

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY
AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA**

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

Absent: Police Chief Art Booth, II

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 by welcoming Jerome George, Jr. to the Crewe Police Department. Mayor Simmons informed everyone that Officer George served 8 years in the Navy, has a total of 18 years police experience and he has worked with the U.S. Marshals and with the Street Crimes Unit in Richmond. Mayor Simmons stated the Town of Crewe is lucky to have Officer George.

DELEGATIONS FORM THE PUBLIC

Mayor Simmons opened the floor to Council Member Sally Wilkerson to introduce, Nottoway County Planner Steve Ferguson for his update on the Lipscomb and Stratton Street Project. Wilkerson stated she, Council Member Shirley Daulton, Mayor Simmons and Manager Walker had recently visited the Lipscomb and Stratton Street areas to provide the residents with information on the housing rehabilitation planned for that area with the assistance of County Planner Steve Ferguson. Wilkerson additionally stated a Community Meeting was held in the library conference room on January 30, 2012 for the citizens of that area. Wilkerson recognized Sallie Rich for helping Mr. Ferguson and his assistant Ms. Newcomb go over the information and encouraging the residents to come to the meeting. Wilkerson also recognized Florence Oliver resident of Lipscomb Street for getting the residents to come to the meeting and be a part of this project. Wilkerson opened the floor to County Planner Mr. Ferguson for his presentation and update on the progress of the Lipscomb and Stratton Street Project.

Mr. Ferguson thanked everyone for their patience in getting the project started. He stated the Community Meeting that was held January 30, 2012 was a success and he plans to move forward with the rehabilitation process in that area for the qualified residents. Mr. Ferguson stated he will keep Council updated every 2 to 3 meetings on the progress of the project.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA

CITIZENS COMMENTS

Mr. Dennis Inge, West Tennessee Ave., presented to Council an incident that occurred at his home on Friday, February 3, 2012. Mr. Inge stated a sewer line near his home had become blocked and caused a backup of sewage and water into his home. Mr. Inge stated after he confirmed the problem was not on his side he contacted the Town immediately and Town workers came and fixed the problem. Mr. Inge also stated there was damage to his home from this “backup” and he inquired if the Town would allow him to file an insurance claim to repair the damages. Mr. Inge also had several additional questions for the Town as for the maintenance of the lines and so forth. Mayor Simmons requested Mr. Inge compile his questions and submit them to the Town and they would be answered at a future date.

Mr. Greg Marston, Melody Lane, stated he recently visited the old Bradshaw Ford building, which is now a gym. He stated a Town Officer had performed a traffic stop in that parking lot. Mr. Marston felt the Department should not be using private property to issue tickets or perform traffic stops. He also expressed concern at the rate of speed of the second Officer that arrived on scene. Mr. Marston stated he spoke with the second Officer about his rate of speed and according to Mr. Marston the Officer informed him the dispatcher reported the Officer on scene needed help. Mr. Marston expressed concern for the lack of communication over a simple traffic stop. Additionally Mr. Marston expressed concern over emergency vehicles using the center lane at such high rates of speed especially over simple traffic stops.

Ms. Wendy Bowen, Park Ave., reflected on years past when the Officers in Town would check on the businesses and it’s employees during business hours. Ms. Bowen stated that recently the Officers have not checked on her business, Crewe Station or some of the other businesses in Town. Ms. Bowen stated she doesn’t mind the Officers using her parking lot to write tickets because at least then she knows her business is being checked.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Wilkerson; seconded by Fisher, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar.

MANAGER’S REPORT

Town Manager Walker introduced John Hricko, Wastewater Chief Operator. Manager Walker reminded everyone that we recently lost our Chief Operator at our Water Plant while we were searching for a replacement “we had a brilliant idea.” Manager Walker stated Mr. Hricko is a Class 1 Sewer and Water Operator, so he presented to Mr. Hricko the possibility of being the Chief Operator for both the Water and Wastewater Departments. Mr. Hricko accepted the position. Manager Walker mentioned the recent water violation the Town faced and opened the floor to Mr. Hricko for his presentation on this violation.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY
AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA**

MANAGER'S REPORT CONTINUED

Mr. Hricko prepared a Power Point presentation to explain the violation. In his presentation Mr. Hricko explained the steps taken to correct the violation and ultimately to prevent it from occurring again. Mr. Hricko stated it has been corrected but the citizens will receive another notice of violation because this test is calculated on a Rolling Annual Average. Mr. Hricko explained that as the results of the next two tests are applied the two results that prompted the violation would come off. Mr. Hricko assured everyone the Town water supply is compliant and safe.

Mayor Simmons asked Manager Walker to update Council on the Sewer Plant Improvements and construction. Manager Walker reported the supplemental part of the project is about complete, the liner is in and they are in clean up mode at this point. Manager Walker also reported the Town has to install a fence around the plant to ensure the safety of the workers and the citizens. Manager Walker stated we are working toward having the audits completed so that we can move forward with the \$6.5 million project. We have approval from both sides; one side wants to see one more year of audits for final approval.

Mayor Simmons informed Council they should review the Loan Resolution from USDA needed for final approval and they would make a formal resolution at next months meeting.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Attorney Bacon reported she and Manager Walker have been in contact discussing how and what to enforce in regards to the Property Maintenance Code. Attorney Bacon stated she has contacted Mr. Roark, County Administrator in reference to having County Inspector, Al Ellington enforce the Property Maintenance Code for the Town of Crewe. Attorney Bacon informed Council she and Manager Walker are working toward finalizing the enforcement of the Code. She stated she would report back on that next month.

Attorney Bacon stated James Elliott, who collects delinquent taxes for the County has some money to remit to the Town from a recent tax sale. Additionally Attorney Bacon stated she and Manager Walker have been working together in reviewing the USDA paperwork for the grant and assisting the Town to find a credible and reasonably priced bond attorney. Attorney Bacon ended on a personal note stating that she is now working a new law firm, Harris, Matthews, & Crowder, PC in South Hill, VA.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY
AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development: Council Member Wilkerson had no additional report.

Economic Development: Council Member Rose had no report.

Facilities: Council Member Houchins suggested before any conversions are done with the old firehouse building we need to make certain Council wants to use the funds from the sale of the Community Center towards that. Houchins suggested more discussion is needed on what to do.

Finance: Council Member Knight reminded everyone there would be a finance work session March 26, 2012 at 7:30 at the Library Conference Center.

Mayor Simmons stated Manager Walker would be meeting with the Department Heads to discuss their individual budgets and he should have that information compiled for the March 26, 2012 work session. Mayor Simmons suggested to Council that they present any suggestions they may have for the budget at the work session.

Public Works/Infrastructure: Council Member Spencer questioned the outcome of the valve below Eleven Oaks Crossing. Mayor Simmons stated the cost is still being discussed and the location is also posing an issue.

Manager Walker stated finding a suitable location has been difficult. Manager Walker reported that the option to replace the existing valve at the crossing is there, but it is such a significant water loss it may be better to move the valve. Manager Walker also reported Hydro-Tap would be coming in to offer their feedback.

Parks and Recreation: Council Member Daulton reported she has been in contact with local resident Bonnie Andrachek who heads the children's play area to get some ideas for the benefit of the children. Daulton stated Mrs. Andrachek would be meeting with other parents in the area to get ideas for improvement and further enjoyment for the children.

Public Safety: Council Member Fisher reported Fire, Rescue and Police Departments are staying busy as usual and all is ok. Fisher reported the County HAZMAT Truck is currently housed in the Crewe Fire Department to respond to Hazmat incidents.

Fisher additionally reported the Crewe Police Officers are doing a fine job and everyone is pleased with the departmental operations. Fisher reported selective enforcement is going well and normal law enforcement operations are also doing well as the local crime rate has dropped. Fisher concluded stating plans are in the making for another Law Enforcement Night Out with the public and their families.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUCIL MEETING HELD ON
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012, AT 7:30 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY
AND CONFERENCE CENTER, CREWE, VIRGINIA**

POLICE CHIEF'S REPORT

Chief Booth absent. Council Member Fisher provided report.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Simmons reported on the water supply study where the Town applied for a grant to do a study on our current water supply was unsuccessful. We did not score high enough by the standards of the Virginia Department of Health. Mayor Simmons stated we do need a plan added to our current Comprehensive Plan for the future of the Town's long-term water supply.

Mayor Simmons also reported he had another conversation with the Real Estate gentleman from Norfolk & Southern. He reported they discussed the current lease for the ball parks and the area known as Hagberg Park, they agreed some updating needed to be done as the language is antiquated and it discusses structures that are no longer there etc. Mayor Simmons additionally reported the gentleman suggested the Town start paying rent for those areas, the price started at \$2500 and by the end of the conversation it was down to \$500. Mayor Simmons attempted to contact the gentleman again on Friday and Monday, with no luck. Mayor Simmons stated he would be getting more information on the history of the current lease and presenting that to the Real Estate Representative. Mayor Simmons stated he would continue this report at next month's meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

No Report

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Council Member Wilkerson reminded everyone that in the past we had discussed putting lights around the library and play area to ensure the safety of the citizens using those areas. Wilkerson stated she wanted to pursue that idea. Wilkerson also stated having those lights in place could serve as a deterrent.

Mayor Simmons reported that they had taken the globe off of the light in an attempt to provide more lighting, he stated if that were insufficient he felt the neighbors in that area would not mind if the Town installed additional lighting in that area.

Motion by Fisher; seconded by Wilkerson, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Lee Simmons Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager