

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON AUGUST 14, 2019

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, August 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there present were Mayor David E. Whitus, presiding, and Council members D.E. Dwyer, D.L. Hunter, B. R. Vincent, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, and G.C. Cole.

Staff present were Town Manager, Gerry Spates; Assistant Town Manager, C. Scott Davis, Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal; Assistant Chief of Police, William Hogan; Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins; Clerk of Council, Lisa Hricko and Administrative Assistant, Jackie Vaughan.

Mayor Whitus announced that Police Captain, Bill Hogan, who also serves as Elder of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Council member A.D. Reid.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mayor Whitus announced the public comment period.

Mr. Jim Fauci, a Farmville resident, addressed the Town Council. Mr. Fauci extended his thanks to Farmville Town Council for their financial assistance and support of the Piedmont Area Veterans Council. Moreover, he commended Ms. Sarah Maddox for the aid she provides to residents of the town and adjacent counties in her efforts to assist veterans in applying for benefits that they may be unaware of. Mr. Fauci suggested that the Town Council may want to recognize Ms. Maddox for outstanding service to this community.

Mr. Christopher Page, an owner of Blacklight Entertainment from Blackstone, Virginia, addressed Council regarding Farmville's noise ordinance. He spoke of his concerns with *Sec. 16.3 Operation of musical devices in certain locations*. He stated not allowing "musical devices" to be played between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. of the following day, play any musical device within two hundred (200) yards of any building of another occupied as a living quarter. Page stated the noise ordinance is vague, as written and does not help promote local businesses. Also, he mentioned that several businesses in town provide areas for outside entertainment and that all businesses should be treated equally. Mr. Page stated that the establishment he was providing DJ services to reported an increase in sales of 40 percent from this time last year, and when the music was shut down, the growth dropped to 12 percent which in turn affects the Town's revenue of food

tax, sales tax, etc. He offered to assist the town in rewriting the noise ordinance. The Town Manager informed the Council that the Town Attorney will be reviewing the ordinance and reporting back to the Finance and Ordinance Committee.

Ms. Jen Cox, Director of Local & Community Relations of Longwood University, provided Town Council with an update on events taking place on campus. Members were provided a list of the free community events taking place at the Longwood Visual Arts, along with a packet of information on essential dates for the Fall semester. Lastly, Ms. Cox shared with the Council the move in traffic schedule and flow map; adding that she anticipates having student enrollment numbers by the September Council meeting.

There were no other public speakers, and Mayor Whitus returned the Council to the regular order of business.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

On the motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Vincent and with all Council members voting “aye,” the consent agenda was approved.

The consent agenda included the draft minutes of the special called Town Council meeting of July 9, 2019, and the regular Town Council meeting of July 10, 2019.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE TREASURER’S REPORT

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

Ms. Seal provided a verbal report on various accounts.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO PAY THE BILLS

On the motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Vincent and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Vincent, Pairet, Reid, Davis, and Cole voting “aye,” the Council authorized the Town Treasurer to pay the bills was approved.

Bills Printed in Minute Book

UPDATE ON REQUEST FOR BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

Mr. Spates reported that Mr. Jim Wilck, Chairman, of the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors informed him that Prince Edward County is interested in scheduling a meeting with Town Council to discuss the request for a boundary adjustment. Also, he stated that he had been in contact with the new Cumberland County Administrator and will be scheduling a meeting with him to discuss the possibility of a boundary adjustment with Cumberland County.

UPDATE ON PROBATION AND PAROLE EXPANSION

Mr. Davis, Assistant Town Manager, stated that the Commonwealth had contacted him expressing their interest in purchasing the current Probation and Parole Building and a portion of land. Mayor Whitus referred this matter to the Town Property/Building Committee for further discussion.

UPDATE ON WRITE-OFF OF 2013 DELINQUENT UTILITY ACCOUNTS

This matter was continued.

Mr. Davis, Chairman of the Finance and Ordinance Committee, stated staff had been directed to gather additional information, and he anticipates the Committee presenting their recommendation to Town Council at the September 11, 2019, Council meeting.

REQUEST ON BEHALF OF THE PIEDMONT AREA VETERANS COUNCIL

This matter was continued.

Mr. Vincent, Chairman of the Recreation Committee, reported that the Committee agreed with the Piedmont Area Veterans Council request to construct a Splash Park and supported the location of the Park as outlined in the draft Recreation Master Plan. Mr. Vincent described the location as being by the Lions Club playground. He said the Committee had additional questions for the Piedmont Area Veterans Council regarding the Veterans Memorial Park, such as location, design and construction materials.

REZONING REQUEST ON BEHALF OF DAVID AND SUNAE PLETCHER

On the motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Vincent, Pairet, Reid, Davis, and Cole voting “aye,” the Council agreed to accept the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and approved the request on behalf of David and Sunae Pletcher to rezone a portion of their property located at 14406 South Main Street from Residential District R-1 to Business District B-4.

BACKGROUND

In February 2019, the Pletcher’s presented a rezoning request to the Farmville Planning Commission which was denied due to public comments and zoning practices. On June 26, 2019, the Pletcher’s submitted an amended rezoning request. By moving property lines, their Spottswood Drive property remains residential and a buildable lot. By rezoning .299 acres from Business District B-4 to Residential District R-1, the property meets the anticipated uses of their building to

be developed for personal services and retail. Mr. Davis, Assistant Town Manager, stated some residents, at a Planning Commission Public hearing, spoke against the rezoning request.

REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF THE HELTON HOUSE, INC.

On the motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Reid and with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Vincent, Pairet, Reid, Davis, and Cole voting “aye,” the Council accepted the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and approved the request for a conditional use permit on behalf of the Helton House, Inc. to operate a day support program at 1713 West Third Street.

BACKGROUND

The property located at 1713 West Third Street, is zoned Business District B-3. Business District B-3 does not define or reference adult day support as a type of use. The project is similar to child day schools, nursing homes, and domestic violence shelter, which all require conditional use permits.

REQUEST TO HIRE A PART-TIME GOLF COURSE ATTENDANT

On the motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Pairet, Vincent, Reid, Davis, and Cole voting “aye,” Council authorized the advertisement and the hiring of a part-time employee at the Farmville Municipal Golf Course, at an hourly rate of \$10.83.

BACKGROUND Mr. Spates informed the Council that a part-time employee at the golf course recently submitted his resignation. His hourly rate was \$11.38.

REQUEST ON BEHALF OF THE FARMVILLE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR AN ARTIFICIAL SKATING PARK AT RIVERSIDE PARK

This request was approved at the August work session. The Council had questioned insurance coverage for the event. Mr. Spates reported that the vendor and the Chamber will both have insurance coverage for the event, plus the Chamber has taken out an additional one-day event policy.

INFORMATION – BIKE VIRGINIA

The Town Manager provided a report on the Bike Virginia Tour 2020, which will be held June 19-24, 2020 in the Farmville region. The event features 1,600 cyclists of all skills and abilities for six (6) days of touring the beautiful Virginia countryside and visiting many places of interest.

The tour will begin on Friday, June 19, 2020, in Farmville with the first three (3) days being hosted at Wilck's Lake Park. The second half of the tour, starting Monday, June 22, 2020, is hosted by Twin Lakes State Park and will conclude at 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

Mayor Whitus acknowledged Town employee, Brian Vandegrift for the role he played in the Farmville region being selected to host the 2020 Virginia Bike event.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FROM THE NARCOTIC'S FUND TO WITMER PUBLIC SAFETY GROUP, INC.

On the motion by Mr. Davis, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Vincent, Pairet, Reid, Davis, and Cole voting "aye," the motion to authorize payment of \$78.00 from the Narcotic's Fund to Witmer Public Safety, Inc., was approved.

ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXERCISE BY THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE, VIRGINIA,

On a motion by Mr. Cole, seconded by Mr. Dwyer and with a recorded vote with Council members Dwyer, Hunter, Vincent, Pairet, Reid, Davis and Cole voting "aye," the Council approved the recommendation of the Farmville Industrial Development Authority - adopting the resolution authorizing the exercise by the Industrial Development Authority of the Town of Farmville, Virginia, in conjunction with the issuance for Longwood University Real Estate Foundation or one or more wholly-owned affiliated entities of not to exceed \$50,000,000 of its educational facilities revenue and refunding bonds (Longwood University Projects), series 2019.

BACKGROUND Mayor Whitus noted, this action by the Council brings no financial liability on behalf of the Town.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Prince Edward County Rescue Squad update, Mr. Cole - Council's representative Mr. Cole reported that things were going well and the squad should be ready to advertise the new position at the end of the week. He added adjustments have been made on wages which have increased interest in joining the Squad. Mr. Spates provided an update on the Town's Mechanic Shop performing general maintenance on the Squad vehicles. He too said, that things were going exceptionally well and the squad members were pleased with the quick turn around of the vehicles. Mayor Whitus commended the Town mechanics for their expertise.

Finance and Ordinance Committee, Mr. Davis, Chairman Mr. Davis stated no report.

Personnel Committee, Mr. Reid, Chairman Mr. Reid stated no report.

Infrastructure Committee, Mr. Pairet, Chairman Mr. Pairet asked if the VDOT GIS System would be used to mark the area for the roundabout or would there be onsite flags. Mr. Spates stated he anticipates an on-site survey, due to the relocation of utilities. He reported, VDOT hopes to have the project ready to submit for Smart Scale Funding in the November cycle and that funding could take up to four of five years. Mr. Spates stated, VDOT would obtain all needed right of ways and meet with all adjacent property owners. He touched briefly on the Milnwood and Main project and said construction should begin the first week of September.

Recreation Committee, Mr. Vincent, Chairman Mr. Vincent reported that the Recreation Committee had recently met twice to discuss the Piedmont Area Veterans Council projects of a Splash Park and the Veterans Memorial Park. He expressed excitement about both projects and that the Committee working on details.

Public Safety, Mr. Hunter, Chairman Mr. Hunter, no report.

TOWN MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS

The Town Manager reported on the following activities:

- The Milnwood and Main VDOT project should begin construction the first week of September.
- The Town Attorney is still working on obtaining Title Insurance on the Ed's Cleaners property. He also has petitioned the Courts to tear down the Town Motel. Town workforces will begin that process once approval has been received.
- Lions Club playground dedication will take place this Saturday with festivities beginning at 10:30 a.m. Mr. Spates gave special thanks to Robin Atkins and his staff for all their hard work in preparing for the event.

The Assistant Town Manager provided an update on the following project:

- The Farmville Planning Commission will be holding a public hearing on the three conditional use permits.
- The Berkley Group will be presenting the goals of the comprehensive plan to members of the Planning Commission at the end of the month.
- Mr. Davis spoke briefly on the Town's new financial system and its added security features.

- On September 9th and 10th, Paypoint HR representatives will be meeting with town employees to speak with them regarding the process of the Compensation/Classification Plan study. Council members were invited to attend a separate meeting.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR WHITUS AND MEMBERS OF TOWN COUNCIL

Mr. Davis complimented Mr. Atkins, Director of Public Works, and his staff for the work they completed on Third Street.

Mr. Vincent stated he was excited that the Farmville region was selected for the Bike VA 2020 event and that the Farmville area has much to offer.

CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL

On a motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye,” Council went into closed session for discussion with the Town Manager, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(a)(1) of the Code of Virginia.

Mayor Whitus called for a five (5) minute recess.

CLOSED MEETING CERTIFICATION

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

MOTION: Davis

SECOND: Hunter

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

NOES: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: None

ABSENT DURING MEETING: None

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

David E. Whitus, Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk