REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON DECEMBER 6, 2017

Mayor Whitus called to order the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, December 6, 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, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, J.J. Davis and G.C. Cole. Council member D.L. Hunter was absent.

Staff present was Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Assistant Town Manager, Scott Davis; Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Whitus announced that Mr. Chris Phillips, Project Manager/Architect with Thompson and Litton, the architectural firm hired by the town to prepare a Master Plan Report for the Public Works Department, will be presenting the draft report.

Mr. Phillips presented a powerpoint presentation on the proposed facility. He spoke at length of the steps taken to determine the needs of the department and the most feasible use of the current site. After reviewing the existing site and the Department’s projected needs, Mr. Phillips stated he is recommending the salt storage building be located off site, at property the town owns on Doswell Street.

In conclusion, Mr. Phillips stated the proposed cost of the new Public Works facility located at its current site is approximately $6,820,000 and the approximate cost of the salt storage building located on Doswell Street is 1,776,000. He added, once he receives final comments on the draft report from the Town Manager, Thompson and Litton’s scope of work will be complete.

Mr. Spates stated with the building of the new facility and dependent upon the amount of space being used by the mechanics working on the buses for the Farmville Area Bus, the Department of Public Transportation has approximately 1.6 million dollars available in grant funds for the project. He said the award of grant funds by the Department of Public Transportation is based on a formula of space allocation needs for the town buses.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE #186

Mayor Whitus announced the public hearing and Mr. Spates read the public hearing notice:
Farmville Town Council will hold a public hearing at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, December 6, 2017 in the Council Chamber, located on the second floor of the Town Hall, 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, to hear citizen comments on the proposed amendment:

ORDINANCE NO. 186

Section 29-147 of Chapter 29, Article III, Division 5, of the Town Code to add two-family dwellings or two (2) housekeeping units as a Use.

Any person(s) wishing to comment on the above matter should plan to attend this hearing. Following the public hearing, the Farmville Town Council may act to adopt Ordinance No.186 adding two family dwellings or two (2) housekeeping units as an allowed use in a Residential District R-3 zone.

Questions and comments may be directed to the Town Manager’s Office, 116 North Main Street, PO Drawer 368, Farmville, VA 23901 or by calling (434)392-5686, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Mr. Tom Dennison addressed Council. Mr. Dennison questioned if the proposed amendment will allow more people to live in a house. He expressed concerns with the additional traffic, trash and parking issues. Mr. Davis (Assistant Town Manager) stated the Residential District R-3 already allows a greater density than a duplex. The Residential District R-3 currently allows multi-family dwellings, with a conditional use permit, which is a higher density than the proposed two-family dwellings or two (2) housekeeping units. Mr. Davis said traditionally, in his experience, as a residential district increases in density, a lesser use density is allowed in those districts. The Residential District R-2 allows for a two-family dwelling or two (2) housekeeping units. Currently, as written, a Residential District R-3 zone allows for single family dwelling or multi-family, with a conditional use permit. Mr. Davis stated that the R-3 zone is already zoned for a high density, essentially allowing a lesser use is permitted.

There were no other comments or questions and Mayor Whitus closed the public hearing.

GUESTS

Mr. Spates stated David Fowlkes, Horticulturist with the town, has announced that he is retiring at the end of December. He said, Mr. Fowlkes has been with the town since September of 2004 and has done a wonderful job. Mr. Fowlkes thanked the Town Manager and then introduced Mr. Jay Wilkerson, who will be filling the position of Horticulturist. Mr. Wilkerson previously
worked for B & M Greenhouse and has worked with Mr. Fowlkes on several town projects. Mayor Whitus congratulated Mr. Fowlkes’ on his retirement and commented on the phenomenal job he has done on the town entry ways; he then welcomed Mr. Wilkerson.

Mr. Spates stated he would like to introduce to Council the employees of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. He stated the plant was built in 1996 at a cost of 6 million dollars. He provided a brief overview of the plant and then introduced the Plant Operators:

Sandy Meador, Plant Superintendent – Sandy has been with the town for 23 years
Chuck Robertson – Chuck has been with the town for 23 years
Steve Bergloff – Steve has been with the town for 22 years
Ken Cook – Ken has been with the town for 22 years
Sandra Stutler – (not present) Sandra has been with the town for 19 years
Kenny Clark – (not present) Kenny has been with the town for 17 years
Kevin Clark – Kevin has been with the town for 6 months

Mr. Meador thanked Council for all they do for the town employees and for their proactive decision making.

Council returned to their regular order of business.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Dwyer and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to approve the consent agenda as presented was approved.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT

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

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PAY THE BILLS

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to authorize the Town Treasurer to pay the bills as presented was approved.
REQUEST ADOPTION OF ORDINANCE 186, AMENDING SECTION 29-147 OF THE TOWN CODE

On motion by Mr. Dwyer, seconded by Mr. Davis and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to adopt ordinance #186 amending Section 29-147 of the Town Code was approved.

ORDINANCE NO. 186

Amend:

Chapter 29, ZONING
Article III, District Regulations

Sec. 29-147, Uses

(2) Two-family dwellings or two (2) housekeeping units.

(23) …
(34) …
(45) …
(56) …
(67) …
(78) …
(89) …
(910) …
(4011) …
(4112) …
(4213) …
(4314) …
(4415) …
(4516) …
(4617) …
(4718) …
(4819) …
(4920) …
(5021) Temporary real estate signs not over six (6) square feet in area no part of which shall be nearer than five (5) feet to any property line and used only to advertise the premises upon which erected.

BACKGROUND: Assistant Town Manager, Mr. Davis stated that the Farmville Planning Commission adopted a resolution recommending Town Council amend Section 29-147, to allow two-family dwellings or two housekeeping units in a Residential District R-3 zone.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO MOVE CONTINGENCY FUNDS

On motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Davis and with all Council members voting
“aye,” the motion to authorize the Town Treasurer to move $35,000 from the Water Fund Contingency to the Maintenance-Water Tank Fund and $35,915.04 from the Sewer Fund Contingency to the Noblin Pump Station Upgrade was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** The Town Treasurer stated funds were not allocated for the removal of two out of service water tanks and additional funds are needed to cover the expenses of the Noblin Drive Pump Station. Council questioned the Noblin Pump Station Upgrade expenditure. The projected cost was $125,000 and to date the expenditures are approximately $160,000, a 30% variance. The Town Manager stated he would examine the invoices charged against the project and report back to Council.

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT FROM THE NARCOTIC’S FUND TO THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE BENCHMARK BANK CREDIT CARD**

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Davis and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to approve payment of $279.00 from the Narcotic’s Funds to the Town of Farmville Benchmark Bank Credit Card was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** The Town Treasurer stated the funds were used to purchase a covert camera in a water bottle.

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE A USED BUCKET TRUCK**

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to authorize the purchase of a 2007 Chevrolet C-4500 Bucket Truck – VIN #1GBE4C1287F407572 with 117552 miles was approved.

**BACKGROUND:** Mr. Spates stated the town’s current bucket truck was purchased used in October of 2000 for $13,600 and had 137,000 miles. It currently has 223,060 miles and has been experiencing some transmission problems. There are funds available in the current budget for vehicle/equipment and some contract traffic light work the town did will also offset any expenses for proposed new used bucket truck. Mr. Spates stated the truck will be painted and town logos will be placed on the truck.
COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance and Ordinance, Chairman Davis – no report;

Public Safety, Chairman Hunter – absent, no report

Personnel, Chairman Reid – no report

Infrastructure, Chairman Pairet – Mr. Pairet stated the committee met to discuss the lack of parking spaces for the Third Street Brewery. It was noted that Brewery patrons are using parking spaces designated for the train station. With the upcoming holiday season, the train station is usually booked and parking is always an issue. Mr. Pairet stated the committee discussed renting spaces to the Brewery and marking the spaces with signage designating them as Brewery Parking Only. Members discussed parking lot improvements, metering the parking spaces in the lot and renting spaces to Third Street Brewery. Members agreed that before moving forward, Third Street Brewery must determine how many parking spaces they are interested in renting. Mr. Spates stated he will contact the owners and report back to Council, after the holidays.

SIDEWALK ADVERTISING/PROMOTIONAL STENCILS

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid and with all Council members voting “aye,” the motion to accept the recommendation by the Infrastructure Committee to disallow the placement of sidewalk stencils on town sidewalks was approved.

BACKGROUND: At the December Council meeting, Council referred the issue of allowing the placement of advertising stenciling on town sidewalks/town property to the Infrastructure Committee. Mr. Pairet, Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee, reported that the committee met and agreed to recommend Council deny all requests for advertising/promotional stenciling on sidewalks/town property. Mr. Pairet stated the committee felt it would be simpler and avoid conflicts.

Town Property/Building, Chairman Thompson – no report

Parks/Recreation, Chairman Cole – no report

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS AND COMMENTS FROM THE TOWN MANAGER AND STAFF
Mr. Spates reported on the following matters:

Walgreens is taking over Rite Aid and will be selling alcohol;

Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 p.m. is the dedication for Barbara Johns, the ceremony will take place inside the library and ARA will be catering the event.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Reid stated Sprague’s Barber Shop, located at the corner of Redford Street and Griffin Boulevard, has had issues with parking spaces for their customers since the daycare has opened. He stated he has been asked to request that 4 or 5 parking spaces be designated “Customer Reserved Parking” on the side street of Redford Street. The Town Manager was directed to address the request.

Mrs. Thompson announced she is resigning her position as Ward B representative for Farmville, effective December 31, 2017. She spoke fondly of her 10 years of serve to the Farmville community and announced that she and her husband, William, will be moving to North Carolina.

Mayor Whitus stated it has been a pleasure serving with Mrs. Thompson and read the resolution:

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER SALLY THOMPSON**

**WHEREAS,** Sally Thompson has faithfully served as Town Council Member for the Town of Farmville for ten years; and

**WHEREAS,** during this period she also served as official Mother of Town Council; and

**WHEREAS,** as Mother, she diligently reminded those on Council with less etiquette to “dress up” and “put on a tie;” and

**WHEREAS,** she also reminded those with less control of themselves to “maybe share that piece of pie, instead of eating the whole thing;” and

**WHEREAS,** it was with great dedication and faithfulness that she tried to secure the purchase of a very special “Zipper” for the Town and was subsequently unsuccessful in doing so, but we admire her hard work and dedication; and
WHEREAS, Ms. Thompson has been a faithful advocate for the citizens of the Town of Farmville, representing them with pride and professionalism as Town Council Member;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Farmville Town Council expresses its deepest gratitude to Mrs. Thompson for both her professional and maternal service to the Council and its employees, as well as the citizens of the Town of Farmville.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be placed in the Minute Book of the Town of Farmville.

Adopted this 6th day of December 2017

ACCEPTANCE OF RESIGNATION

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Dwyer and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Thompson, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting “aye,” the motion to accept the resignation of Mrs. Sally B. Thompson, Ward B representative on Farmville Town Council, effective December 31, 2017 was approved.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:  ATTEST:

_____________________________________________  _______________________________________
David E. Whitus, Mayor  Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk