

**REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON OCTOBER 4, 2017**

Mayor Whitus called to order the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, October 4, 2017 at 11:00 a.m., in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia.

The roll was called by the Clerk. Present at the meeting were Mayor D.E. Whitus, presiding and Council members D.E. Dwyer, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, J.J. Davis, G.C. Cole. Council member D.L. Hunter was absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates, Communications Specialist, Kate Eggleston; Administrative Assistant, Jackie Vaughan and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Whitus stated Jordan Miles, Editor of the Farmville Herald has accepted new employment and may not be attending the October 11, 2017 regular Council meeting. He thanked Mr. Miles for the Herald's coverage of Farmville and wished him well on his new endeavors.

Mayor Whitus also welcomed Mr. Scott Davis, Farmville's new Assistant Town Manager.

Mayor Whitus presented the October agenda for review and discussion.

Public Hearing at 6:45 p.m., on Longwood University's request for the abandonment 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 Brooks Commons. Mayor Whitus noted that all the requested streets are within Longwood's campus and should have no effect on the traffic patterns. The Town Manager confirmed that the abandonments should have not affect the traffic flow.

Consent agenda – no discussion

Treasurer's Report – no discussion

Bills – no discussion

Request authorization to advertise for a RFP for consultant services for Comprehensive Plan and zoning amendments and continue the Martin rezoning request and zoning amendments

Mr. Spates stated Farmville's comprehensive plan is out of date and has not been revised since 2010. The comprehensive plan and the Farmville's zoning ordinances go hand and hand. He stated that before a major project is considered, the Comprehensive Plan needs to be revised and the zoning ordinances should be reviewed and updated. The process should include public input,

and input from Council. Members discussed past zoning updates. Mayor Whitus stated the community is interested in planned growth, student housing growth areas, and what areas need to be protected areas. Mr. Spates stated by hiring a consultant firm with experience in both comprehensive plans and zoning ordinances the town would gain the knowledge and expertise to assist in the process. Mr. Davis stated once the RFP is written there are several ways to proceed, mentioning the process could be presented in phases with community involvement and focus groups. Mr. Davis also spoke of the process Colonial Heights went through when the zoning ordinances were reviewed and updated. He stated prior to the amendments, Colonial Heights was similar to Farmville in the number of residential and business zones and had zones that were similar in uses. After the zoning amendments, the number of zones were reduced and compacted in both residential and commercial. The process is time consuming and having a consultant work through the process would free up staff. Mr. Spates stated the process could take a minimum of 6 to 12 months, with the RFP taking up to 60 to 90 days. Discussions continued on the process for zoning amendments and needing to simplify the zones, with emphasis on community involvement.

On motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to accept the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and authorize the Town Manager to prepare a RFP for consultants to assist the town with updating its comprehensive plan and to review and propose amendments to Farmville’s zoning ordinances was approved.

Continue the rezoning and zoning amendment request by Mr. and Mrs. Martin – no discussions

Continue the rezoning request on behalf of Walk2Campus Holdings, LLC – no discussions