

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 13, 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, Robbie Knight, John Spencer, & Phil Miskovic

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. He informed Council that former Council Member Pat Rose had passed. He recalled Mrs. Rose as being a great member of the community stating she gave back in many ways. He mentioned her time on Council and all the projects she had going on for the betterment of our Town and how much she loved her home town. She was not only a great leader in the town but she was also such fun to be around, he stated she will be greatly missed.

Mayor Simmons opened the meeting with two public hearings. The first public hearing was to enact an ordinance that prohibits the keeping of bees within the town limits of the Town of Crewe, Virginia.

Mark Andrachek, W. Virginia Ave., asked Council to consider rather than an outright ban, regulating the keeping of bees as done in other communities that balances the ecology, citizen's fears, and nuisance issues in a way that would be in everyone's best interest.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted unanimously by voice to close the public hearing.

The purpose of the second public hearing was to pass a resolution, pursuant to Virginia Code section 15.2-1903, that authorizes the use of eminent domain to condemn permanent sewage easements and temporary construction easements in relation to the Town of Crewe's Sewer Project.

Mrs. Oliver-Clark asked if there was a plat map available to see where the easement is on the property and how will the work will be done? If it goes through the yard will the soil and grass be put back? Manager Walker informed Mrs. Oliver-Clark the work needing to be done at her property is just lining so there should not be any digging.

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Sisk, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to close the public hearing.

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

Jamie Higgins, on behalf of the CBYRA informed Council the CBYRA had a successful year in decorating the park along with the Crewe-Burkeville Chamber. Mr. Higgins addressed Council with his concerns on the large trees that have reached their maximum growth causing safety issues especially when storms come through. Mr. Higgins asked if Council would consider forming a committee to discuss taking down some of the trees and revitalize the park.

Tammy Blevins, Crewe-Burkeville Chamber, informed Council she and Jamie would be available to serve on the committee or help in any way they could. She spoke of how beautiful the park is when the sun shines through the trees and she believes it could be improved if a few of the trees could be removed to let a little more light shine in and put some topsoil down and re-seed. Mrs. Blevins told Council they had received more compliments on the park this year and how the memorial trees bought by the CBYRA were a great addition.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS CONT'D.

Mayor Simmons also asked Council Member Sisk for the Parks & Rec Committee to work with the Chamber and CBYRA on the issue with the trees. He also commended the Chamber and CBYRA for the efforts and hard work with the park this year.

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Sisk, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to close the public hearing.

Jamie Higgins, W. Carolina Ave., addressed Council in reference to the burning law asking them to consider entertaining the possibility of revising the burning law for the benefit of the appearance of the town.

Mrs. Watts, of Burkeville, VA, addressed Council with her concerns on how the police department handled the accident she was involved in in Crewe. Mayor Simmons stated her concerns would be looked in to.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with additions totaling \$158,160.54.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Walker briefed Council that a conference call took place on Wednesday, January 8th with our engineers and DEQ on the upcoming sewer project. The purpose of the call was to review changes made to the scope of work to be performed that resulted in considerable cost savings. This portion of the project will be re-bid and has been divided into two divisions, lining and line replacement that hopefully would generate more contractor interest. DEQ approved the changes and are comfortable with them and the fact that none should change the results.

A pre-bid conference for the project was held today at 10:00 am to discuss the project with possible bidding contractors. Twice as many contractors attended this conference as last time which would indicate we will be successful in obtaining more and lower bids on the project. Walker stated all questions should be submitted to the engineers by January 22nd with the actual bid opening to take place on January 30th. Notice of award should be issued by February 14th and a notice to proceed by March 14th. The project is scheduled for a total of approximately 355 days to complete.

Mr. Walker informed Council that Virginia Rural Water will be coming into town to conduct a study on probable loss of water within the town system. Walker stated that a certain amount of loss is normal due to cleaning of filters at the plant and un-metered locations such as the Fire House, but our number seems to high. As a member of Rural Water, the service will not cost the town and hopefully will provide the information we need. This information is also important to provide our engineers currently conducting a water supply study to determine the future water needs of the town.

Walker then reminded Council leaf pick up season is concluded and debris and brush pick up has resumed.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported she is back to work and has drafted the ordinance on bees as requested by Council.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development: Council Member Daulton reported in spite of the NPC not being able to meet, the Council stayed busy. She also reported the Lipscomb/Stratton Project is still on track.

Economic Development: Council Member Miskovic reported the Economic Committee will meet January 20th at 7 p.m. at the airport and the HEAL Committee still meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 6 p.m. at the airport. Miskovic also reported he had been reading the history of Crewe books and he encouraged everyone to read them. He stated they are available for purchase at the Crewe Railroad Museum. Miskovic also reported that just as Council had asked each of the department heads to provide a list of their 2014 goals, he presented a list of goals for 2014 for Council. Discussion followed.

Facilities/Parks & Recreation: Council Member Sisk reported everything with the facilities is fine. He stated he would meet with Mr. Higgins, Mrs. Blevins and Wade on the trees in the park.

Finance: Council Member Knight reported work on the 2014/2015 budget would begin when this year's audit report comes back.

Public Works/Infrastructure: Council Member Spencer reported everything is good.

Personnel: Council Member Stinson thanked the Town employees for their hard work in the recent weather conditions. She also reported the town had lots of projects going on that put more responsibility on the employees and she encouraged everyone to thank them for what they do.

Public Safety: Council Member Fisher had no fire and rescue report.

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Booth reported the department had been selected as a National Award Winner for outstanding participation in the 30th Anniversary National Night Out by the National Association of Town Watch. Chief Booth informed Council there are only 30 awards given in the United States involving over 16,000 communities and the Crewe Police Department was 28th.

Chief Booth thanked the citizens and the businesses for their work with the National Night Out stating the award is theirs because without them the department would not be able to host the National Night Out.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Simmons reported he is excited about the prospects of the New Year. He stated he knows Council has a lot going on now with the sewer project and the Lipscomb/Stratton Project and how important both projects are to the town and its citizens. He is also looking forward to the increased and continued efforts to reduce the blight in town. He encouraged Council to keep up their good work with their own various projects and he looks forward to what they will accomplish in 2014. Mayor Simmons also reminded Council that February 6th is Legislative Day that is hosted by VML, stating it is a very informative meeting and the County has invited the Town to ride along with them.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
JANUARY 13, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

NEW BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Stinson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to pass the resolution pursuant to Virginia Code section 15.2-1903, that authorizes the use of eminent domain to condemn permanent sewage easements and temporary construction easements in relation to the Town of Crewe's project.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Motion by Council Member Fisher; seconded by Council Member Knight, Council voted 5-2 with Council Members Sisk and Miskovic opposed, to approve the ordinance that prohibits the raising of bees in town. Motion passed.

Mayor Simmons then asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session under Code to discuss property. Motion made by Anne Stinson and seconded by E. B. Fisher. Motion passed.

Motion to Certify the Executive Session made by Council Member Knight and seconded by Steve Sisk. Motion passed.

Open Session

Mayor Simmons asked for a motion to proceed with action discussed in the closed session. Motion made by Mr. Knight, seconded by Mr. Miskovic. Motion passed.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Spencer, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

Lee Simmons Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager