

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON JUNE 4, 2014

At the regular work session meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, June 4, 2014, at 11:00 am in the Town Manager's Conference Room located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia there present were Vice-Mayor A.D. Reid presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, D.L. Hunter, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, J.J. Davis and E.I Gordon. Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr. was absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates, Town Attorney, Donald Blessing and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Vice Mayor Reid called the meeting to order and the Town Manager presented the June 2014 agenda items.

Mr. Spates provided a brief overview of the monthly staff reports and updated Council members on various Town projects. Members discussed the bump outs on Main Street and supported the recommendation of the Town Manager in leaving a portion of the brick pavers.

The following agenda items were presented for discussion:

REQUEST ADOPTION OF 2014-2015 TOWN BUDGET: The public hearing was held on Wednesday, May 28, 2014. Mr. Spates said there was only one person that commented during the public participation period. Mr. Ronald White asked about the price difference in the mark up between Avgas and Jet fuel and questioned the \$250.00 revenue listed for Crute Stage.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE CANDIDATES FOR THE VACANCY ON THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: The Town advertised for letter of interest from persons willing to serve on the Board of Zoning Appeals. No letters were received. Members discussed possible candidates. The vacancy is to fill the unexpired term of Richard Lash, who passed away in February.

VACANCY OF THE AT-LARGE COUNCIL SEAT: This matter will be addressed at the July 2014 Council meeting.

INFORMATION – VICE MAYOR/PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL: Mr. Reid submitted a letter stating his interest in being considered for re-appointment as Vice Mayor/President of Council. He has held that position since July 2008. His request will be addressed at the July Council meeting.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION SUPPORTING "IN GOD WE TRUST": The Town received a request to adopt a resolution agreeing to display the wording "In God We

Trust” in the Council Chamber. The purpose of the resolution is to promote patriotism by encouraging elected officials to agree to display the words “In God We Trust” in every Chamber in America.

REQUEST TO REFER REZONING/ZONING AMENDMENT REQUEST TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting “aye”, the recommendation to refer the rezoning request/zoning amendment on behalf of the Farmville Area Rescue Mission to the Planning Commission was approved.

BACKGROUND: The Farmville Area Rescue Mission, Inc. is requesting a zoning amendment to provide a temporary emergency homeless shelter on property owned by CPAC, Inc., located at 103 South Main Street, Farmville known as the Watkins Abbitt Federal Building. The property is zoned Business District B-2 and a homeless shelter is not an allowed use. Mr. Spates said the request will need to go before the Planning Commission and then a public hearing must be held.

VERBAL REPORT BY THE TOWN MANAGER – INFORMATION ONLY:

- Members received copies of the monthly Employee Overtime Report;
- Mr. Whitus and Mrs. Thompson toured the site of Dickie Cralle’s new restaurant project. Mr. Spates said Mr. Cralle has signed a contract on the location, which will probably be a micro-brewery restaurant. The Council members that were not able to attend the first tour, expressed an interest in visiting the site. Mr. Spates said he will make the arrangements when Mr. Cralle returns from India;
- Members received information on tourism activities in Virginia;
- Mr. Spates said he periodically checks the fuel prices at airports in the vicinity and the Farmville Regional Airport prices are competitive with most localities;
- The Town received a tentative allocation of \$345,000 to construct a pedestrian bridge across the Buffalo Creek that will tie into the Dogwood Trail on High Street;
- The Town has received up to a \$55,000 grant and a \$45,000 loan with a 3% interest rate from Rural Development for the purchase of (3) police vehicles. The proposed 2014-2015 Town budget has \$80,000 allocated for purchasing police vehicles;
- Paving is almost complete and the Virginia Department of Transportation has cancelled the traffic count until the Longwood University and Hampden Sydney College students return to school;

- July 4th fireworks event will be held on July 3rd at the Farmville Regional Airport;
- Council is invited to the Dowdy Furniture (under new ownership) ribbon cutting scheduled for Friday, June 6th at 12:30;
- Water Tank project should be complete in approximately two weeks;

COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

- Mr. Hunter asked the Town Manager and Council to consider looking into expanding the Public Work’s facility or relocating it to a larger facility. Mr. Spates said grant funds have been set aside to move/build a new maintenance facility on Town property located off Doswell Street; however it would still be a large expense;
- Mrs. Thompson shared with Council Downtown Farmville’s plans to construct three contemporary murals on the side of the Presbyterian Church warehouse located by the Community Marketplace;
- Dr. Gordon commented on the condition of Third Street and asked that it be added to the list of streets needing paving – Mr. Spates said he will work up a cost and add it to the Revenue Sharing grant;
- Mr. Davis informed members that the Sweet Shop on Main Street has closed, the owners moved back to Ireland. A new business has begun remodeling and will be open soon.

CLOSED SESSION SECTION 2.2-3711.A.7, LEGAL CONSULTANT AND SECTION 2.2-3711.A.1, PERSONNEL MATTERS

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council went into closed session under Section 2.2-3711.A.7 of the Code of Virginia for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants or attorneys, pertaining to Longwood University charging parking fees on Town owned streets; and Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia, for discussion or consideration of employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the Town of Farmville.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Farmville Town Council has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Farmville Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Farmville Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Farmville Town Council.

VOTE:

MOTION:

SECOND:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT DURING VOTE:

ABSENT DURING MEETING:

Clerk

Mr. Whitus suggested Council adopt a resolution recognizing Mayor Newman for his years of service to the community. Members spoke in support of the resolution. Mr. Spates said the Town plans on having a cook-out at the Sports Arena for Mayor Newman and his family, Dr. Gordon and his family and a retirement celebration for an employee who has announced he will be retiring this year.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR NEWMAN'S OF YEARS OF SERVICE AS MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER

On motion Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting "aye", the recommendation to allow Mayor Newman to keep his Town issued ipad and his Council chair, was approved.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. GORDON'S YEARS OF SERVICE AS COUNCIL MEMBER OF WARD A

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Davis, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the recommendation to allow Dr. Gordon to keep his Town issued ipad, was approved.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk