

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD AUGUST 2, 2017

Mayor Whitus called to order the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, August 2, 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 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; Communications Specialist, Kate Eggleston; Administrative Assistant, Jackie Vaughan and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mrs. Louise Waller, Executive Director of Capital Planning and the Real Estate Foundation addressed Council. Mrs. Waller provided information on Longwood University's two-year project to completely renovate and remodel the Curry and Frazer buildings inside and outside. The 10 story buildings would be completely rebuilt, with brand-new mechanical systems, interior designs, furnishings and a reconstructed, attractive exterior. Following the renovation, Curry and Frazer will continue to house 400 students, as they do at present. The timeline calls for the renovation of Frazer to take place over the course of the 2018-19 academic year, and renovation of Curry, during the 2019-20 academic year. One building would be closed for renovation at a time, over the course of two academic years. The project will be fully complete in the fall of 2020. The renovation will also replace the existing structure that connects Curry and Frazer to create a more useful space and a strong architectural unity between the two buildings.

Mrs. Waller spoke on Longwood's Master Plan, which calls for changes to Spruce Street and Redford Street. She stated in the Master Plan, Spruce Street is a pedestrian plaza, closed to vehicle traffic, except for emergency vehicles or during student move-in and move-outs. In addition, Mrs. Waller spoke of improvements to Redford Street, describing the area as a grand link to the community. The request will be for Council's consideration for a quitclaim deed on both Spruce Street and Radford Street, similar to previous action taken by Council on Franklin Street. Mr. Spates recommended the matter of Spruce Street and Redford Street be referred to the Infrastructure Committee. Mayor Whitus agreed.

Mr. Reid addressed Mrs. Waller, asking her if the University was still trying to close one lane of Main Street. Mrs. Waller stated that that would not be a university call – it would be a Town decision; adding that it was a recommendation in the university’s Master Plan. She stated that was not what the university was asking for at this time. Mayor Whitus stressed that Council has no interest in making Main Street a one-way street.

Mr. Ken Copeland, Vice President of Administration and Finance addressed Council on behalf of the Longwood Real Estate Foundation. Mr. Copeland thanked the Town and the Farmville Industrial Development Authority for their corporation in this bond transaction and those in the past. He also thanked the Town’s Planning Department and the Building Official’s Department for their professionalism and assistance.

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

Consent agenda – no discussion

Treasurer’s Report – will be added to dropbox

Bills – will be added to dropbox

Continue – request on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Bratcher and Mr. and Mrs. Kiewiet de Jonge for the abandonment of an unopened street right of way – this matter is presently before the Infrastructure Committee.

Request adoption of resolution in support of FIDA’s issuance of Revenue Bonds for the Longwood Real Estate Foundation – Mayor Whitus stated the bonds being issued under this resolution are for the project that was presented to Council this afternoon. Mr. Spates stated the FIDA receives an issuance fee based on a percentage of the bonds. He stated the funds are to be disbursed over a period of time and the fees paid to the Town when drawn down. Mr. Spates also mentioned the Real Estate Foundation donated \$150,000 towards a new fire truck for the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department.

Request to amend the rates on grave openings at Westview Cemetery – the public hearing is scheduled to be held at 6:45 p.m., on August 9.

Request on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Martin to rezone their properties to Residential R-3A, with a density change – Mr. Spates stated this matter would need to be referred to the Farmville Planning Commission. He said the Martins have withdrawn their original request and are now requesting their four lots be rezoned to R-3A and are requesting an amendment to the density in the R-3A zone. Mr. Spates stated this request would not affect a large area, which is

different from the original request. However, Mr. Spates stated he had received a request from Walk2Campus Holdings, LLC to rezone their properties to R-3A.

Request on behalf of Jericho Baptist Church to block off a portion of Hill Street – Mr. Spates stated he recommends granting the request and said similar events have taken place in the past.

Miscellaneous items – Mr. Spates stated he and Mayor Whitus received a letter from Mrs. Kerry Mossler requesting that the Wilck’s Lake Island be used as a public park, open to all, instead of as a rental property. Mrs. Mossler’s letter describes the park as a “gem for our town” with a pavilion, picnic tables, restrooms, spacious play area, swing sets, fishing area and adequate parking, She suggested the park be open from dawn to dusk, like other parks in town, offering the community an opportunity to enjoy the beautiful green space. Mayor Whitus stated he would refer the matter to the Infrastructure Committee for a recommendation to Town Council. Mr. Spates stated the Town has received the preliminary drawings for the new public works facility and hopes to have some plans to present to Council at the August meeting. He also added that the water tank at the Town Shop has been taken down and the company will begin the taking down the Andrews Drive tank tomorrow.

Mr. Reid stated he and Mr. Hunter would be hosting a community meeting for Wards C and D in the Town Council Chamber, at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, September 5, 2017. He invited all Council members to attend.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned,

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

David E. Whitus, Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk