded as follows:

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Aye

Isaac Pacheco	Aye
Michael Hummel	Aye

## **DISCLOSURES**

There were none.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **1. Discussion of Letters from Residents about Street Renaming**

Mayor Ramsey read aloud a letter from Councilperson Howe, stating his support for the residents to not change the name of Mosby Court.

The Mayor called for comments from the other Councilmembers. Councilperson Hummel, Vice-Mayor Graham, and Councilperson James expressed their support for the citizens' requests not to change the name of Mosby Court. Councilpersons Lloyd and Pacheco and Mayor Ramsey explained why they supported changing the name. Ms. Hynes explained that she would notify the County based on the Council's decision tonight.

Following further discussion about the street renaming process, Vice-Mayor Graham moved that **the Town Council support keeping the name of Mosby Court for the existing road while also encouraging the County to go forward with the name changes for the rest of the streets in Hillwood Estates**. Councilperson Hummel seconded the motion. Mayor Ramsey clarified that the motion would remove Mosby Court from the renaming process, but the County would proceed with renaming the rest of the streets in Hillwood Estates, including Longstreet Avenue and Hampton Court, which are partially located in the Town. An *Aye* vote is to keep Mosby Court the same, a *Nay* vote is to continue with the process to find a new name for Mosby Court; the rest of the streets would be unaffected by the vote. A vote was held; the motion was approved 3-2. The vote is recorded as follows:

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Nay
Isaac Pacheco	Nay
Michael Hummel	Aye

## **APPROVE MINUTES**

### **1. June 1, 2022**

Vice-Mayor Graham noted that on line 293 the name of the person who seconded the motion was missing. Mayor Ramsey stated the Councilperson Howe seconded the motion.

### **2. June 15, 2022**

Vice-Mayor Graham noted that on line 154, *Corp* should be *Corps*.

3. July 6, 2022

There were no corrections.

4. July 20, 2022

Vice-Mayor Graham noted the following corrections:

- Page 7, line 267, *build up* should be *buildup*.
- Page 7, line 297, add *at the* before *new crosswalk*.

Councilperson Pacheco noted that on line 313 his first and last names are reversed.

Councilperson Hummel moved **to approve the minutes of June 1, 2022 with the change**. Seconded by Vice-Mayor Graham. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 4-0-1, with Councilperson Pacheco abstaining. The vote is recorded as follows:

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Aye
Isaac Pacheco	Abstain
Michael Hummel	Aye

Vice-Mayor Graham moved **to approve the June 15 minutes as corrected**. Seconded by Councilperson James. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 5-0. The vote is recorded as follows:

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Aye
Isaac Pacheco	Aye
Michael Hummel	Aye

Vice-Mayor Graham moved **to approve the July 6 minutes**. Seconded by Councilperson James. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 5-0. The vote is recorded as follows:

<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>VOTE</u>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye

Sean Lloyd	Aye
Isaac Pacheco	Aye
Michael Hummel	Aye

Vice-Mayor Graham moved to **approve the July 20 minutes as corrected**. Seconded by Councilperson James. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 4-0-1, with Councilperson Hummel abstaining. The vote is recorded as follows:

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Aye
Isaac Pacheco	Aye
Michael Hummel	Abstain

## **BUSINESS ITEMS CONTINUED**

### **2. Utility Department Update**

Vice-Mayor Graham said the projects are proceeding as they should. She noted a complaint received from a new resident about excess chlorine; the Utility Supervisor has clarified that it is not a community-wide issue.

Mr. Feltner gave an update on the work done at the Goose Creek Plant and noted that production at the plant is better than it has ever been.

Mr. Rob Lohr gave an update on the plans and permits being submitted to the County for Well D and the Southern Tank. Staff will be following up with the new General Manager for the Round Hill Owners Association regarding the landscaping plan for Well D.

### **3. Franklin Park Trail/Main Street Enhancement Project Update**

Mr. Rob Lohr reported on the following:

- The contractor is committed to substantial completion of the project by the end of September; punch list items will likely continue into October.
- The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for the afternoon of September 27, 2022.
- The Town is working closely with residents to make sure all of the modifications that have been agreed to are completed.
- The guardrail on East Loudoun Street is being replaced with a concrete wall.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Approve Stantec Change Order – Southern Greenway Pedestrian Trail**

Ms. Hynes presented this item. The Council is being asked to approve the change order for Stantec to provide engineering services for the Southern Gateway Pedestrian Improvements. The change

order is based on a modified scope of work for only one pedestrian alignment, along the east side of New Cut Road with no crosswalks. The original approved task order was \$28,000. The revised task order is for an additional \$36,500, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$64,500.

Following discussion, the Council deferred this item to the next meeting. Ms. Hynes will have Stantec close out the original task order and provide a new task order.

## **2. FY2024-2029 Loudoun County Capital Funding Request**

Ms. Hynes presented this item. The Council is being asked to support the Town Administrator's funding request to Loudoun County for the FY 2024 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for the Southern Gateway Pedestrian Trail Additional Costs. The County has already allocated \$1.5 million for the Southern Gateway Pedestrian Trail; the request is for an additional \$825,000 based on anticipated changes and cost increases.

Vice-Mayor Graham moved to **approve the Town Administrator's draft letter for the CIP funding request to the County in the amount of \$825,000 for the Southern Gateway Project.** Seconded by Councilperson Pacheco. There was no discussion. A vote was held; the motion was approved 5-0. The vote is recorded as follows:

<b><u>MEMBER</u></b>	<b><u>VOTE</u></b>
Mary Anne Graham	Aye
Jesse Howe	Absent
Paula James	Aye
Sean Lloyd	Aye
Isaac Pacheco	Aye
Michael Hummel	Aye

## **REPORTS**

### **1. Town Administrator Report**

Ms. Hynes reported that the church across the street has been taken off the market; the owner is waiting for the outcome of the Comprehensive Plan Amendment (CPAM) for the Central Commercial District.

### **2. Planning Commission Report**

Councilperson Hummel reported on the following:

- The Planning Commission would like to see the contract for the engineer working on the parking study to understand the scope of what they were asked to do. The Planning Commission also requested that the Council direct staff to send the design concept back to them to further study what happens with the shared parking.
- The Planning Commission asked to be involved in the Parks Master Plan and future revisions to sections of the Town Code.

- The Planning Commission worked on the CPAM at the meeting on September 6, 2022 and will take this up again at their meeting in October. Mayor Ramsey noted if the Planning Commission needs more time, the Council could consider that; there was no objection from the Councilmembers.
- The Planning Commission asked why the Town is not holding a charette with the developer of the 12-acre commercial property. Mayor Ramsey explained that the way the Town ended the conversation with the developer is that if they want to host a charette, the Town will be a part of it, but the Town is not going to organize a charette for their property. The Town has already hosted a charette for the property and nothing came of it.

### **3. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Ramsey gave an update on the recent Coalition of Loudoun Towns' (COLT) meeting. They discussed the County Zoning Ordinance rewrite and Boundary Line Adjustments (BLAs) underway in Round Hill, Lovettsville, and Middleburg. A discussion ensued about Round Hill's BLA, the Comprehensive Plan Amendment, and the Zoning Map Amendment.

Mayor Ramsey explained that the County's current policy for BLAs is based on unanimous agreement from the land owners, which can be difficult to achieve. Mayor Ramsey noted that COLT will be sending a letter to the County advocating that the County enter into an annexation agreement for towns with existing Joint Land Management Areas. After the letter reaches the County, the Mayor stated he would like the Council to discuss requesting an annexation agreement with the County.

Following discussion, the Council agreed to cancel the Regular Meeting on October 19, 2022 and to schedule the Strategic Planning Meeting on October 26, 2022.

### **TOWN COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Councilperson Hummel said he appreciated the comments from Councilpersons Lloyd and Pacheco regarding the street renaming.

Councilperson Lloyd said he has been working with the Utility Billing Administrator on the water data reports.

Vice-Mayor Graham said that Bobby Dennis is doing well following his retirement.

Councilperson Pacheco said he respects the different perspectives of people in the community and he was glad to see it work that way tonight.

Mayor Ramsey said there are not many divisive issues that come before the Town and that civility is the Council's most important asset.

The Council discussed the logistics and process for the Strategic Planning Meeting.



**MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Ramsey adjourned the meeting at 11:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott T. Ramsey, Mayor

CERTIFIED:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harriet West", is written over a horizontal line.

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Harriet West, Town Clerk

APPROVED: November 2, 2022