REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON OCTOBER 11, 2017

Mayor Whitus called to order the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on
Wednesday, October 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at
116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia.

Present at the meeting were Mayor D.E. Whitus, presiding, and Council members D.E. Dwyer, D.L. Hunter, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, J.J. Davis and G.C. Cole.

Staff present were Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Assistant Town Manager, Scott Davis; Town Attorney, Gary Elder; Chief of Police, Andy Ellington; Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal; Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins; Communications Specialist, Kate Eggleston, Administrative Assistant, Jackie Vaughan and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Whitus welcomed guests and led the invocation; followed by Vice Mayor Reid leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. Hricko called the roll for Council.

Council recognized and presented Mr. Dudley Sauve with a proclamation celebrating his legacy of 43 years of working with the community theater, Waterworks Players. Mr. Sauve founded the community theater and directed 175 plays.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Whitus announced the public comment portion of the meeting and reminded guests to limit their comments to three (3) minutes.

Ms. Jen Cox, Director of Local and Community Relations for Longwood University addressed Council. Ms. Cox provided an updated on the following items: Council members are invited to attend The Andy Taylor Center for Early Childhood Development dedication on Friday, October 20, 2017, at 11:00 am. The Center is currently in its second week of classes. The Virginia Children’s Book Festival will take place October 19th – 21st, on campus; the annual local Housing and Rental Fair for the 2018-19 school year will be held Wednesday, November 8th, 11:00 am – 2:00 pm; and fall break for students starts on Friday, October 13th. Ms. Cox introduced students from her class that will be learning about local government.

PUBLIC HEARING – A RESOLUTION FOR AN AMENDMENT AND APPROPRIATION TO THE FY 2017 – 2018 TOWN MANAGER
Mayor Whitus opened the public hearing and Mr. Spates read the following public hearing notice:

TOWN OF FARMVILLE
PUBLIC HEARING

The Farmville Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 pm, on Wednesday, October 11, 2017 in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located on the second floor of the Town Hall, 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, to receive comments on the following matter:

A Resolution for an amendment and appropriation to the FY 2017-2018 Town Budget. The total amount of the FY 2017-2018 budget is currently $30,028,165.08. The total amount of the proposed amendment is $676,566.70. The reason for the amendment is to carry over the contingency from the FY 2016-2017 to the FY 2017-2018 Town Budget. The proposed amended budget total would be $30,704,731.78.

The Farmville Town Council may take action on the proposed budget amendment on October 11, 2017.

No one present wished to address Council and the public hearing was closed at 7:09 p.m.

Mayor Whitus thanked Mr. Jordan Miles, Managing Editor of the Farmville, for his years of service covering the Town of Farmville and Council meetings and wished him well on his future endeavors; he then welcomed Mr. Morgan White, the new journalist who will be covering the reporting on the Town Council meetings.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Davis and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was approved. The consent agenda includes the draft minutes of the September 6, 2017 regular work session, draft minutes of the September 13, 2017 regular Council meeting and the draft minutes of the September 20, 2017 reconvened Council meeting.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Cole and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report as presented was approved.

BACKGROUND: Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal provided Council with a brief overview of the Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Davis commended Council and the Town, for being able to pay its debt services without using its line of credit.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PAY THE BILLS
On motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Cole, Davis and Reid voting “aye,” the motion to pay the bills as presented was approved.

(BILLS PRINTED IN MINUTE BOOK)

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR A RFP FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR UPDATING FARMVILLE’S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AND ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS AND CONTINUE THE MARTIN REZONING REQUEST AND ZONING AMENDMENTS

This matter was addressed at the October 4, 2017 regular work session. Scott Davis, Assistant Town Manager gave a brief update on the process. Mr. Davis stated he is currently working on the advertisement for the RFP and has been in contact with a firm that does work on comprehensive plans and zoning amendments. He will be bringing the information back to Council, at a later date.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Spates stated at the Farmville Planning Commission meeting held on Wednesday, September 27, 2017, the Commission recommended Council authorize advertising a request for proposals for consulting firms to update Farmville’s Comprehensive Plan and to review and update Farmville’s zoning ordinances. Mr. Spates stated Farmville’s comprehensive plan is out of date and has not been revised since 2010. Before a major project (Martin request and Walk2Campus Holdings, LLC request) is considered, the comprehensive plan should be revised, and the zoning ordinances reviewed and updated. He stated the process should include public input, and input from Council. Mayor Whitus stated the community is interested in planned growth, student housing growth areas, and identifying areas that need to be protected. Mr. Spates stated by hiring a consulting firm with experience in both comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances, the town will gain the knowledge and expertise to assist in the process.

REQUEST ON BEHALF OF MR. MATT KING, WALK2CAMPUS HOLDINGS, LLC TO REZONE 37 PROPERTIES TO RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT R3A AND THE REZONING REQUEST ON BEHALF OF MR. AND MRS. MARTIN

On motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with a recorded vote with Council members Cole, Davis, Reid, Pairet, Thompson, Hunter and Dwyer voting “aye,” the motion to accept the recommendation of the Planning Commission to table the rezoning request
on behalf of the Martins and Walk2Campus Holding, LLC and to remove the requests from Council’s agenda, was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** Mr. Matt King, CEO of Walk2Campus Holdings, LLC submitted a request to rezone 37 properties located near the Martin properties to Residential District R-3A. The Farmville Planning Commission is recommending that Council table this request until the comprehensive plan and zoning ordinances are updated.

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF ERIC ARTHUR, JR.**

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Reid and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to grant authorization for advertisement of a public hearing on the request for a conditional use permit on behalf of Mr. Eric Arthur, Jr. to construct a seven (7) unit apartment complex on property located on Cedar Avenue, was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** The Farmville Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing and special called meeting on October 25, 2017 to address the conditional use permit on behalf of Mr. Eric Arthur, Jr. The property is zoned Residential District R-3 and multi-family dwellings are an allowed use with a conditional use permit. The property is posted, and letters have been sent to the adjacent property owners.

**REQUEST FOR STREET ABANDONMENTS ON BEHALF OF LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY**

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion was approved to grant the request on behalf of Longwood University and adopt a resolution authorizing the abandonment and transfer of Spruce Street, from Redford Street to Franklin Street; Madison Street, from Venable Street to the abandoned portion of Brock Commons and Redford Street, from Main Street to the abandoned portion of Brock Commons. Longwood University is to prepare the documents, which are to include granting the Town of Farmville a permanent easement for access to the town’s utilities.

**BACKGROUND:** Mayor Whitus commented that the public hearing was held this evening, and no one spoke against the abandonments. The Town Manager stated his office has received no comments on the request. A legal description of the abandoned streets is on file in the Clerk’s Office.
UPDATE ON HIGH STREET, OAK STREET, APPOMATTOX STREET AND GRIFFIN BOULEVARD (ROUNDABOUT/ALIGN INTERSECTION)

A community meeting and public hearing on improvements to the intersection of High Street, Oak Street, Appomattox Street and Griffin Boulevard is scheduled for Wednesday, October 18, 2017. At the August 9, 2017 Council meeting, this matter was referred to the Infrastructure Committee. The Infrastructure Committee met on August 14, 2017 and asked Mr. Spates to review the intersection costs estimates provided by McCormick Taylor.

Mr. Spates reported that the study by McCormick Taylor gave the Town has three options: leave the intersection as is; align the intersection with a cost estimate of $2.697 million or construct a roundabout with a cost estimate of $3.789 million. Mr. Spates stated that if Town workforces were to realign the intersection he estimated cost would be approximately $1 million dollars.

BARBARA ROSE JOHNS DEDICATION

This matter was continued pending completion of library sign.

BACKGROUND: At the February 8, 2017 Council meeting, Mayor Whitus established a Barbara Johns Committee to consider ways for Farmville to honor Barbara Johns’ contribution to the Civil Rights Movement. At April 12, 2017 Council meeting, Council approved renaming the library the “Barbara Rose Johns, Farmville-Prince Community Library” in honor of Barbara Rose Johns. The dedication plaque is ready, and the town is waiting on the completion of the library sign.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2017-2018 TOWN BUDGET

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Cole and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to adopt the resolution amending the 2017-2018 Town Budget and authorize transferring $40,000.00 for expenditure from the Sewer Fund for the Noblin Drive Pump Station upgrade, was approved.

RESOLUTION

BUDGET AMENDMENT 1-2017

WHEREAS, at the reconvened Council meeting held on June 29, 2017, by Resolution, the Town of Farmville approved a FY 2017-2018 Town budget in a total amount of $30,028,165.08; and

WHEREAS, as of June 30, 2017, the Town of Farmville FY 2016-2017 Town budget had a surplus of $676,566.70; and
WHEREAS, the Farmville Town Council has stated that a portion of the FY 2016-2017 surplus funds be appropriated for the Noblin Pump Station upgrade; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Farmville Town Council, at its regular monthly meeting, on October 13, 2017 that a total of $676,566.70 be added to the Farmville FY 2017-2018 so that the amended total of the Town of Farmville’s FY 2017-2018 budget shall be $30,704,731.78; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT $676,566.70 shall be appropriated by the Town of Farmville as follows:
- $551,768.71 added to the General Fund
- $37,630.73 added to the Water Fund
- $46,705.31 added to the Sewer Fund
- $40,461.95 added to the Transportation Fund; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT $40,000.00 shall be appropriated for expenditure from the Sewer Fund by the Town of Farmville.

BACKGROUND: The Town Treasurer has closed out for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The 2017-2018 Town Budget needs to be amended to carry over the 2016-2017 contingency. Council held the public hearing this evening.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO DECREASE THE SPEED LIMIT
On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Cole and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting ‘aye,’” the motion was approved to accept the recommendation of the Town Manger and decrease and/or reaffirm the speed limit in the town as follows:
- West Third from the corporate limits, to Hudson Lane – change from 45 mph to 40 mph;
- West Third at Buffalo Creek to Bridge Street on East Third – 25 mph;
- Bridge Street to Sunchase Blvd. – 35mph;
- Sunchase Blvd. to corporate limits – change from 45 mph to 40 mph;
- Corporate limits, Route 45 to Early Street – change from 45 mph to 40 mph;
- Early Street to Appomattox River Bridge – 35 mph;
- Appomattox River Bridge to Wynne Drive – 25 mph;
- Wynne Drive to Belmont Circle – 35 mph;
- Belmont Circle to South Corporate limits change from 45 mph to 40 mph

The maximum speed limit in Farmville will be 40 mph.
BACKGROUND: Mr. Spates spoke of the increase in vehicle and pedestrian traffic. He mentioned the opening of new businesses and residential developments. He spoke of safety concerns for the pedestrians crossing streets and for public works employees working in the roadways. Council members also noted the increase in vehicular and pedestrian traffic and spoke in support of decreasing the speed limit. Mr. Spates stated he would contact the Virginia Department of Transportation to notify them of Farmville’s intent to change the speed limits within the corporate limits and order the appropriate signage. Once he receives verification from VDOT, the town will proceed with changing the speed limit on the above-mentioned streets.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FROM THE NARCOTIC FUND TO THE PIEDMONT REGIONAL DRUG & TASK FORCE

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Cole, Davis, Reid, Pairet, Thompson, Hunter and Dwyer voting “aye,” the motion to authorize payment of $2,833.33 from the Narcotic’s Fund to Piedmont Regional Drug and Task Force was approved.

BACKGROUND: $2,833.33 is the Town of Farmville’s annual payment to the Piedmont Regional Drug and Task Force.

ADOPT FOOD DAY PROCLAMATION

On motion by Mrs. Thompsons, seconded by Mr. Hunter, and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to approve the adoption of the Food Day Proclamation, was approved.

REQUEST TO DONATE THE 2002 CHEVY PICKUP TRUCK TO PIEDMONT REGIONAL JAIL

On motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Davis and with a recorded vote with Council members Cole, Davis, Reid, Pairet, Thompson and Dwyer voting “aye,” and Mr. Hunter “abstaining,” stating Piedmont Regional Jail is his employer, the motion to approve the donation of the 2002 Chevy pickup truck to Piedmont Regional Jail, was approved.

BACKGROUND: The 2002 Chevy pickup truck has been taken out of service. The VIN #1GCHKZ24UXZZ329115

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks and Recreation, Chairman Cole – The Committee is in the process of scheduling a public information session for the recent recreational need study that was completed. The design team will be present to give a presentation.
Finance and Ordinance Committee, Chairman Davis – no report
Personnel Committee, Chairman Reid – no report
Infrastructure Committee, Chairman Pairet – no report
Town Property/Building, Chairman Thompson – no report
Public Safety, Chairman Hunter – A representative ML met with the Public Safety committee and made suggestions for various items regarding the police department scheduling.

REQUEST APPOINTMENT OF ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Cole and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Manager and appoint Dr. C. Scott Davis, Assistant Town Manager, as the Farmville Zoning Administrator, was approved.

TOWN MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Mr. Spates gave Council an update on the current water levels in the river, stating that the water supply in town is stable.

Chief Andy Ellington reported that the police department placed a memo on vehicles in the residential areas reminding residents about parking permit decals. Also, he will be hosting “Coffee with the Chief” on Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. at Riverside Café.

Mr. Robin Atkins reminded Council of the Fall Cleanup Campaign scheduled for Monday, October 16th.

MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

No comments from Council.

CLOSED SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION AND LAND DISPOSITION

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Reid and with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” Council went into closed session under Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia, for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and the disposition of real property where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye,” Council returned to the regular order of business.

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: Seven (7)

MOTION: Davis
SECOND: Hunter

AYES: Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole

NOES: none

ABSENT DURING VOTE: no one

ABSENT DURING MEETING: no one

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Clerk

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE THE REMAINING WILCK'S LAKE PROPERTY

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion was approved authorizing the Town Manager to sign the necessary documents to purchase the remaining Wilck’s Lake property (approximately 7.7 acres) for $525,000 with $125,000 down and the remaining payments are to be paid over a four-year period, at zero percent interest. In addition, Council agreed with the purchase price of the property at $551,850 with the seller receiving a tax write off of $26,850.

BACKGROUND: Mr. Spates stated the purchase of the remaining Wilck’s Lake property includes the house, the field over by the trail, the small office building and the maintenance shop.
Council agreed that purchasing the property will allow the town to expand recreational opportunities at Wilck’s Lake.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:  

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David E. Whitus, Mayor

ATTEST:  

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk