

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 14, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA

Present: Mayor Greg Eanes, Council Members Aaron Reed, Steve Sisk, Bill Faas, Anne Stinson, Robbie Knight, Billy Abel & Phil Miskovic

Absent: Council Member Steve Sisk

Also Present: Town Manager W. Wade Walker & Town Attorney Tessie Bacon

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Eanes with Pastor James Bradley leading in prayer followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Eanes opened the floor to Mr. Whip Wilson chairman of the Planning Commission for the Town of Crewe. Mr. Wilson reported to Council the Planning Commission has recommended re-zoning the 600 block of E Virginia Ave. as described in the public hearing from July 2017, from R-2 to C-1.

Council Member Miskovic gave a visual presentation on the prototype store that is proposed for Crewe. He visited the Family Dollar in Roanoke Rapids for the information and pictures. Discussion followed.

Council Member Reed asked if the concerns about the barrier on the back side will be addressed. Jack Boswell commented that the company would have to submit for a zoning permit from the Town before any work could begin and with that the Town could deny the application until the issue with the barrier is satisfied.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Faas, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the re-zoning of the specific section of the 600 block of East Virginia Ave. from R-2 to C-1. Motion passed.

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

Susan Christian, with the Washbucket Initiative reported her group was ready to move forward with the roof repairs on the gazebo over in Crewe Municipal Park.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Miskovic, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to allow to Washbucket Initiative to move forward with the repairs on the roof at the gazebo in Crewe Municipal Park. Motion passed.

Ms. Christian reported the group had begun to power wash the main street sidewalks, starting across from Town Hall. She further stated the purpose of the Washbucket Initiative is to give old towns a facelift to look good, crisp and sharp from the inside out and to have the citizens our community be proud of where they live.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Council Member Reed; seconded by Council Member Abel, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with the bill sheet and additions totaling \$187,717.23. Motion passed.

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MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Walker stated he had reported last month that painting of the Tennessee Ave. tank would begin soon. We ran into an issue where we did not have telemetry on the Railroad Tank and have to had to have that installed before we begin painting the tank. Telemetry gives us the ability to monitor the tank levels via cell phone signal and is necessary for the plant to operate efficiently. The telemetry was installed a couple of weeks ago and the Contractor, Southern Corrosion, is in the process of scheduling the work. Should begin in the next few weeks. During this process, it is worth noting that some customers may experience a drop in pressure but it should not be enough to cause any problems. The plant will have to monitor closely the Railroad Tank levels and be particularly on alert should the town experience a major fire.

Town forces began the process of cleaning the lagoons at the water plant this past week. Plans are to clean both lagoons, then begin alternating them every few years. You will recall, the town purchased a tractor and tank to do this process which is saving the town considerably. In the past, this was contracted out. Cleaning the lagoons ourselves has more than paid for the tractor and tank and will continue to be a huge cost savings to the town.

A meeting was held with the Dept. of Aviation and our surveyor, Bob Timberlake this past Wednesday to discuss what is needed from the surveyor to identify obstructions off our runway 15. Obstructions will be removed so that we are in compliance with our airport license.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported the Town is ready to move forward with the old theater building as all dates and requirements have been met.

She reported she has also been working on the source water protection and found a program on the Virginia Department of Health's website that provides steps the Town can take to protect its drinking water. Discussion followed.

Mayor Eanes suggested at the Town Attorney's recommendation that the Town Manager contact the County for their support and involvement with the issue of protecting the Towns drinking water.

Attorney Bacon closed stating she had the ordinance for the street abandonment and Town Clerk, Tiffany Sisk would need to sign off on the ordinance as enacted and have it recorded at the Courthouse.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Eanes mentioned several key items on his agenda to include the Nottoway Celebrates Family event to be held by Kingdom Community Church on August 26, 2017 starting at 12 noon. He noted the event is free and open to the public.

Mayor Eanes presented 3 resolutions to include the National Night Out Resolution of Thanks, Class of 1977 40th Reunion Resolution of Recognition, and State Parks General Assembly Agenda Resolution of Support.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd.

Mayor Eanes brought to council a traffic safety issue on Indian Oak Road that has been brought to his attention by a resident. Mayor Eanes suggested engaging the County and VDOT for their support and help with solving the issue.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve all 3 resolutions as presented. Motion passed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure: Chairperson absent - No report

Finance: No Report

Personnel: Council Member Stinson thanked the Police Department and the sponsors and volunteers for the National Night Out.

Volunteer Services: No Report

Economic: Council Member Miskovic stated his report would be brought up in Continuing and New Business.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

- a. Family Dollar – completed
- b. Sign Ordinances – Council Member Miskovic presented Council with a draft sign ordinance for review. Discussion followed.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Reed, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to advertise for a public hearing for the sign ordinance after final review from Council and Town Attorney. Motion passed.

- c. Water Rates – Council Member Miskovic provided Council with several documents that had various proposals for the Town's water rate structure. Discussion followed. Manager Walker suggested and Council agreed to have Hurt & Proffitt review the information from Council Member Miskovic and provide their feedback.
- d. Proposed Animal Ordinances
 - i. Animal Sanitation (Waste Pickup) Mayor Eanes stated he would begin working with Attorney Bacon on this issue.
 - ii. Kennels in Town – Mayor Eanes would like Council to consider outlawing kennels in Town.
 - iii. Pet Restrictions (Cats and Dogs) – Mayor Eanes suggested Council this with consideration to the recent issues with feral cats
 - iv. Clarification on Noise Ordinance – Mayor Eanes suggested making it more specific.

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Continued from Proposed Animal Ordinances

- v. Chickens in Town – Council Member Stinson stated she had provided Council with an ordinance originally provided Council Member Miskovic. Council Member Miskovic asked for preliminary thoughts from Council. Council Members Reed and Faas were fine with it, so long as it does not allow roosters. Council Members Stinson and Knight had concerns with enforcement. Council Member Abel had no problems so long as they had an enclosure. Council Member Miskovic had no issue so long as the ordinance addressed enclosures.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Faas, Council voted to advertise for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance to allow chickens in town. Mayor Eanes ordered a roll call:

Council Member Reed – Yes

Council Member Faas – Yes

Council Member Stinson – No

Council Member Knight – Yes

Council Member Abel – Yes

Council Member Miskovic – Yes

Vote 5 – 1, Motion passed.

Council Member Stinson spoke about the animal waste issue at the Post Office. Discussion followed.

Mayor Eanes stated once the ordinance on animal waste is updated and conformed to Crewe it can be effectively enforced.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Annexation – Council Member Miskovic presented Council with a proposal to annex the remaining Rich Inn property into Town. Discussion followed. Attorney Bacon recommended once the Town has determined what the boundaries look like we should contact a surveyor to draw out a plat for us and then contact the County.

Motion by Council Member Stinson; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to authorize the Town Manager to engage a surveyor for the proposed annexation. Motion passed.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to authorize the Town Manager and Mayor to engage the County to ascertain their input on the annexation. Motion passed.

- b. Recreation Rezoning – Council Member Miskovic presented Council with a proposal to list certain properties in Town as Recreational Zones. Miskovic requested Council's views on the issue and requested to revisit at the September 2017 meeting. Council agreed.

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POINTS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Council Member Abel requested VDOT come back and fix the issues with the drop boxes. Mayor Eanes stated he and Manager Walker are meeting with VDOT in September and they will address his concern.

Council Member Stinson stated VDOT has recently been taking down trees and leaving “large” stumps to be removed at the owner’s expense. Stinson suggested we address this concern with VDOT as well. Mayor Eanes stated he and Manager Walker meet monthly with VDOT and will address the issue at their next meeting.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Susan Christian, commented that a lot falls back on the Town Manager stating if we are having issues enforcing current ordinances how can we continue to put more ordinances on the Manager to enforce. Mayor Eanes stated the enforcement aspect would become easier once the ordinances are written more effectively. Discussion followed.

Mr. Fred Crowley, resident, thanked Council for revisiting the chickens in town. He also expressed the issue with the animal waste has a lot to do with animal owner’s not taking responsibility for their pets and allowing them to relieve themselves anywhere. Mr. Crowley also pointed out to Council he hoped they would take the possibility of Family Dollar coming to Crewe seriously as he believes the Town is a food desert. He commented we need nutritional foods not just shelf stable foods.

Jess Faas, resident, also expressed her views on the Town being classified as a food desert stating we don’t have a full service grocer.

Mayor Eanes requested Mr. Crowley & Ms. Faas provide Town Clerk Tiffany Sisk with their contact information as he may call on them to set up a food desert task force.

Mayor Eanes asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Abel, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to enter into Executive Session consistent with VA State Code 2.2-3711, paragraphs 1, 2, 3 & 5.

Motion made by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Abel to exit the Executive Session and return to Open Session. Motion passed.

Open Session

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Abel to certify the Executive Session. Mayor Eanes ordered a roll call:

Council Member Reed – Yes

Council Member Faas – Yes

Council Member Stinson – Yes

Council Member Knight – Yes

Council Member Miskovic – Yes

Vote 6 -0. Motion Passed.

Council Member Miskovic updated his figures on the water rates stating it should have \$910 monthly not annually.

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Adjournment

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Reed, Council voted unanimously by voice to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

Greg Eanes Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager