

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA

Present: Mayor Sally T. Wilkerson, Council Members Shirley Daulton, E.B. Fisher, Anne Stinson, Robbie Knight, & Phil Miskovic

Absent: Council Member Steve Sisk Jr.

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Wilkerson with guest Bishop Nathaniel Jones leading in prayer and Council Member E.B. Fisher leading in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING COMMENTS

Mayor Wilkerson opened the meeting thanking everyone for coming out.

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

Council Member Stinson noted a correction under the attorney's report for last month in the fourth paragraph, second sentence, replace the word like with not.

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with the correction in the attorneys report and the bill sheet and additions totaling \$154,818.30.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Walker reported that the town experienced an unusual rain event on Tuesday, July 28th whereby rain began falling at 1:00pm and within 35 minutes we were experiencing extremely high flows in our lower and upper east end sewer pump stations. By 2:23pm both of our emergency holding tanks were in operation and the stations were within 20 minutes of overflowing. Rain stopped at 1:55pm with a total of almost 3 inches in this short period of time. What this tells us is regardless of sewer work that has been done, we still have a major issue with this type of rain event that could cause overflows within the system. Walker explained this was an example of "inflow" as opposed to "infiltration". The event was quick and subsided quickly, when the rain stopped.

In an attempt to find the source quickly, we conducted smoke testing in the east end on August 5th. While many smaller things were discovered, we did not find a major opening in the system. All lines in the East End have been TV'd and evaluated and nothing has been found. Walker stated that this brings us back to smoke testing. Test done in the past have proven that there are issues within the town and 9 out of 10 times, the problem is located on private property such as cracked laterals on the property of citizens. Walker reminded Council that our ordinance clearly states that it is the responsibility of the owners to see that this situation is resolved but in the past, we have been unsuccessful in attempts to have them corrected. Walker stated the town has to commit to fixing these issues and find ways to force citizens to make the necessary repairs. Walker then asked Council if this could be referred to Town Attorney Bacon for review and possible solution. It was agreed Ms. Bacon would look into it.

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Manager's Report, cont.:

Town Manager Walker informed Council that he had a discussion with the Nottoway County Building Inspector concerning the old theatre building located on Main Street. The concern is if we were in a position to demolish the structure, what affect would it have on adjacent buildings. The inspector suggested we contact an engineer or consultant to make this determination. It was also agreed that two large trees growing on the property should be removed as they may also compromise the integrity of the building. Walker stated he has tried to contact the owner but has been unsuccessful.

Walker informed Council that we had successfully received a court order to demolish and remove the structure and clean up the property at 305 E. Carolina Ave. We were required to wait 28 days, which has passed. Walker stated we would begin the bid process next week and run the ad the next 3 weeks in the local papers. Our ad will be sure to stipulate that the bidder must meet all requirements necessary to dispose of the debris properly.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported the Town was successful with recent court proceedings in regard to the property located at 305 East Carolina Ave. Bacon also reported she has been working on the Home Occupation Ordinance for R-1, stating she recommends the use of a conditional use permit. Discussion followed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Economic Development:

Council Member Miskovic reported the Economic Development Committee had combined the July and August meetings and will be having their next meeting September 2 at 12 noon at Dine N Crewe. Miskovic stated he hoped to have the Tourism Plan available at the September Council meeting as well as information on the HEAL Grant. Miskovic provided Council with the following list of events:
Centra-Southside Community Hospital Grand Opening 8/30/15 from 4 – 6 p.m.
Crewe-Burkeville Chamber of Commerce Chicken Dinner 9/5/15

Finance:

Council Member Simpson reported finance was in good shape.

Public Works/Infrastructure:

Council Member Knight no report.

Personnel:

Council Member Stinson thanked the Police Department for a very successful National Night Out. She also thanked Manager Walker for his efforts on the water and wastewater work.

Public Safety:

Council Member Fisher had no official report. He did comment the National Night Out was very nice.

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Facilities/Parks & Recreation:

Council Member Sisk absent.

Community Development:

Council Member Daulton stated the Lipscomb/Stratton Project is moving forward.

Comprehensive Plan:

Council Member Stinson provided Council with a final draft of the comprehensive plan for their review. She noted grammatical errors had been fixed, the official Town slogan had been added and additional businesses had been included.

She reminded Council the Comprehensive Plan is a living document and it can be updated as needed. Council Member Miskovic mentioned his updates to the Economic Development section, stating he would like to have those included as opposed to the current “generic verbiage”.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to advertise for a Public Hearing to receive comments on the Comprehensive Plan at the September 2015 regular Council Meeting.

POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT:

Chief Booth reported the National Night Out was a huge success and the turn out and response from the community was wonderful. He acknowledged Detective Ella Turner and Police Secretary Beverly Redman for their hard work and dedication to this year’s National Night Out. He also acknowledged his parents Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Booth, Mr. Harold Watts, and Mr. Monroe McCormick for cooking the food and the numerous volunteers and sponsors to include Southside Electric, Crewe Volunteer Fire Department, Nottoway Rescue Squad, Sam’s Club of Colonial Heights, and Perks Corner Market amongst others.

Booth reported he hoped to have an update from the architectural firm working on the plans for a new police department at the September meeting.

Chief Booth also proudly reported he believed his department has a firm hold on the Library and playground area mentioning the field is being used by local youth for recreational sports and the playground is being occupied by families. Booth also mentioned school starts Monday August 17th and he and Mayor Wilkerson met with School Superintendent Dr. Grounard and Mrs. Wallace of the bus shop and they hope to have the issue with the Library bus stop remedied.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Wilkerson mentioned how nice the celebration for the girl’s all-star teams recently returning from West Monroe, LA for World Series competition was. Mayor Wilkerson mentioned the pep-rally held before the girls left and the great benefits having Crewe selected for the State Tournaments.

Mayor Wilkerson thanked the citizens, the Police Department, and Council for supporting the National Night Out.

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Mayor's Report, cont:

Mayor Wilkerson mentioned there was a postponement on the FASTC project in Blackstone that came down from Washington. She also informed those in attendance of the family celebration to be hosted by Kingdom Community Church on August 29, 2015 from 12 noon to 6 p.m. at Hooper Park in Crewe. She also encouraged everyone to attend the Veteran War Memorial Dedication tentatively set for September 7th at 10 a.m. Mayor Wilkerson reminded everyone of the Southside Virginia Firefighters Association Convention is being hosted by Crewe Volunteer Fire Department at Hooper Park on September 19th.

Mayor Wilkerson closed her report by announcing the Crewe Railroad Museum was recently featured in Southside Electrics magazine Cooperative Living.

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Miskovic asked Manager Walker if there was any formalization on the donations and radio advertising fees made for CBYRA. Manager Walker stated those monies would come directly from the Parks and Rec fund.

Miskovic also reminded Council this year's VML Annual Conference would be held in Richmond, VA.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

None

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Bill Faas, Cabell Street, asked Council how a resident would know what zoning area they were in. Manager Walker stated they would have to ask. Discussion followed. Council agreed to have a zoning map available at the Town Office.

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Miskovic, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

Sally T. Wilkerson Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager