

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 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, Rhea Houchins, & Pat Rose

Absent: Council Member E.B. Fisher

Also Present: Town Manager Walker, Town Attorney Tessie Bacon, & Police Chief Art
Booth, II

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

Mayor Simmons opened the meeting by commending Council again on all of their hard work and informed Council he would be providing them with a shorter list of tasks as we are in an election year. Mayor Simmons goals for the year included: Adopting a balanced budget with no increases, continue to work diligently toward resolving the current sewer issues the Town faces, and finally Mayor Simmons added he wants the Town to continue to move forward on enforcing the property maintenance code.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Hank Crittenden, Tucker Ave., on behalf of the VFW & the American Legion thanked Council and the Mayor for the letter received in reference to the Memorial they have been planning to erect. Mr. Crittenden stated the letter was well received and they look forward to pressing on with completing the Memorial.

Mr. Booth, Rocky Ford Road, presented a huge Thank You to the governing body of Crewe and the Police Chief, Art Booth for the good job they all have done for the Town of Crewe.

Mr. David Lewis, West Carolina Ave., stated he appreciates everything everyone is doing for the Town of Crewe. Mr. Lewis asked Council what has happened and what might have transpired with the undeveloped right of ways. Mr. Lewis also asked what has been done about the cable that was put up across the undeveloped right away on Berkelle St. Mayor Simmons informed Mr. Lewis Council would make a list to review and then decided collectively what to do with those right of ways. Manager Walker informed Mr. Lewis the cable should have been taken down and if it has not he would make sure it was taken care of.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Wilkerson; seconded by Houchins, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with additions to the bill sheet.

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MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Walker stated the work on the holding tank at the Sewer Plant is progressing on schedule. A status meeting was held last Wednesday and everything was on schedule. Manager Walker reported the concrete is to be installed this week and the liner the following week. The planned completing date is still set for the later part of February 2012.

Manager Walker informed Council he held interviews for Chief Operator at the Water Plant and an offer had been made to the top candidate. Unfortunately the offer was not accepted because of the salary. Manager Walker recommended reviewing the salaries of comparable localities to see if we are in line with our offer. Manager Walker stated he would be reviewing the applications again to see what alternatives we may have.

Manager Walker proudly reported we had received funding from Rural Development regarding the upcoming sewer project. He also stated we will provide the Virginia Resource Authority with the 2011 audit once it is completed so that they will continue with their previous commitment for the loan for the remainder of the project.

Manager Walker reported he had met with Charles Reed and work on the Veterans Memorial to be erected in the park is set to begin next week.

Manager Walker concluded his report informing Council town offices would be closed for legal holidays on Friday, January 13, 2012 for Lee/Jackson Day and Monday, January 16, 2012 for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported she and Manager Walker have been making steps towards getting the building code enforced and they have made good progress on that in the last month. She also stated we need to determine how to proceed with collecting the delinquent taxes. She stated there are several different options available and she and Manager Walker would continue working on that to determine the most cost effective and generally effective way to collect those taxes owed to the Town.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development: Council Member Wilkerson reported the Nottoway Planning Council, which consisted of Blackstone, Burkeville, Crewe and 2 members of the Board of Supervisors held their regular meeting last Thursday. Wilkerson provided Council with a synopsis of 2011 accomplishments by the Planning Council. She pointed out in the synopsis that the Department of Housing Community Development had completed Phase 1 in Burkeville and Phase 2 was beginning. Wilkerson was pleased to note that same organization would be helping Crewe with Lipscomb and Stratton Street. Wilkerson stated she would be meeting this Thursday with Steve Ferguson, Nottoway County Planner, Manager Walker, and Mayor Simmons to get started on the future project for Crewe. Wilkerson concluded with mentioning the various other projects that have been completed and looks forward to the many others to be completed.

Mayor Simmons stated having DHCD come in to help the citizens with repairing their homes would not only bring up that particular neighborhood but also the Town as a whole. Mayor Simmons stated this could be the beginning of a good partnership with DHCD and other projects for the Town. Mayor Simmons stated the meeting scheduled for Thursday is a great start and it something to be excited about.

Economic Development: Council Member Rose wished everyone a Happy New Year. She mentioned the new Dollar General is now open in Burkeville and she understands it is a very busy place. Rose also mentioned the new logo for the table dressing for Town Council meetings looked great and it came from her store Rose Patch Creations.

Facilities: Council Member Houchins had no report.

Finance: Council Member Knight had no report.

Public Works/Infrastructure: Council Member Spencer suggested we repair the valve on the water line down below Eleven Oaks Crossing. Due to inactivity the valve has become inoperable and should be replaced.

Mayor Simmons stated we should get more information on the valve and the cost to replace it and represent with the additional information to Council next month.

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Parks and Recreation: Council Member Daulton stated that as she had faced some health challenges and is still continuing to face those challenges she wanted to Thank the other Council Members and Mayor Simmons for stepping in and taking action in her absence. She also stated the Railroad Museum is working on getting the new Coach Car finished with heat and electricity. Daulton asked that if anyone had any ideas for activities to keep the citizens happy and active please feel free to present them. Daulton also mentioned the bench in front of the library does not have adequate lighting in the evenings, nor does the front entrance to the library.

Mayor Simmons suggested we look into having a light installed at the front entrance. He also mentioned that a new bench and trash receptacle has been installed at the playground.

Public Safety: Council Member Fisher absent, no report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Booth reported on the significant increases of charges and arrests from 2010 to 2011. He did stress that the increases are not due to more criminal activity but the Officer's being more proactive as opposed to reactive. Chief reported the Officer's are putting in long hard hours to keep Crewe safe for everyone to enjoy. Chief Booth credited Town Council, Mayor Simmons, and Manager Walker for the department's accomplishments in 2011. He stated without their support none of it would have been possible. Chief Booth and his department thanked everyone and stated they were looking forward to 2012.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Simmons stated with the holidays finally wrapping up he had no report at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

CONTINUING BUSINESS

No Report

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

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