

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON DECEMBER 2, 2015

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, December 2, 2015, at 11:00 am, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there present were Mayor D.E. Whitus, presiding and Council members D.E. Dwyer, D.L. Hunter, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, J.J. Davis and G.C. Cole. Council member S.B. Thompson was absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Town Attorney, Andrea Erard and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Whitus called the meeting to order and introduced the December agenda items for discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA – includes the draft minutes of the November 4, 2015 regular work session and the draft minutes of the November 12, 2015 regular Council meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT – will be added prior to the Council meeting.

BILLS – added to the Council dropbox folder.

TOWN MANAGER'S VERBAL REPORT – Mr. Spates updated Council on various town projects. Mentioning:

- Osborne Road project – recommending the Town submit the Osborn Road project to VDOT for its Revenue Sharing program and move forward with repaving the road, which would widen it;
- Voluntary Boundary Adjustment – anticipates scheduling a joint public hearing soon;
- Patrick Henry Boys Home – anticipates scheduling the closing soon;
- Travis Building – recommends Council move forward with the purchase of the building and leave tresses in place;
- Burn Building – moving along nicely;
- Fuel prices at the Farmville Regional Airport – Mr. Spates stated there had been a comment made about the fuel prices at the airport being high. He said the website, AirNav, provides fuel prices of airports in the vicinity. The site lists Farmville's fuel prices as slightly below the average of airports in our vicinity. Members discussed the

airport's budget and its proposed revenue. Members agreed to make no changes in the fuel prices at this time.

REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF MR. AND MRS.

JOHN WINGO – the Wingo's have requested a conditional use permit to operate a bed and breakfast at their residence, 1103 Barrow Street, Farmville. The property is zoned Residential District R1A and a bed and breakfast is an allowed use with a conditional use permit.

DISCUSS PARTICIPATING IN THE VDOT ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT –

Mr. Spates stated in 2008, Town Council voted to participate in VDOT's Roadside Beautification project; however, due to the decline in economy, the Town did not proceed with the plan. With Longwood University hosting the Vice Presidential Debate in October, Mr. Spates suggested Council may want to consider moving forward with the Beautification project. He described the project as similar to the highway island plantings in Lynchburg. A business sponsors an island planting and signage is placed at the island identifying the business. Mr. Spates stated the Town maintains the plantings. A committee appointed by Council contacts local business owners asking them to lease an island. Members were provided a packet of proposed garden sites from 2008. Council discussed the project and Mr. Dwyer expressed interest in working on the project's development.

DISCUSS ESTABLISHING A TOWN OF FARMVILLE TOURISM ZONE –

The purpose of the Tourism Zone is to promote the Town of Farmville's tourism industry by providing incentives to eligible businesses within the Town's designated Tourism Zone that will attract visitors, create new employment opportunities and/or promote education opportunities while increasing travel related revenue in the Farmville area. Mr. Spates stated the Hotel Weyanoke project is moving forward. The hotel will offer seventy (70) plush rooms including a restaurant and meeting facilities. The Longwood Foundation is partnering with the developer and has committed to leasing a certain number of rooms. The developer has approached the Town about the possibility of leasing parking spaces in the municipal lot. Mr. Spates stated that if Council approves designating a tourism zone, the developer will be asking Council to reinvest a portion of the sales tax generated, for ammonization of their loan. Council spoke in support of the proposed ordinance.

REQUEST APPOINTMENTS TO THE FARMVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS –

Mrs. Penny Pairet and Ms. Pam Butler’s terms on the Farmville Board of Zoning Appeals expire on December 31, 2015. Both have agreed to serve another term.

REQUEST ADDITIONAL EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY HOURS FOR 2015 –

Mr. Spates stated he would like to ask Council to consider granting Town employees additional time off this holiday season. He asked Council to consider granting employees four (4) additional holiday hours on Wednesday, December 23, 2015 and allow them to use four (4) hours of their personnel leave time – if approved, Town Offices will be closed on Wednesday, December 23, 2015.

DISCUSS REQUIRING A MEAL BE PROVIDED BY PERSONS OR ORGANIZATIONS

RENTING THE FIREMEN’S SPORTS ARENA AND SERVING ALCOHOL –

Mr. Spates stated at a recent event held at the Arena, alcohol was served and a meal was not provided. He said he has learned the ABC laws do not require a meal be provided; however, Mr. Spates suggested Council consider making it a requirement by the Town. He is recommending that any event held at the Firemen’s Sports Arena offering alcohol, must provide a meal. He suggested that it be written on the event ticket that a meal is being provided and a copy of the menu must be turned in with the rental application. Council spoke in support of the recommendation.

COMMENTS FROM MAYOR WHITUS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

- Community Holiday Tree Lighting – suggestions made for next year’s event: the sound system needs to be elevated and more light needs to be added to the caboose. There was a discussion on whether to consider pricing the concrete pavers for the plaza area or leave the black pavement. No decision was made.
- Firemen’s Sports Arena – Mr. Hunter asked Council to give thought to paving the parking at the Arena and adding a covered walkway – similar to the Farmville Municipal Golf Course.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

David E. Whitus, Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk