

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY,
FEBRUARY 13, 2017 AT 7:00 P.M. AT THE CREWE LIBRARY AND CONFERENCE CENTER,
CREWE, VIRGINIA**

Present: Mayor Greg Eanes, Council Members Aaron Reed, Steve Sisk, Bill Faas, Anne Stinson, Robbie Knight, Billy Abel & Phil Miskovic

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Eanes, with Pastor James Bradley leading in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Eanes opened the meeting with 3 public hearings.

The purpose of the first public hearing was for Town Council to consider an Ordinance that would repeal sections 70-35 ET. Seq. of the Code of Crewe, which currently requires town decals for all motor vehicles.

Hearing no comment Mayor Eanes closed the Public Hearing.

The purpose of the second public hearing was for Town Council to consider an Ordinance that enacts and implements a Five Dollar water maintenance charge.

Hearing no comment Mayor Eanes closed the Public Hearing.

The purpose of the third public hearing was for Town Council to consider an Ordinance that makes it unlawful for any owner or person in immediate control of a dog or cat to allow it to defecate on public or private property of other persons.

Mr. McCormick, resident of Gatewood Ave., expressed his support of the ordinance by voicing concern with the neighboring cats using the bathroom in his yard. Mr. McCormick stated health concerns have surfaced because of this problem. Mr. McCormick further stated he is unable to let his dogs outside or even use his own yard because of the neighboring cats using his yard as their bathroom.

Verniecer Hyde, resident of Plant Ave., inquired if the Town had an Animal Control Officer. She additionally asked if a citizen calls the Animal Control Officer for such an instance would the animal be picked up. Discussion followed.

James Bradley, resident of Virginia Ave., provided Council with a letter detailing his concerns. Mr. Bradley stated his wife has an extreme fear of dogs and asked for Council's assistance in resolving the issues at hand.

DELEGATIONS/CITIZENS COMMENTS

Tammy Blevins, on behalf of the Homecoming Committee, informed Council she would be handling the vendors this year for the Homecoming Festival. She stated she is looking forward to having a record number of vendors and visitors this year.

Mrs. Blevins expressed her concern for marking the vendor spaces, as far as making the "marks" last. Town Manager Walker stated he would look into marking paint.

Mrs. Blevins also wanted to thank the Town and its employees for all they did with the park. Discussion followed. Mayor Eanes thanked Mrs. Blevins, Mr. Faas, and the many others that do so much for the Town.

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Delegations/Citizens Comments Cont'd

Mrs. Blevins affirmed the vendor letters for the Homecoming Festival would be out by the end of February. She further stated the Homecoming Festival will be held on May 20th. Discussion followed.

Sidney Smith, resident of Lipscomb St., apologized for arriving late to the meeting and asked if any decisions had been made on the public hearings. Mayor Eanes informed him no decisions had been made. Mr. Smith stated he didn't feel adding the increase would hurt anybody.

Kathie Kingery, resident of Tyler Rd., asked if the Town had an ordinance on signs on the roadway that could be enforced for purpose of cleaning up the appearance of the main road through Crewe. Discussion followed. Ms. Kingery asked if the Town could revisit the ordinance on signs. Mayor Eanes agreed.

Loretta Blevins, with the Women's Auxiliary for the Crewe Volunteer Fire Dept., informed Council she had reached out to Mr. Atwater with VDOT to obtain a permit for street closure so they could have a 5k run during homecoming. Mrs. Blevins stated per VDOT requirements they would need certified flaggers and once they have those they will approve the permit.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Abel, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to approve the Consent Calendar with the bill sheet and additions totaling \$154,395.07 and corrections to the January 2017 bill sheet totaling a decrease of \$905.18. Motion passed.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Town Manager Walker reported that a meeting took place on Tuesday, February 7th with the newly formed Airport Committee including Council Members Robbie Knight, Anne Stinson, Mayor Eanes, and citizen member Bill Wilkerson, Sr. The meeting was also attended by members of the Virginia Department of Aviation. The purpose of the meeting was to review the current status of the Crewe Municipal Airport and discuss the future needs of our airport. The primary concern at this point is the condition of the runway, aprons, and taxiways relative to asphalt. We were informed there are more trees obstructing the landing glide slope which must be removed. We will be contacting the owners of these trees and asking for their cooperation. They did agree to move forward with assisting us with the runway issues while trying to resolve the obstructions.

Mr. Walker reminded Council that they need to consider the purchase of a portable pump that could be used at our Upper East End Sewage Pump Station should our inline pumps fail. This became necessary when during our recent sewer rehab project, we increased the head on the force main by 800 feet, thus disallowing the use of our current portable pump. We received three bids on the pump with the preferred pump being from Gorman-Rupp at a cost of \$41,687.00. Walker suggested soliciting bids from our three local banks for the financing of the pump. Town Council voted to allow Manager Walker to solicit the bids.

Manager Walker asks a company named Southern Corrosion to inspect and offer their opinion on the condition of the Town's Tennessee Avenue Water Tank. Southern Corrosion was used during the rehab of the town's railroad tank approximately 10 years ago with very good results. Their evaluation of both the inside and outside of the tank was that the tank was in good condition but in need of maintenance in order to remain so. The estimate they presented totaled \$97,426.00. Walker stated we currently have \$110,000.00 in our water tank

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reserve fund. He recommended proceeding with this project. Discussion followed and it was agreed that we should try to obtain two more bids on the project.

Manager's Report Cont'd

Walker stated the need for the construction of a storage shed to be located at the Town Shop for the storage of recently acquired equipment with an estimated value of \$500,000.00. This equipment is exposed to the elements and Walker feels it should be better protected to ensure long term service and reliability. A quote from local builder Steel Tube Buildings on a 35'x 60' building is \$10,183.00. Payment of the building could be taken from this year's snow removal revenue or from proceeds from the newly enacted cigarette tax. Council voted to proceed with the construction of the shed.

TOWN ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Town Attorney Bacon stated she has been working on the information for the Public Hearings including the updates to the cigarette tax ordinance. Attorney Bacon requested a motion from Council to advertise for a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering an ordinance updating the current cigarette tax ordinance.

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Reed to advertise for a Public Hearing for the purpose of adopting an updated ordinance for the cigarette tax.

Council Member Miskovic asked for the status of the derelict buildings specifically on the old theater building. Attorney Bacon reported she is ready to go to court with that property noting the Town would want to add the IRS as part of the lawsuit and proceed.

Manager Walker asked what the Town needs to do to get buildings down. Attorney Bacon responded that the Town would have to follow the code of the Town of Crewe using the Dangerous Buildings Code. Discussion followed.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Eanes provided Council with his report and spoke only on the action items to include the Lottery for Localities study and an establishment of a Town of Crewe 501c3.

Mayor Eanes stated the hope of getting a reallocation bill in the 2018 session is unlikely. Mayor Eanes would like to, with Council's concurrence, formally request Delegate Wright and Senator Ruff to reintroduce the same legislation for the 2018 Session.

Motion by Council Member Miskovic; seconded by Council Member Sisk, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to formally request Delegate Wright and Senator Ruff to reintroduce the same legislation for the 2018 Session for the Lottery for Localities.

Mayor Eanes also introduced the idea of the Town establishing a 501c3 organization for the purpose of raising money for parks and infrastructure. He noted under the Virginia Code, charitable organizations can engage in raffles and other selected gaming activities with provisions. Discussion followed. Mayor Eanes placed this concept into the finance committee for further review.

Mayor Eanes recommended Council endorse the concept and authorize the Mayor and Town Manager to move forward establishing a Town of Crewe 501c3 that can engage in lawful raffles for the purpose of raising money for Town of Crewe parks and infrastructure development.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Infrastructure: No Report

Finance: No Report

Personnel: No Report

Volunteer Services: No Report

Economic Development:

Council Member Miskovic reported his committee had met with a representative from Kaiser Permanente and it was a great meeting. They led the representative on a walking tour over the proposed trail behind Golubic Stadium, Main Street through Town, Hagberg Park to include the ball fields, the Veterans Memorial, and the volleyball court.

Miskovic indicated the rep seemed very interested in our area and asked lots of questions. Miskovic reported the rep will be compiling everything she collected while here and turning it into information for more national distribution.

CONTINUING BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Council Member Miskovic asked if we could review the Town ordinance on dog license tax in light of the recent animal issues.

Council Member Miskovic acknowledged per annual tradition he would like for Council to invite Delegate Wright and Senator Ruff to either the March or April Council meeting to receive an update on the General Assembly, thank them for their continued efforts and ask any questions Council may have. Council Member Miskovic would also like to have an informal dinner before the meeting, with no business discussed. Manager Walker stated he would take care of the invite.

Council Member Miskovic asked for the status on the parking lot lighting at the Library. Mayor Eanes stated to his knowledge the lighting had been taken care of. Manager Walker stated he would talk to the Director to obtain further detail for their concern.

Council Member Miskovic reminded Council of Councilwoman Pat Rose's idea to paint the fire hydrants, which was an amazing idea. He suggested looking into possibly doing them again as they are getting old.

Mayor Eanes reported on a recent trip to Bracey, VA he and his wife were chatting with a young lady from Bracey and mentioned they were from Crewe, VA and the young lady excitedly said "that's the town that has all the painted fire hydrants".

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Council Member Sisk encouraged Council to go down to Rose Patch Creations and Crewe Cuts and talk with Adrienne and Kim, Pat's daughters to get information on how Councilwoman Rose organized the event.

New Business Cont'd

Council Member Miskovic reported the Town Council meeting are currently recorded and eventually make their way to the Town website. Miskovic suggested looking into a more permanent video structure and an inexpensive laptop that would allow for meetings to air live on Facebook. Mayor Eanes instructed the Finance Committee to research the possibility. Miskovic stated he would write up a proposal for the Finance Committee.

POINTS OF PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Council Member Abel asked that the pothole in Powell Street get fixed immediately.

Council Member Miskovic extended a thank you to the town employees for their hard work during the recent snow storm and he wished Council a Happy Valentine's Day.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

Motion by Council Member Knight; seconded by Council Member Abel, Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Motion passed.

Greg Eanes Mayor

W. Wade Walker Town Manager