

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA

Present: Mayor Greg Eanes, Council Members Aaron Reed, Steve Sisk, E.B. Fisher, Anne Stinson, Robbie Knight, Billy Abel & Phil Miskovic

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Eanes.

Mr. Scott Logue led in the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENTS

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

Bill Faas, on behalf of the Crewe-Burkeville Chamber and Events Committee for the Chicken Festival thanked the Town, Town workers and Crewe Police Department for their hard work and help with the event.

Elijah Warner, Brendon Dumond, William Drew, Demaris Anderson, & Coley Williams of the Nottoway Babe Ruth 13-15 year old All Star team, addressed Council informing them they were the Undefeated District 2 Champions and they were there to seek financial support from the Town of Crewe in sending their team to Newport News for the State Tournament.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Miskovic, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with bill sheet and additions totaling \$189,421.33. Motion passed.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Wade Walker reported there was a recent water break on our main 12" line feeding the town from our water plant. The line is over 100 years old and in relatively good condition considering the age. Walker advised Council of the problems associated with a break on this line and the impact it can have on the town and our water customers. Part of the problem is the lines proximity to the railroad tracks and the inability to access or work on breaks due to railroad traffic. Walker suggested Council allow him to begin the process of the feasibility of installing a new line and relocating it away from the railroad tracks.

Manager Walker stated another area of concern is the Tennessee Avenue water tank. He stated the tank is showing signs of wear and needs to be evaluated for rehabilitation or possible replacement. Engineers last inspected the tank over 10 years ago and at the time, it was in good condition. He stated we needed to have it inspected and evaluated, with plans to perform the work before we have an issue similar to the Piedmont tank.

Walker informed Council that fire hydrants would be flushed to clear the water system next Thursday, July 21st in the evening. The reason for the evening flush is to provide as little disruption in service as possible. This will be advertised and a Code Red alert message will be made prior to the event.

Mr. Walker presented a new part of his report whereby he would be reminding everyone of certain ordinances within the town. He began with instructions on limbs and debris and the collection of grass clippings from town residences.

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TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported she has been working on follow-up action in response to the June 13, 2016 Public Hearing regarding the condemnation process of the Lipscomb/Stratton Project. She reported Ms. Logan Morgan has taken the concerns expressed during the public hearing to Project Engineer Dave Warriner. She further explained Mr. Warriner has come up with different drafts to address those concerns.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure:

Council Member Sisk asked for one additional month to gather the remaining information on the kiosk.

Finance:

No Report

Personnel:

No Report

Volunteer Services:

No Report

Economic Development:

Council Member Miskovic reported the Economic Development Committee will meet August 3, 2016 at 12 noon at Dine N Crewe. He also discussed the possibility of notifying owners of derelict and/or vacant properties to encourage their participation in revitalizing the Town's business district. Discussion followed.

Miskovic also asked Council Members and Mayor to review their bios on the Town's website and update them as needed.

Miskovic also reported the Blackstone Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a History Forum on Wednesday, July 27, 2016 at 7 p.m. at the Crewe Community Center. Miskovic also asked Council and the Mayor to review and update their bios on the Town's website.

Miskovic closed his report updating Council on the Tourism Initiative Grant that has been submitted and awaiting response.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Eanes opened his report stating he had provided each member of Council a copy of the police schedule so they would be aware of who was on duty at all times.

Mayor Eanes informed Council the Lottery for Localities is a program that can provide funding to the Town revenue by receiving a 5% kickback from the sales of lottery within the Town of Crewe. Mayor Eanes asked for a motion from Council to support the Lottery for Localities proposal and by endorsement will ask VML to place the issue on its Legislative Agenda.

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Mayor's Report Cont'd:

Motion by Council Member Reed; seconded by Council Member Sisk, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to support the Lottery for Localities proposal and ask VML to place the issue on their Legislative Agenda. Motion passed.

Mayor Eanes discussed the request from Mr. Whip Wilson, former Town of Crewe Mayor and Head baseball coach at Nottoway High School for the Town's help with some maintenance requests to include straightening the soccer field fence, removal of timber, stumps and grading and dugout rehabilitation. Discussion followed. Council agreed to review the information further and discuss it at next month's meeting.

Mayor Eanes discussed the Crewe Municipal Airport maintenance, fees and the economic development potential. He disclosed the cost out-way the revenue which led him to ask Council Member Sisk, Chair of the Infrastructure Committee to examine the rate structure on hangars and fuel to determine if we need a rate increase and if so, how much. He urged Mr. Sisk to reach out to other airports for their charges. Mayor Eanes then asked Council Member Miskovic, Chair of the Economic Development Committee to ascertain the feasibility of having a 22 million gallon reservoir on the land to the left of the runway that would be stocked with fish and used for outdoor recreation, thus generating revenue. He envisioned the long-term benefits to be if the Town should ever run short on its current water supply the reservoir could be of great use.

Mayor Eanes appointed the Personnel Committee to head the Chief of Police Search. He further stated the outgoing 2014-2016 committees did a stellar job of setting a foundation for moving forward with the search. Mayor Eanes reminded Council any member can attend and offer input, he also stated the meetings are open to the general public as well.

Mayor Eanes briefly addressed the new committee assignments for the 2016-2018 Council Members stating he chose their seats based on past experience relevant to current positions.

Mayor Eanes addressed the excess of overtime in certain areas. He recommended a process be imposed to document all overtime. Discussion followed. It was determined all overtime would be approved by Manager Walker.

Mayor Eanes assigned the Administrative Restructure process to the personnel committee for policy.

Mayor Eanes discussed the desire of prior Councils to issue an Annual Report that would detail accomplishments and works performed on behalf of town citizens. Mayor Eanes imposed an administrative action of establishing a Work Order Log to provide a systematic and disciplined administrative approach to document council tasking and citizen complaints. The said log shall be in an electronic format. Additionally, at the end of the Fiscal Year the Work Order Log shall serve as a foundation document for Council's Annual Report.

Mayor Eanes asked Council Member Miskovic to talk about the fact finding trip to the Center of the Universe Brewing Company in Ashland, VA. Miskovic stated the purpose of the trip was to gather information about the micro-brewing process with hopes of finding an entity to come to Crewe and open a micro-brewery. Miskovic stated micro-brewing is a thriving/growing industry in Virginia and the Town should tap into it and find someone to create our "Crewe Brew". Miskovic also pointed out that an average of 10,000 cars travel along 460 every day.

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NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Miskovic reminded Council they needed to appoint a Vice Mayor so he nominated Council Member Stinson.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to name Council Member Stinson as Vice Mayor for the Town of Crewe. Motion passed.

Council Member Miskovic asked Manager Walker if any action was needed for the purpose of hiring a part-time employee in the office. Manager Walker stated he has been studying the need and duties of the position.

Council Member Miskovic stated he had been informed there was a cemetery in the middle of the industrial park and he understood it to belong to the Robertson Family. He asked if the Town could possibly clean up the area. Manager Walker said that could be done.

Council Member Miskovic asked if there was someone updating a registry of the cemetery. Mr. Ray Yeatts said that he is voluntarily keeping up with the information and bringing it to the Town Office. Mrs. Susan Yeatts, wife of Ray Yeatts, asked if the Town could also inform Mr. Yeatts when someone is buried in the cemetery so the records will match.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Vice Mayor Stinson reported it is time to review and perform a status update of the Comprehensive Plan and she would like to schedule with Mayor Eanes and Manager Walker a meeting to discuss the plan. Mayor Eanes set up a meeting for 3 p.m. on Tuesday July 12, 2016 in the Manager's Office.

Vice Mayor Stinson asked if any action had been taken on finding someone to maintain the website. Manager Walker stated the quote had been received and no further action had been taken. Council Member Miskovic stated he would draft an RFP for the review of the personnel committee.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Town Clerk, Tiffany Sisk on behalf of Mr. Scott Logue announced there would be a special community event held on July 16, 2016 from 4 - 6 p.m. on the Crewe Library Lawn called "Unity in Community". This event is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by local citizens to show appreciation for our local people. There will be food, games and a few special events.

Resident Bob Horn, commended Town employees for getting the limbs and debris up. He also informed Council the Nottoway School Board is reviewing the request for Golubic Stadium. Mr. Horn expressed concern over the Lottery for Localities asking if the localities took a portion of the funding how would that affect the amount the schools are given? Mayor Eanes stated the funding the schools receive would NOT be impacted by the requested 5% the localities may request from the prize pool.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Reed, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to enter into executive session consistent with Virginia State Code 2.2-3711, paragraphs 1 personnel and paragraphs 3 and 5, property and prospective business. Motion passed.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Reed to leave executive session and return to Regular Open Session. Motion passed.

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REGULAR SESSION

Council Member Miskovic presented a point of order that the executive session needed a roll call vote to certify.

Miskovic – Yes

Abel – Yes

Knight – Yes

Stinson – Yes

Fisher – Yes

Sisk – Yes

Reed – Yes

Motion carried 7-0

Mayor Eanes then asked for a motion to authorize negotiation on the undisclosed business property discussed in the Executive Session.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Reed, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to authorize negotiation on the undisclosed business property discussed in Executive Session.

Council Member Knight emphasized that anything discussed in the closed session should not leave the room. It was agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Eanes then asked for a motion to accept VFW property being offered to the Town to be used for a future children's park.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Miskovic, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to accept the VFW property being offered to the Town to be used for a future children's park..

Motion carried.

Mayor Eanes then asked for a motion to accept Chief Art Booth's resignation dated June 27, 2016.

Motion by Council Member Reed; seconded by Council Member Abel to accept Chief Art Booth's resignation dated June 27, 2016. Roll call vote:

Miskovic – No

Abel – Yes

Knight – Yes

Stinson – No

Fisher – No

Sisk – Yes

Reed – Yes

Motion carried 4-3.

Town Attorney asked that the motion be accepted subject to review of the Personnel Policy. Mayor Eanes further clarified that the resignation would be accepted subject to review of the policy and be consistent with any requirements of the law.

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