

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MAY 3, 2017

Mayor Whitus called to order the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 11:00 a.m., in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia.

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

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates, Communication Specialist, Kate Eggleston and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Whitus presented the May 2017 agenda items for review and discussion.

Consent agenda – consent agenda includes the draft minutes of the April 5, 2017 work session and the April 12, 2017 regular Council meeting

Treasurer's report – no discussion

Bills – no discussion

Vacancies on the Local Building Official Board – will be continued pending recommendation from the Personnel Committee

Vacancy on the Farmville Industrial Development Authority – will be continued pending recommendation from the Personnel Committee

Vacancy of Town representative on the Central VA Regional Library Board – will be continued pending recommendation from the Personnel Committee

Request of behalf of Mr. Richard Bratcher – has been referred to the Infrastructure Committee for their recommendation to Council

Request to amend the Town of Farmville employee handbook – Mr. Spates stated the Finance and Ordinance Committee has recommended a policy be added to the Employee Handbook compensating employees that are not on-call and are called-in to respond to emergencies. Mr. Spates stated the Committee has recommended the employee be compensated beginning from when the employee receives the call, to when the employee returns home, with a two hour minimum compensation.

Request to amend Town Code, Chapter 20, Planning Section 20-28 Members – Appointment – Mr. Spates stated the Finance and Ordinance Committee has recommended that

Farmville Planning Commission representation mirror that of Farmville Town Council. He stated the Committee is recommending that two representatives be added to the Commission, to serve as at-large members.

The public hearing to amend the ordinance will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017.

Request for a 3 percent increase in the funding of the library – Mr. Davis, Chairman of the Finance and Ordinance Committee stated the Committee would be recommending Council approve the library’s request for a 3 percent increase (\$1,500) in funding. He stated the additional funding is part of the 2017-2018 proposed Town Budget.

Request on behalf of the Farmville Downtown Partnership for continued funding – Mr. Davis, Chairman of the Finance and Ordinance Committee stated the Committee would recommending Town Council continue funding the Farmville Downtown Partnership an annual appropriation of \$60,000 and review the appropriation annually. He stated the funding is part of the 2017-2018 proposed Town Budget.

Authorize advertisement of a public hearing on continuing the rebates on new residential and commercial water and/or sewer taps – Mr. Spates stated the Finance and Ordinance Committee is recommending Town Council continue the rebate policy on new water and sewer connections within the corporate limits of the Town of Farmville. He spoke of the increase in economic development and attributed a portion of the Town’s growth to the rebates. Members spoke in support of continuing with the rebates.

Request for a conditional use permit on behalf of Mark and Laura French – Mr. Spates stated the Farmville Planning Commission has recommended Council approve the conditional use permit for Mark and Laura French to build nine (9) dwelling units/cottages on a 1.052 acre lot located on the north side of First Street between North Virginia and North Bridge Street, with no conditions. Mr. Spates stated the project would have ample parking.

Request authorization to allow open burning in certain areas of Town with a permit from the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department – Mr. Spates stated he has received several inquiries asking the Town to permit open burning. He stated the proposed ordinance verbiage is similar to that of Chesterfield County and it prohibits open burning within 300 feet of a dwelling. He stated he is recommending Town Council consider allowing opening burning for one year and then evaluate the results. Members briefly spoke of the proposed ordinance.

Town Manager's Annual Performance Evaluation – Mayor Whitus stated this matter would be referred to the Personnel Committee.

Authorize advertisement of a public hearing on the proposed 2017-2018 Town Budget – Mr. Davis, Chairman of the Finance and Ordinance Committee stated the Committee has finalized their recommendations on the 2017-2018 Town budget. Mrs. Seal will prepare the proposed budget and have it to Council members by the end of the week. He stated the Finance and Ordinance Committee would review and discuss the proposed budget with Town Council at the continued work session meeting which will be held on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Manager's Conference Room. Mr. Davis asked members to review the budget this weekend and make a note of any questions they may have.

Miscellaneous items – Mr. Spates provided an update on the following items:

- Heart of Virginia Festival is this weekend and reminded everyone that there will be no fireworks at the airport. The bands will play that evening at Riverside Park, until 10:00 p.m., food vendors will be on site.
- The Jackson Height Water Tank will be off line for three to four weeks for sandblasting and painting. Mr. Spates stated this is routine maintenance and will have no effect on the system.
- Longwood University will be hosting their Mega Reunion, June 2 through June 4 with fireworks on Saturday.
- The traffic study of the intersection of Oak, High and Griffin is complete and ready to be presented to the public. Mr. Spates stated he would work on scheduling a community meeting in the upcoming weeks.
- The public works study and the recreation study are moving forward, as well as the Milnwood Road project and the trail by the hospital.
- The wording for the plaque on the library dedication will be sent to Council members
- Council members will receive a list of streets that are to be paved this upcoming year. Mentioned were Vernon Street, Jackson Avenue, and Long Street. Mr. Hunter questioned if Andrews Drive will be repaved. Mr. Spates stated Andrews Drive is considered part of Vernon Street and will be repaved.

Town Manager and Staff Comments – no comments

Standing Committee reports – no discussion

Comments by Mayor Whitus and member of Town Council – Mayor Whitus congratulated Mr. Spates for the award he received from the Longwood Center of Visual Arts.

CLOSED SESSION – LAND ACQUISITION and LAND DISPOSITION

On motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members 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.

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: Six (6)

MOTION: Davis

SECOND: Hunter

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

NOES: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Reid

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Reid

Clerk

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

David E. Whitus, Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk