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REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON FEBRUARY 11, 2014

Clerks Note: Due to impending inclement weather, the February 12, 2014 regular Council meeting was moved to Tuesday, February 11, 2014. The public hearing scheduled for 6:45 pm on Wednesday, February 12, 2014 was cancelled.

At the regular Council meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Tuesday, February 11, 2014, at 5:30 pm in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville VA, there present were Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr., presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, D.L. Hunter, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, J.J. Davis, A.D. Reid and E.I. Gordon.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Town Attorney, Donald Blessing; Chief of Police, Douglas Mooney; Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Newman called the meeting to order. Mr. Whitus gave the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Reid.

Mayor Newman announced the public comment period.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mr. E. Morgan Dunnivant, a resident of Buckingham County and owner of a private hangar at the Farmville Municipal Airport addressed Town Council. Mr. Dunnivant said he was concerned when learning of Council's decision to tear down the municipal hangar at the Airport. Demolishing the hangar will displace six (6) aircraft and the airport mechanic. Mr. Dunnivant said he was not aware of any plans to replace the hangar building. He suggested Council use the hangar door insurance claim monies for a professional evaluation of the hangar for potential restorations before moving forward with its demolition. Mr. Dunnivant said the loss of the hangar would be an extreme disservice to the community. He asked that Council have a plan in place to replace, before moving forward. Mr. Dunnivant acknowledged the hangar as having some maintenance issues; however, he thought it may be more cost effective to repair the current structure. He then remarked on an interview given by Mr. Whitus to The Farmville Herald. Mr. Dunnivant said he too supports Mr. Whitus' comments regarding localities partnering on projects for economic development and suggested the Town contact Cumberland County to see if the County may be interested in sponsoring the Airport to help support its growth.

Mr. Montu Jani, Longwood University's Inter-Fraternity Council President addressed Council. Mr. Jani said he governs seven (7) national fraternities at Longwood University's campus. The organization looks at ways to build relations with the Town through education and accountability. Mr. Jani said they would be glad to discuss any suggestions or ideas Council may have on ways the fraternities can create better community relations with Farmville.

Ms. Jennifer Cox, Longwood University's Associate Director of Off-Campus Living provided an update on various University matters. She spoke of the recent changes to the University's requirements regarding off-campus living. In the past, students were required to "apply" to move off-campus; this year, if the student has completed a minimum of 48 credits – by the end of the spring semester, they only have to notify the University of their intent to move off-campus. She thanked Chief Mooney and Mr. Spates for their continued support and patience in working with her and the University in reeducating some of the students in being good neighbors.

No one else present wished to address Council. The public comment period was closed and the meeting returned to its regular order of business.

Mayor Newman said he would like to address the comments made by Mr. Dunnivant. He said the Town has previously contacted both Buckingham and Cumberland Counties asking for financial assistance with the Farmville Municipal Airport. Both entities denied the request. Prince Edward County does provide some financial assistance. Mayor Newman mentioned previous decisions made by the Town Manager and Council and the negative financial impact those decisions had on the Airport. He spoke of a previous meeting, when several airport matters were referred to the Finance and Ordinance Committee. Mayor Newman asked Dr. Gordon, a member of the Finance and Ordinance Committee for an update. Dr. Gordon said no final decision or recommendation has been made and the Committee is still evaluating and discussing the issues. Mayor Newman continued to express displeasure with the changes at the Airport. Dr. Gordon asked that this matter be tabled until the Finance and Ordinance Committee makes its recommendation to Council. He said by continuing this matter, without having all the information, presents a skewed account to the public. Mayor Newman asked that he be notified when the Finance and Ordinance Committee meet to discuss the Airport.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2014 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the regular January 8, 2014 Council meeting were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 5, 2014 REGULAR WORK SESSION MEETING

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the February 5, 2014 regular work session meeting were approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the Treasurer’s Report was approved, as presented.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF THE JANUARY 2014 BILLS

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, payment of the January 2014 bills was approved, as presented.

Bills Printed in Minute Book

INFORMATION ONLY – MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

Members received copies of the following monthly staff reports:

- Building Official’s Report;
- Recreation Department’s Report;
- Property Inspector’s Report;
- Meter Tally Report;
- Sanitation and Recycling Report;
- Golf Report

Mr. Spates provided a brief overview of the staff reports. Mr. Hunter commented on the impending weather event and the affect this ice has had on the Town streets. He suggested the Finance and Ordinance Committee include street maintenance when discussing the 2014-2015 Town budget. Mr. Spates said the streets are affected by the winter weather and this year has seen an extended period of freezing temperatures.

TOWN MANAGER’S VERBAL REPORT

Mr. Spates provided a verbal report on the following matters:

- Joint Voluntary Boundary Adjustment Committee – Mr. Spates described the joint meeting as productive. He said it was the consensus of the Joint Committee that he and Mr. Bartlett would meet to draft a proposed boundary map to be presented to the Joint Committee. The County seemed receptive that everything up to the bypass would be brought in to the corporate limits. Mr. Spates said he does have interest in including some retail property located past the bypass.

He too addressed comments made by Mr. Dunnivant regarding the Airport. He said there has been some discussion on approaching Cumberland County regarding a voluntary boundary adjustment to bring the Farmville Regional Airport in to the corporate limits. There is a need to have the Airport on Town water and sewer. He told Mr. Dunnivant, if the voluntary boundary adjustment was to transpire, those individuals with private hangars, would have to pay Town taxes as well as County.

- Farmers Market – Mr. Spates has suggested Council accept the recommendation of the Farmville Community Marketplace Committee and approve advertising for a Market Manager.
- Longwood University Parking Issues – He will be meeting with President Reveley later this week.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR A MARKET MANAGER

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the recommendation by the Farmville Community Marketplace Committee to advertise for a Market Manager was approved. A Market Manager will be paid \$75.00 each market day worked. The work schedule will be Saturdays, from 7:00 am through 1:00 pm on each market day.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Spates said the Market Manager is to be on-site each day the market is open. The Manager will oversee the daily operation of the market and reports directly to the Farmville Community Marketplace Committee.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE FARMVILLE COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE COMMITTEE

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the recommendation by Mrs. Thompson, as Chair of the Farmville Community

Marketplace Committee, was accepted and the following persons were appointed to the Committee to serve a one year term:

- One member of the Farmers Market Association;
- Mr. Jamie Davis, at will;
- Mr. Gerry Spates, at will;
- Ms. Pam Butler, local business owner;
- Mr. Steve Wall, local business owner;
- Ms. Allison Crews;
- Mrs. Lisa Hricko

REQUEST AUTHORIZAION TO ACCEPT BID ON SALE OF FOUR ACRES

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting “aye”, the bid by Mr. Nathan Bozarth of \$32,000 for four acres of land located adjacent to the Field of Dreams was accepted by Council, with the stipulation that an eight (8) foot privacy fence be installed between this property and the Field of Dreams.

BACKGROUND: At the January Council meeting, at the request of Mr. Bozarth, Council directed the Town Manager to advertise the Town’s interest in selling the four (4) acres and requiring a minimum bid of \$32,000. Mr. Spates said the Town posted the advertisement and received only one response.

AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 15 MOTOR VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC

This matter was continued. The public hearing will be re-advertised for the March Council meeting.

BACKGROUND: Due to the impending weather, the public hearing was cancelled.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT FROM THE NARCOTIC’S FUND

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the request by the Town Treasurer to authorize payment of \$100.00 from the Narcotic’s Fund to Third Street Wrecker Service was approved.

BACKGROUND: The invoice is towing fees from the Super 8 Motel to the Town’s impound lot.

REQUEST APPROVAL TO CHANGE THE TOWN EMPLOYEE DISABILITY PLAN FROM LONG TERM DISABILITY TO A SHORT TERM DISABILITY PLAN

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the recommendation by the Personnel Committee to change the Town employee disability plan from a long term disability plan to a short term disability plan was approved. The short term disability plan will take effect March 1, 2014.

BACKGROUND: The Town’s long term disability plan requires employees to use all of their personal leave time before being eligible to receive disability benefits. Switching to a short term plan becomes effective on the 15th day of the disability, employee does not have to use all of their personal time before receiving benefits. The maximum duration of the short term plan is 26 weeks, with receiving 70% of their weekly earnings with an eligible disability.

REQUEST USE OF CRUTE STAGE FOR THE ANNUAL MAIN STREET MUSIC SERIES

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the recommendation by the Town Manager to approve the request on behalf of Farmville Downtown’s for the use of Crute Stage to host their annual Main Street Music Series and waive the rental fee for the use of Crute Stage, was approved. The annual Main Street Music Series will be held on the third Thursdays from May through September.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Spates said the Farmville Downtown group is making strides to improve and promote the visibility of the downtown area. He described the Main Street Music Series as a great community event.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Members received copies of the following items –

- Employee Overtime Report;
- ICA Monthly Housing Report;
- Farmville Downtown Report

REQUEST FINANCE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENT

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council accepted the recommendation by Mr. Reid and appointed Mr. Hunter to the Finance and Ordinance Committee. Mr. Hunter will be filling the seat vacated by Mr. Reid. Due to scheduling conflicts Mr. Reid is unable to serve. The Committee members will be Mr. Whitus, Dr. Gordon and Mr. Hunter.

BACKGROUND: The Finance and Ordinance Committee has been given the task of overseeing the preparation of the draft 2014-2015 Town budget.

THE TOWN MANAGER AND/OR STAFF PROVIDED A VERBAL REPORT OF THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

Mr. Spates informed Council that Centra-Southside Hospital will be taking over the Roses' building in the Southgate Shopping Center. On July 1, they will be opening a dialysis center and have plans to open a primary care facility that will be open 6 days a week from 8:00 am through 8:00 pm. The primary facility will offer rehab, orthopedics and radiology.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk