

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 10, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

Present: Mayor Simmons, Council Members Shirley Daulton, Steve Sisk Jr., E.B. Fisher, Anne Stinson,
& Phil Miskovic

Absent: Council Members Robbie Knight & John Spencer

Also Present: Town Manager Walker & Town Attorney Tessie Bacon

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Simmons with Council Member Daulton leading in the Lord's Prayer and Council Member Fisher leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Simmons thanked the citizens for coming out and showing their support of their local government. Mayor Simmons opened the floor to Mr. John Hricko, Town of Crewe Water and Waste Water Plant Operator, upon Council's request to hear from each department head. Mr. Hricko showed Council a PowerPoint presentation that covered the most recent water break and boil water notice issued by the Town stating it was a difficult decision to make, but the safety of the citizens and its visitors is his primary concern. He discussed the possible dangers of backflow in instances with breaks like this and the preventative measures to be taken. Mr. Hricko also discussed the new policies and procedures he has begun implementing at both facilities over the last 2 years for the treating of the water and waste water facilities thereby creating a significant increase in chemical cost for both plants.

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

There were no delegations or citizens comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with additions totaling \$156,457.24.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Walker reminded Council that previously, our sewer project was bid out in two divisions; one being pump station improvements and the other being line work. The pump station work bid came in under projected costs but the lining work was considerably higher than estimated. As a result, we decided to re-bid the line work, splitting it into two separate divisions dealing with line replacement, point repairs, and lining. It was felt that by splitting up the division, we would receive more competitive bidding. On February 4th, bids were opened for the re-bid. We received 5 bids on Division 1A, which was for line replacement and point repairs with Lytle Utilities having the low bid of \$257,475. Our engineers (Hurt & Profitt) recommends acceptance of this bid.

Division 1B, we received three bids ranging from \$3,238,507 to \$3,730,482 for lining. Tri-State Utilities presented the low bid and it was recommended by Hurt & Profitt that we accept it at \$3,238,507. By re-bidding the project, we reduced the costs by over \$1.0 million which substantially affects the necessary rate increase to pay for the loans. Add in the current re-finance on our Sewer Plant of \$2.9 million and \$566,980 in engineering fees results in a total loan balance of \$6,705,487 with a total yearly debt payment of \$315,177. A slight increase in our current sewer rates will be necessary to service the debt.

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Manger's Report Cont.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Fisher to approve the Division 1A bid of \$257,475 from Lyttle Utilities and the Division 1B bid of \$3,238,507 from Tri-State Utilities. Council unanimously approved the motion.

Manager Walker asks Council to consider discontinuing the collection of taxes through the sale of town stickers by taking the necessary income collected and reverting it to a .07 cents increase in our real estate taxes. Our current real estate rate of .30 cent per 100 would have to be .37 cent per 100. This would eliminate the purchase of the stickers and the enforcement issues faced in collection of this tax. The cost of stickers is approximately \$1,000.

Walker then informed Council he had obtained three bids for the replacement of the HVAC at the airport with a 4 ton 13.5 seer, 15kw unit. The low bid was submitted by Fuller Electric of \$5,433.00. Council voted to accept the bid.

Manager Walker advised Council he had received a bid from Stephen Isreal to replace the carpet in the conference room of the Library. The total bid was \$1,988.00. Council discussed the bid and asked Walker to obtain more bids on the project.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported she is working with Wade to send letters to owners of 2 properties in town ordering them to repair their properties to come into compliance.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development:

Council Member Daulton reported the Lipscomb/Stratton Street project is still on line. There will be a Community Meeting Wednesday, February 12, 2014 from 1-4 p.m. in Crewe Library Conference Room for the Citizens of the project area to fill out their applications to ensure the March deadlines are met.

Economic Development:

Council Member Miskovic reported County held a productive EDC meeting. The Chamber also met and discussed their plans and goals for the year. Miskovic reported the social media outreach has been effective. He encouraged participation in the Crewe Trivia being held on the Town of Crewe Facebook page.

Miskovic informed Council he would be hosting a major employer roundtable Monday, February 17, 2014 at 7 p.m. at the Crewe Library Conference Room to discuss the vulnerabilities and strategies of the Town, County, and region as well as the Town's economic development vision and provide a forum for communication for all parties involved.

Miskovic also announced he hoped to hold a main street roundtable in April for all business and property owners on Carolina Ave between Tyler and Powell to discuss any issues and goals they may have.

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Facilities/Parks & Recreation:

Council Member Sisk reported everything with the facilities is fine. He also reported Tammy Blevins of the Chamber is awaiting an estimate from Sadler-Up Tree Service to remove one tree that is close to the gazebo in Hagberg Park.

Sisk reported CBYRA has started its youth baseball/softball and t-ball signups. He stated you can sign up on February 15th, 22nd, and March 1st from 10 -12 at the Beamer Field Hospitality Room or stop by the Town Office and see Tiffany.

Finance:

Council Member Knight absent.

Public Works/Infrastructure:

Council Member Spencer absent.

Personnel:

Council Member Stinson thanked John Hricko for his comprehensive and professional report on the water and waste water facilities.

Public Safety:

Council Member Fisher reported the rescue squad has set a new record. No report for the Fire Department.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT:

Chief Booth reported Investigator Turner has returned to work full duty from maternity leave. He also reported the Department has been awarded a 100% grant for 8 new bullet proof vests.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Fisher, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the grant funding for the new bullet proof vests for the officers.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Simmons reported he attended the annual Legislative Day with colleagues Vice Mayor Stinson, Council Member Daulton and Council Member Miskovic. He reported he was pleased with the meeting and they were afforded the opportunity to meet and hear from the Governor. Mayor Simmons reminded Council the deadline to turn in their Mayoral or Council packets to the County Registrar is March 4th, 7 p.m.

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NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Miskovic addressed Council with the proposal of having VDOT perform further studies for the possibility of a crosswalk at the 460 and Meade Street crossing. Miskovic provided documentation VDOT had submitted with a proposed estimate of \$2500 - \$3500.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to move forward with the VDOT traffic study so long as there was no cost involved.

Council Member Miskovic addressed Council with the possibility of purchasing a projector. Discussion followed.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Mayor Simmons informed Council the new and compliant handicap ramp would be installed at Town Office in a few weeks.

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Lee Simmons Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager