

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON  
MONDAY, APRIL 9, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND  
CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA**

Present: Mayor Simmons, Council Members Shirley Daulton, John Spencer,  
Robbie Knight, Sally Wilkerson, E.B. Fisher, Rhea Houchins, & Pat Rose

Also Present: Town Manager Walker & Town Attorney Tessie Bacon

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

Mayor Simmons opened the meeting with a Public Hearing to Adopt and Enforce Part III of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. An ordinance that repeals the ordinance passed by Town Council on March 14, 2011 adopting an ordinance that incorporates by reference the 2009 International Property Maintenance Code ("Property Maintenance Code") and enacts Part III of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code.

Motion made by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Wilkerson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to close the Public Hearing.

**DELEGATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Mayor Simmons opened the floor to Chris Goin with WSVS to talk about Virginia Crossroads Live. Mr. Goin informed Council that on May 11 Lynard Skynard was coming to town. Mr. Goin stated they hope to bring about 4,000 people to town with this concert. So far they have sold about 75% of the tickets and are confident they will sell out. They want to make sure the Town is well aware of what is going on with this event. Mr. Goin informed Council RMC events are in charge of security, parking, and helping with everything they will need help with. Mr. Goin stated the most important thing for this very first concert is for everything to go as smooth as silk. There are other events planned, this is part of ongoing concert series. Mr. Goin wants everyone to prepare their businesses for the influx of people that will be coming through town as part of this event. Mr. Goin stated they are in close contact with the Town, County and State Police to make sure this will be a good event. Mr. Goin stated there is significant financial input available to the Town with this event and he hopes that the businesses can see that and prepare for it. Mr. Goin stated there will be promotion of the Railroad Museum, the annual Homecoming as well as what we do here in Town. Discussion followed.

Mayor Simmons thanked Mr. Goin for keeping the Town informed so well and he stated he was very proud of the effort put into this concert.

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**DELEGATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Val Wilson, Chief of Crewe Volunteer Fire Department reminded Council he had come before them a couple months ago asking the Town to set up a type of savings account to help the Fire Department get a new fire truck in about 4 to 5 years. Chief Wilson just wanted to get an update on that request. He stated he wanted everyone to understand it has been since 1995 that the Fire Department received help from the Town for the purpose of purchasing a new truck. Chief Wilson also noted since 1995 the Department has purchased 5 new trucks and built a \$600,000 firehouse. Discussion followed. It was decided that Council should meet with the Chief and their finance chairperson to resolve how the Town can assist the Fire Department in the purchase of a new truck.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

Motion by Council Member Wilkerson; seconded by Fisher, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with additions totaling \$69,347.01.

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Walker informed Council there is a major problem with grass uncut grass and shrub growth within the Town. We have compiled a list of 50+ lots and yards that need to be cut. The current ordinance states grass cannot exceed 10 inches in height at which time the owner can be sent a notice giving them 10 days to cut the yard. Walker stated he felt this was too lenient and by the time it reaches this point, it is impossible to cut in a conventional way. Walker stated he would like to look into changing the ordinance to allow the Town to cut quicker. Another problem is receiving payment when the Town has to perform the service. He asked Council for permission to allow Attorney Bacon to look into this matter. Council agreed.

Manager Walker presented Council with proposal for the cost of a new bench to be placed at the playground. The total cost was \$600.00 that included \$201.00 shipping charges. It was agreed that we would look at other alternatives.

Walker then asked Council to be considering three new flagpoles for the Town. One at each of the "Welcome to Crewe" signs and one at the Airport. The estimated cost of each pole was \$612.00 for a 25 ft. aluminum commercial grade pole. Council agreed to consider the request.

Walker then informed Council that last week, he had approved the purchase of asphalt to be placed at the entrance road adjacent to the Little League ballpark. He stated this road belongs to the railroad but it was in such bad shape it needed repair work before the

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opening ceremonies. The total cost of the asphalt was \$2,332.00. Walker heard no opposition to the work.

Manager Walker then discussed an earlier resolution presented to Council regarding the Commonwealth Regional Council's Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This is needed to allow the Town of Crewe to be eligible for emergency funds from FEMA should a disaster hit the town. Walker asks for a vote. A motion was made by Council Member Wilkerson, seconded by Council Member Knight to approve the resolution as presented. Motion passed.

**TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Attorney Bacon reported she would look into different ways to enforce and collect on property maintenance of grass cutting and such. Attorney Bacon stated she is very pleased with how close we are getting to the end with enforcing the Building Code. She reported she made all the proper requests to use the County's services and the County has agreed to allow us to use the county Building Inspector to enforce the code. Attorney Bacon informed Council they still need to form an appeals board. Attorney Bacon also informed Council properties with delinquent taxes have been identified and will be enforced aggressively.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Community Development:** Council Member Wilkerson reported she attended the opening ceremonies for the CBYRA and games on Saturday at the ballpark. It was lovely to see all the youth and the future of our towns and county there with their moms and dads and grandparents and all. It is another activity that is open to everyone to take part of.

**Economic Development:** Council Member Rose had no report.

**Facilities:** Council Member Houchins reported he saw the new section has been opened. Council Member Knight stated the cemetery is looking good, very neat. Council Member Fisher reported concerned citizens that had items such as flowers and other arrangements go missing from their respective graves had contacted him with their concerns. Mayor Simmons suggested to Chief Booth that he pass the information along to his officers.

**Finance:** Council Member Knight suggested they schedule another work session on the budget April 23, 2012 at 7 p.m. at the Library Conference Center.

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**Public Works/Infrastructure:** Council Member Spencer asked about the status of the valve being replaced on the main line. Manager Walker stated the work would begin tomorrow.

**Parks and Recreation:** Council Member Daulton reported she was also in attendance at for the opening ceremonies for the CBYRA. She reported it was wonderful to see the children out there and that she felt the community was in good shape. Daulton also reported the blue birdhouses at the cemetery were beautiful. Daulton thanked Manager Walker for getting the guys to put the gates back up at the playground entrances. Daulton concluded with stating the children's program held the first Thursday of every month at 10:30 has been successful.

**Public Safety:** Council Member Fisher reported Fire, Rescue and Police Departments are staying busy as usual and all is ok. Fisher also report the Police Department is working hard towards having a safe Lynard Skynard Concert.

**POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT**

Chief Booth reported he has noticed increased activity at the playground and is glad to see it. Chief Booth also reported the Officers continue to patrol the playground. Chief Booth informed Council the monies received for the grants have been used to purchase evidence lockers as well as ammunition. Chief Booth also reported the grant money cannot be applied to committed purchases.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Simmons stated he wanted to thank the CBYRA for letting him throw out the first pitch during the opening ceremonies. Mayor Simmons reported the ballpark is a very special place and it all because of the volunteers. Mayor Simmons also stated he is working toward finding a contractor to get the handicap ramp fixed at the Town Office.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion made by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Wilkerson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adopt the enforcement of Part III of the Statewide Building Code.

Motion made by Council Member Wilkerson; seconded by Fisher, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to give Town Attorney Tessie Bacon permission to write an ordinance to name the Nottoway County Building Inspector our representative as Code Official.

**CONTINUING BUSINESS**

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Mayor Simmons reported that the Town Council Minutes are now available on the website.

Motion made by Council Member Wilkerson; seconded by Fisher, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m.

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Lee Simmons                      Mayor

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W. Wade Walker    Town Manager