

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD JUNE 11, 2014**

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, June 11, 2014 at 7:00 pm, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there present were Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr., presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, D.L. Hunter, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid and E.I. Gordon. Council member J.J. Davis was absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Town Attorney, Donald Blessing; Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal; 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 Vice-Mayor Reid.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Ms. Jerri Morton, promoter of “100 Miles of Yards Sales” addressed Town Council. Ms. Morton said the event begins at 7:00 am on Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and encouraged the Farmville community to once again participate. She provided brochures that highlighted the route and asked that the information be placed on the Town’s website and promotional signs displayed on Town buses.

Ms. Jennifer Cox, Longwood University Associate Director of Off-Campus Living provided an update on various University projects. She spoke briefly of the recent orientation and the incoming freshman class of 1,137 students. Also in attendance was Mr. Justin Pope, Chief of Staff for Longwood University’s President, Dr. W. Taylor Reveley, IV.

Mr. Morgan Dunnivant addressed Town Council. Mr. Dunnivant spoke of his concerns with the recent requirement that the EAA Chapter complete a Town application for use of the terminal building. The EAA Chapter uses the kitchen in the terminal building to host a breakfast, the second Saturday of each month. Mr. Dunnivant said he feels the recent requirement is in retaliation to maintenance issues between the pilots and Town administration. He asked Council if they were in support of the EAA being charged a \$100/\$150 rental fee and commented on the internet not working at the airport. The Town Manager addressed Mr. Dunnivant. He said he has received two requests for use of the terminal facility that are not affiliated with the EAA Chapter. The application is required when requesting use of any town facility. It is used as a tool to make

sure the venue is available on the requested date and to determine accountability if there is damage to the facility. There is a fee printed on the application; however, in most cases the Town waives the fee for non-profit organizations. Mr. Spates said it is the Town's intent to waive the fee for the EAA Chapter and stressed that the application must be submitted with the dates the EAA would like to use the terminal building. Mr. Spates said staff at the airport had accessed the internet that afternoon and he was unaware of any internet issues but would look into the matter.

Mrs. Helen Persons, Executive Director of Farmville Downtown Partnership thanked Council for their support of the Main Street Program. She informed members that on July 16 – 17, 2014 Farmville Downtown Partnership and the Virginia Main Street organization will be hosting the Virginia Main Street Summer Toolkit training sessions in Farmville. The sessions are designed to provide attendees with “outcome-oriented revitalization knowledge”.

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 4, 2014 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the May 4, 2014 regular Council meeting were approved, as presented.

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2014 REGULAR WORK SESSION MEETING**

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the June 4, 2014 regular work session meeting were approved, as presented.

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER'S REPORT**

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

**REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, payment of the bills were approved, as presented. Mr. Spates informed members that the paving has been completed and cost \$534,217.00. The Town received a VDOT grant of \$150,000, VDOT Street maintenance funds of \$209,000 and the remaining monies will come from the bond funds. Mr.

Spates thanked the Director of Public Works, Mr. Atkins and his staff for getting the work done and pavement marked.

**STAFF REPORTS – INFORMATION ONLY**

Members received copies of the following staff monthly reports:

- Building Official's Report;
- Property Inspector's Report;
- Recreation Department's Report;
- Parking Meter Tally;
- Sanitation and Recycling Report;
- Golf Course and Pool Report

**BACKGROUND:** The Town Manager provided a brief overview of the staff reports. He mentioned the increase in year to date building permits.

**TOWN MANAGER'S VERBAL REPORT – INFORMATION ONLY**

The Town Manager updated Council on the following projects:

RE: Mottley Lake – anticipates a public hearing being scheduled sometime in September;

RE: Voluntary Boundary Adjustment – Mr. Bartlett is gathering some financial information however, Mr. Spates said he was uncertain if the jail's request will move forward due to the economic impact it may have on the County and/or Town;

RE: Bump Outs on Main Street – anticipates the contractor to begin removing the bump outs next week;

RE: Longwood Agreement – continue matter;

RE: Thermopave Issues – meeting with parties involved on Tuesday, June 24;

RE: Andrews Drive Water Tank – the Longwood University logo on new water tank

**REQUEST ADOPTION OF PROPOSED 2014 – 2015 TOWN BUDGET**

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon voting "aye" the 2014-2015 Town Budget was adopted, as presented.

**BACKGROUND:** Farmville Town Council held a public hearing on the proposed 2014-2015 Town Budget on Wednesday, May 28, 2014. The \$16,775,193.51 budget includes a real estate tax rate of \$.12 per \$100.00 of assessed value, a personal property tax rate (business only) of

\$1.50 per \$100.00 of assessed value, a meals/lodging tax rate of 7% and a cigarette tax rate of .27 cents per 20 pack of cigarettes.

**APPOINTMENT TO THE FARMVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the recommendation by the Town Manager to request the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County appoint Mr. Scott Smalley to the Farmville Board of Zoning Appeals, was approved. Mr. Smalley’s term will run through November 30, 2016, serving the unexpired term of Mr. Richard Lash, who passed away in February of this year.

**BACKGROUND:** Mr. Spates said he has contacted Mr. Smalley and he has agreed to serve.

**DISCUSS COUNCIL SEAT VACANCY**

This matter was continued until the vacancy occurs.

**BACKGROUND:** In May, Mr. Whitus was elected Mayor and will be taking office July 1, 2014. His At-large seat will become vacant for the remaining two years of his term. Town Council will need to determine:

- If Council will be appointing someone to fill the remaining term of the At-Large seat and filing a petition with the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County within 15 days of the vacancy; or
- If Council will be petitioning the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County to select an individual to fill the unexpired term of the At-Large seat;
- Council will need to petition the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County to hold an election

**VICE MAYOR/PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL – INFORMATION ONLY**

In July, Council will be electing a Vice Mayor/President of Council. Mr. Reid provided Council with a letter asking for their support in reappointing him as Vice Mayor/President of Council. He has been serving as Council’s Vice Mayor/President of Council since July 2008.

**REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION “IN GOD WE TRUST”**

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the recommendation to adopt the resolution in support of displaying the national motto “In God We Trust”, in the Council Chambers was approved. The resolution reads as follows:

**A RESOLUTION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL IN FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA,  
SUPPORTING THE DISPLAY OF THE NATIONAL MOTTO "IN GOD WE TRUST"  
IN THE FARMVILLE COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN A  
PROMINENT LOCATION AT TOWN HALL.**

**WHEREAS**, "In God We Trust" became the United States national motto on July 30, 1956, shortly after our nation led the world through the trauma of World War II; and

**WHEREAS**, the words have been used on U.S. currency since 1864; and

**WHEREAS**, the same inspiring slogan is engraved above the entrance to the Senate Chamber, as well as above the Speaker's dais in the House of Representatives; and

**WHEREAS**, in both war and peace, these words have been a profound source of strength and guidance to many generations of Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town desires to display this patriotic motto in the Council Chambers, as a way to solemnize public occasions and express confidence in our society.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the Town Council of the Town of Farmville does hereby resolve as follows:

**Section 1.** That the Town Council of the Town of Farmville, Virginia, does hereby determine that the historic and patriotic words of our national motto, "In God We Trust," shall be permanently and prominently displayed in the Farmville Council Chambers at Town Hall.

**Section 2.** The Town Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and enter it into the book of original resolutions.

**PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED** at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Farmville, Virginia, held on the 11th day of June, 2014.

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

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S.C. Newman, Jr., Mayor

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk

**BACKGROUND:** The Town was contacted by a non-profit organization named In God We Trust-America, Inc. The group asked that Council adopt a resolution supporting the display of the national motto "In God We Trust" in a permanent and prominent place in the Farmville Council Chambers. Farmville will be one of several communities in Virginia to participate.

**REZONING/ZONING AMENDMENT APPLICATION ON BEHALF OF FARMVILLE  
AREA RESCUE MISSION**

On amended motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting “aye”, the recommendation to remove from the Planning Commission and table before Council, the rezoning/zoning amendment request on behalf of the Farmville Area Rescue Mission was approved. Farmville Area Rescue Mission located at 103 South Main Street, Farmville has requested a rezoning/zoning amendment to operate a homeless shelter. The property is zoned Business District B-4 and a homeless shelter is not an allowed use.

**BACKGROUND:** At the June 4<sup>th</sup> work session, the rezoning/zoning amendment request had been referred to the Farmville Planning Commission. Town Council has recently received information of an organization interested in becoming this region’s designated community action program and assist with providing homeless intervention services to this region. Council has elected to table the request pending additional information.

**REQUEST FOR PARTIAL BUSINESS LICENSE REFUND ON BEHALF OF THE FARMVILLE SWEET SHOP**

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, the recommendation by the Town Treasurer to refund the Farmville Sweet Shop \$230.72 on their 2014 business license provided their 2014 business personal property Tax is paid, was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** Mr. Dan Murray, owner of the Farmville Sweet Shop submitted a letter requesting a refund of his 2014 business license stating his business located at 236 North Main Street, Farmville closed as of May 25, 2014.

**REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF KIDZRUS, LLC**

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the request to advertise for a conditional use permit by Ms. Marie Eaton-Jones to operate a childcare facility (KidzRus) at 1406 South Main Street was approved. The property is zoned business district B-4 and child care facilities are permitted with a conditional use permit. Council will hear citizen comments on the request at their July 2, 2014 work session meeting.

**BACKGROUND:** Ms. Eaton-Jones would like her child care facility to be in operation by August 1, 2014. Prince Edward County Department of Social Services cannot move forward with her application without a zoning letter from the Town of Farmville. Council has agreed to move forward with the public notice and address the request at their July 2, 2014 work session.

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

Mr. Spates updated or provided a copy of the following:

- Members received copies of an article on Farmville that was printed in the Virginia Tour Planning Guide;
- Members were provided copies of the following monthly reports: Downtown Farmville Report, Employee Overtime Monthly Report and the ICA Monthly Report;
- The PAPI System (Precision Approach Path Indicator) at the Farmville Regional Airport is operational;
- The Town was awarded a \$75,000 recreation grant from Centra to assist with the renovations/upgrades to the Firemen's Sports Arena;
- 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 July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks event will be held on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Farmville Regional Airport;
- The Virginia Department of Transportation has cancelled the traffic count until the Longwood University and Hampden Sydney College students return to school.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:**

Dr. Gordon noted that this would be his last meeting as Ward A Council member. He said he has enjoyed serving on Town Council and thanked his fellow Council members.

**CLOSED SESSION SECTION 2.2-3711.A.7, LEGAL CONSULTANT**

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

**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: "6"

MOTION: Gordon

SECOND: Hunter

AYES: Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid and Gordon

NOES: No one

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Davis

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Davis

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk

**IN RECOGNIZATION OF YEARS OF SERVICE**

Farmville Town Council members asked that the record reflect their appreciation and gratitude to Mayor, Sydnor C. Newman, Jr. and Ward A Council member, Dr. Edward I Gordon for their dedicated years of service.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

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Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk