

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 14, 2008**

The April 14, 2008 regular Council meeting of the Rocky Mount Town Council was held in the Council Chambers of the Rocky Mount Municipal Building located at 345 Donald Avenue, Rocky Mount, Virginia at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Steven C. Angle presiding. The following members of Council were present:

Vice Mayor Roger M. Seale and Council Members Stephen F. Agee, Posey W. Dillon, Jerry W. Greer, Sr., John H. Lester, and Sadie W. Tuning

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Angle.

The Town Clerk read for the record the following being present: All members of Town Council as noted, Assistant Town Manager/Community Development Director Matthew C. Hankins, Town Attorney John T. Boitnott, Chief of Police Erik Mollin, Finance Director Linda Woody, Planning & Zoning Administrator Paul Stockwell, Fire Chief Posey W. Dillon, Public Works Director Cecil R. Mason, Deputy Clerk Stacey B. Sink, and Town Clerk Patricia H. Keatts.

The Mayor led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Prior to the meeting, Council had received the agenda for review and consideration of approval.

Vice Mayor Seale requested to add a special concern for consideration under *New Business*, pertaining to the easement at Arrington Flowers. The Town Attorney stated that he had received a letter today from Mr. & Mrs. James Wray's attorney, Mr. David Furrow, stating that he would be out-of-town and was wondering if the easement issue would be on the Council agenda tonight, with the Town Attorney informing Mr. Furrow's office that it was not scheduled to be on the proposed agenda. The Mayor indicated that there should be no action on the matter tonight, but that Council had heard Vice Mayor Seale's request and could consider adding his request on the agenda.

- Motion was made by Council Member Dillon to amend the agenda with the addition as requested by Vice Mayor Seale, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no discussion at this time, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

SPECIAL ITEMS

A) Proclamation Honoring Municipal Clerks Week

It was pointed out by the Mayor that the International Institute of Municipal Clerks has designated May 4 – May 10, 2008 as Municipal Clerks Week. The Mayor read for the record the proclamation honoring Certified Municipal Clerk Patricia H. Keatts, and Municipal Deputy Clerk Stacey B. Sink, recognizing them for their important role as Clerks in local government, and their contribution in serving their communities.

B) Presentation of Resolution of Appreciation

Senator Robert Hurt and Delegate Charles Poindexter presented a joint resolution of appreciation on behalf of the Virginia General Assembly to Mr. Yuji Hairston, Jr. for his heroic action and quick response to rescue Robert and Mary Turner on October 26, 2007 from their home when their propane furnace exploded.

Senator Hurt and Delegate Poindexter made the special accommodation to Mr. Hairston, with Senator Hurt stating that this special accommodation came on heels of the General Assembly session and both he and Delegate Poindexter wanted to add this accommodation to the Council's meeting agenda for special recognition. Senator Hurt read the resolution for the record with Delegate Poindexter making complimentary comments regarding the special accommodation. Mr. Hairston was on hand to receive the accommodation.

On behalf of the Rocky Mount Town Council and Town of Rocky Mount staff, the Mayor presented to Senator Hurt and Delegate Poindexter each a limited edition pencil drawing of the Depot, now known as the Community & Hospitality Center.

PUBLIC HEARING

Let the record show the Mayor recessed the meeting to hold the following public hearing:

The Mayor recessed the meeting to hold the first of three public hearings:

A) Review and Consideration of Rezoning Request of Jackie and Lynda Spence from Industrial, Limited District (M-1) to Residential Business District (R-B). The property is located on State Street.

The Mayor opened the floor to anyone wishing to come before Council to speak regarding this request.

- Jackie Spence, who lives currently on the property on State Street that the request is being made for, thanked Council for hearing their request, stating

that he and his wife live there and want to continue to do so.

- The Planning & Zoning Administrator stated that in order for Mr. and Mrs. Spence to get a home loan for the property, the bank informed them that it needs to be rezoned. He further stated that during their public hearing held on April 1, 2008, the Planning Commission recommended that the request be approved by Town Council.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor reconvened the meeting back into regular session and entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Council Member Dillon to rezone the property from Industrial, Limited District (M-1) to Residential Business District (RB), with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

The Mayor recessed the meeting to hold the second of three public hearings:

- B) Review and Consideration of Amending Article 26 “Central Business District Parking Regulations” Providing that Off-Street Parking shall Conform to Article 11 of the Town of Rocky Mount Zoning & Development Ordinance, Except that the Minimal Parking Spaces shall be Determined Administratively by the Town of Rocky Mount Zoning Administrator.

The Mayor opened the floor to anyone wishing to come before Council to speak regarding this request.

- The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that they had directed staff to localize parking in areas where the Town has centralized parking, and if not adequate parking space, for staff to determine if there is adequate parking. He further informed Council that staff will use the most subjective criteria over one person having that authority. He further stated that during their public hearing held on April 1, 2008, the Planning Commission recommended that Council deny the proposed amendment. He also informed Council that staff is recommending Council to go against the Planning Commission’s recommendation, or that Council refer the matter back to the Planning Commission to review again.
- Council Member Lester recommended that Council turn this matter back over to the Planning Commission, requesting further review, and for the Planning Commission to provide two to three recommendations as alternatives.

There was general discussion by Council regarding having the Planning Commission bring back to Council different alternatives.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor reconvened the meeting back into regular session and entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Vice Mayor Seale to refer the matter back to the Planning Commission for reconsideration to look at alternatives for further study and reconsideration, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. Let the record show that the motion on the floor passed six to one, with Council Member Dillon voting no to the motion on the floor, stating that he did so because about a month ago in looking at doing something administratively with the Wilson Street job, he thinks this will lead up to this same thing, stating he thinks the Planning Commission made the right decision regarding the matter, further stating that he believes that if Council wanted them to look at that, he believes the Planning Commission should look at it again and come up with something else.

The Mayor recessed the meeting to hold the final public hearing:

- C) Review and Consideration of Town of Rocky Mount Planning Commission request for a Public Hearing for a Rezoning from Business, General District (G-B) to Residential Business District (R-B) for Certain Properties Located off of Pell Avenue, and rezoning from Residential District (R-1) to Residential Business (RB) for certain properties located off of Pell Avenue.

The Mayor opened the floor to anyone wishing to come before Council to speak regarding this request.

- The Planning & Zoning Administrator explained to Council that Pell Avenue had several single-family homes that are zoned General Business, which makes them non-conforming uses and structures. He further explained that additions cannot be made to these non-conforming structures, and in addition, an insurance agency might not insure the home if it burned down, with them not being able to rebuilt as a single-family home. It was also explained by the Planning & Zoning Administrator that zoning should take into account the existing characteristics of a neighborhood, even if future planned use is different; and as this area is a transitional area, it could be beneficial to establish this area as Residential-Business District. This would allow for the continued use of single-family homes, while also allowing for limited business uses, such as offices, while also protecting the neighborhood from more intense retail uses and traffic. He further informed Council that during their public hearing of April 1, 2008, the Planning Commission recommended the approval of the proposed Residential-Business District. It was also pointed out that staff, along with the Planning Commission, felt it would be right to take into consideration the general characteristic of neighborhood and also office and home businesses in home, and limiting such things and business-intense.
- The Planning & Zoning Administrator confirmed to Council Member Lester that the response from those living in the area were very limited, but what response he did receive were positive, especially from the homes that would be affected.

- Council Member Greer stated that he had about five people coming to him about this matter, and after explaining the nature of the rezoning request, they were good with it.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor reconvened the meeting back into regular session and entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Council Member Dillon to follow the recommendation of the Planning Commission, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Prior to the meeting, Council had received for consideration of approval the following draft minutes:

- March 10, 2008 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- Motion was made by Council Member Lester to approve the draft council meeting minutes as presented with motion on the floor being seconded by Vice Mayor Seale. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

The approval of the *Consent Agenda* consists of approving any miscellaneous resolutions/proclamations, miscellaneous action, departmental monthly reports, and bill list that were submitted prior to the meeting for Council's review and consideration.

- Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations
 - Review and Consideration of Request of Franklin County Historical Society
 - \$500 to sponsor a band at the grand opening event of the Eastern Gate of The Crooked Road
 - Waiver of sign permit fee for an eventual sign for the Eastern Gate of The Crooked Road
 - Permission to close a section of East Court Street from 9:30 a.m. to Noon on May 24 to help control traffic flow during the annual Veterans' Memorial Day celebration at the Courthouse
 - Review and Consideration of Request of Christian Heritage Academy
 - Permission to hold annual road race on Glennwood Drive

and Scuffling Hill Road on May 16.

- Review and Consideration of Appointment of Paulette Chitwood as a at-large member to the Franklin County Veterans' Memorial Commission
 - Miscellaneous Action
 - Departmental Monthly Report
 - Bill List

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the draft *Consent Agenda*, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Let the record show that no one came forward to speak before Council.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Review and Consideration of "Memorandum of Understanding By and Between The County of Franklin, Virginia & The Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia"

The Assistant Town Manager presented to Council for their review and consideration a draft "Memorandum of Understanding By and Between the County of Franklin, Virginia & the Town of Rocky Mount, Virginia". This was originally brought before Council during their regular meeting January 14, 2008, with the consensus of Council for the MOU to be brought back before Council for consideration of approval once the draft was finalized and ready for review and consideration of adoption between the County of Franklin and Town of Rocky Mount.

It was confirmed to the Mayor by the Assistant Town Manager that all Council's concerns in the past had been addressed in the MOU, and this was in conjunction with the County's proposed whitewater park near the Town's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

There was a question raised by Council Member Dillon regarding Item 6) Park Operations Agreement (d) that states: "The Town shall provide, at no cost to the County, water and sewer services for Pigg River Park. The Town shall waive all connection and service provision fees." The Assistant Town Manager confirmed that this would be the on-going operation of the Town, but also stated that at this time, he did not have the cost numbers.

Council Member Dillon also pointed out Item 7) Additional Agreements (a) that states: "If operations at the treatment plant produce odors that make visiting the park

site less desirous, the County reserves the right to purchase masking agents which shall be supplied to the treatment plant operators and applied on an as-needed basis as determined by park staff.” Council Member Dillon stated that he thinks the Wastewater Treatment Superintendent (or whomever at that time) needs to oversee this part. Council Member Lester informed Council that the Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent was at the meeting when the MOU was being discussed and had commented that sometimes the odor may take someone’s appetite away. Vice Mayor Seale stated that what Item 7(a) was stating, that if there is anything to get rid of the odor, that the cost would be taken care of by the County. Council Member Dillon stated that he believes that Town staff should be involved with this, with Vice Mayor Seale stating that it should be up to the Wastewater Treatment Superintendent to determine what appropriate action would need to be done to get rid of the odor. The Mayor confirmed to Council that consultation with the Wastewater Treatment Plant staff had been discussed and that they would consult with the County regarding any odor situation.

The Town Attorney confirmed to Council that he has not reviewed the document since the last discussion and has not seen the current changes, but he would be happy to take a look at it. He further stated that the MOU states that this is where the Town and County are and where they will be doing, and is not a contractual document. Council Member Dillon questioned if the Town Attorney needed to review the MOU, with the Town Attorney stating that the document was probably prepared by Scott Martin of Franklin County and Town staff, and he is doesn’t know of any other legal review.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Council Member Lester to have the Town Attorney to review the document, making note of the two items mentioned by Council Member Dillon, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Dillon. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

B) Review and Consideration of Adopting Proposed Drought Plan

During the February 11, 2008 regular Council meeting, staff presented to Council for their review the proposed drought plan. The Assistant Town Manager presented prior to the meeting a memorandum dated April 10, 2008 to the Mayor and Town Council from the Assistant Town Manager/Community Development Director regarding a synopsis of that meeting.

Council was informed by the Assistant Town Manager of the following:

- State of Virginia mandates that localities have in place a drought plan before 2010.
- Proposed drought plan has been developed, with the Water Plant

Superintendent working with the Assistant Town Manager to put together conservation needs.

- The proposed drought plan has on-going bench marks for the plan to kick in.
- Also includes proposed ordinance that Council would be asked to pass if Town goes into drought response.
- On April 3, 2008, a public informational meeting was held to receive public input on the proposed drought plan.
- Have received extensive news coverage in *The Franklin News-Post*.
- Has been reviewed with Roanoke Valley Alleghany Regional Commission.

The Town Manager informed Council that it is staff's recommendation that the proposed drought plan be approved.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Council Member Lester to approve the proposed drought plan, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Greer. Discussion ensued. Council Member Dillon commented about the increase of rate fee for people on fixed income, and as he sees it, those on fixed incomes would have to work through the Finance Director to show hardship. The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that he had removed the emergency rates until Council approves, and when that occurs, the rates will kick in. Council Member Dillon stated that if the Town gets to that point, the Finance Director would look into taking this into account. There being no further discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Proposed Restructuring of the Rocky Mount Police Department

The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that the Chief of Police had been given direction to make the Police Department more pro-active, to also show a presence of fighting drugs in the Town, and to implement community policing and Neighborhood Watch programs. It was also pointed out to Council by the Assistant Town Manager that the Chief of Police's plan is at no extra funds to be used by the Town, but does add another level.

The Chief of Police presented to Council a proposed restructuring of the Rocky Mount Police Department as outlined in the memorandum and documents dated April 1, 2008 to the Mayor and Town Council from the Town Manager prior to the meeting.

A PowerPoint presentation was made by the Chief of Police, which consisted of the following:

- ▶ Overview

- Why restructure?
 - Meet Council's direction to move department toward more strategic, proactive operations
 - Increase community interaction
 - Involve the community in the Town
 - Troubleshoot criminal activities
 - Provide new services to the community
 - Increase morale of officers
 - Help retain current officers
 - Attract officers to the Rocky Mount Police Department

- The big PLAN
 - Use existing funds for reorganizing
 - No new funds are required
 - Current budget: \$800,524.31
 - Expected costs for restructure: \$797,979.91
 - Reduce crime by specialization
 - Crime prevention specialists
 - Community oriented police officers
 - Narcotics Investigator
 - Increase understanding with community
 - Neighborhood Watch & Explore programs
 - Increase neighborhood visibility
 - Officers working with the community
 - Retain and attract officers
 - Increase advancement opportunities
 - Training opportunities due to specialization
 - Increase external funding for department
 - Grant opportunities
 - Department accreditation

- How do we do it?
 - The Chief of Police handed out a chart outlining each position and how each position operated within the Police Department.
 - Lieutenant of Operations
 - Accreditation Manager
 - Lieutenant of Investigations and Records
 - Grant Administrator
 - Master Police Officer positions
 - Community oriented policing
 - Master Investigator position
 - Crime Prevention Specialists

- What is the future?
 - Neighborhood Watch
 - Explore post

- Citizen/Senior/Teen academies
- Neighborhood meetings
- Accreditation
- Crime prevention community
- Department website and information

Council Member Dillon stated that the plan presented by the Chief of Police was really a great plan in the way it was laid out and he appreciates the work that was put into it. Council Member Dillon questioned where the funds were being used for the Captain position that was in the budget for last fiscal year that was never filled. He further voiced concern that he did not know that the Captain position was to be in last fiscal year's budget until after the budget had been adopted. The Chief of Police commented that the Police Department will now be having two positions, with the Assistant Town Manager stating that this proposed restructuring plan for the Police Department would be budget neutral, not revenue neutral.

There was discussion regarding the Captain position that was supposedly in last fiscal year's budget pay plan. Council Member Dillon stated that he thinks it is premature for him to vote for this restructuring when it was no such position in last year's funding, and he wants to make sure it is properly funded for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Chief of Police commented that he did not think it was the intention to hide anything from last fiscal year's budget, but that the restructuring should be able to be worked into this upcoming budget as well.

Council Member Agee stated that the Chief of Police is proposing the new restructuring as per Council's instructions and it looks like he has done a good job in doing this.

Council Member Lester stated that one of the key concerns for the restructuring is the drug enforcement, as it is much more severe than anyone can possibly imagine, with the need being great and needing to be addressed as quickly as possible. He further stated that he believes the program the Chief of Police has put forth has the most potential in addressing this problem up front and he appreciates this.

The Mayor questioned the Chief of Police on when he would want the restructuring implemented. The Chief of Police informed Council that if implemented now, he can start the process, but that the program would not be implemented until next fiscal year.

Vice Mayor Seale stated that the Public Safety Committee had reviewed the restructuring as proposed by the Chief of Police, and it is the committee's recommendation that the Chief of Police's restructuring request be approved.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion for Council to

either approve or reject the restructuring request, or postpone until new fiscal year budget takes place, and then take a look at the dollars available.

○ Motion was made by Council Member Lester to approve the restructuring request, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Agee. Discussion ensued. Council Member Dillon stated that he thinks that this needs to be done properly to make sure that funds are available. Council Member Greer agreed with Council Member Dillon's statement. Council Member Lester questioned the statements made by Council Members Dillon and Greer, wondering what they had to do in having anything to do with implementing the program and starting the process, with the budget steering what happens anyway. Council Member Agee stated that this was a public safety issue. The Finance Director confirmed to Council that if the restructuring program was implemented today, it would be budget neutral. Vice Mayor Seale stated that he believes the concerns stated is what would happen in the next budget year. Council Member Dillon stated that he did not know that there was a Captain's position in last fiscal year's budget and now the Chief of Police is requesting to have two Lieutenant positions, further stating that he would like the Chief of Police to have positions, but that they be funded, and that it does not need to be rushed into. He further stated that he thinks the Chief of Police and his department are doing a heck of a good job, but at the same time, wishes the Captain's position was shown last year. Council Member Dillon confirmed to Vice Mayor Seale that his issue was with last fiscal year's budget. There being no further discussion, let the record show a roll call vote was taken. Voting in favor of the motion on the floor were Mayor Angle and Council Members Agee, Lester, Seale and Tuning. Voting in opposition to the motion on the floor were Council Members Dillon and Greer. Let the record further show that the motion on the floor passed five to two.

B) Review and Consideration of Proposed Street Maintenance for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2008 as Proposed by Public Works Director

The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that the Public Works Director was present to answer any questions that they may have regarding the proposed street maintenance for fiscal year ending June 30, 2008 as submitted by the Public Works Director, being:

- ▶ Anderson Street (Dent Street to the end of Dent Street)
- ▶ Leanon Street (Highland Avenue to Edgemont Street)
- ▶ Franklin Street (from College Street to Main Street)
- ▶ Floyd Avenue (from Franklin Street to Taliaferro Street)
- ▶ College Street (from Franklin Street to Maynor Street)

The Public Works Director confirmed to Council that an estimated cost for the paving work as proposed is \$150,000 and it is expected that the work will be performed in June 2008.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Vice Mayor Seale to approve the proposed paving schedule as presented by the Public Works Director, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Lester. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

C) Review of Arrington Property Easement

The Town Attorney informed Council that just this morning he had met with the Assistant Town Manager regarding what was planned for the Council agenda as he had received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. James Wray's attorney, David Furrow, stating that he would be out-of-town during the April 14, 2008 Council meeting and would not be back in time if the Wray/Arrington easement issue was on the agenda, and requested that the matter not be placed on the Council agenda until the May regular Council meeting to allow him to appear before Council with his clients, the Wrays.

The Assistant Town Manager confirmed to Council that his office did not receive the faxed letter from Mr. Furrow until around 10:00 a.m. this date (April 14, 2008). The Town Attorney confirmed to Council that he had responded to Mr. Furrow by personally going by his office and leaving a message with his staff (as Mr. Furrow had already left Rocky Mount to attend his court case) that the easement issue would not be on Council's April 14, 2008 meeting agenda.

Vice Mayor Seale stated that when he had asked that the matter be added to the agenda, he just wanted to come to some resolution regarding the matter.

Council requested a copy of the letter that had been faxed to the Assistant Town Manager's Office today, with the Deputy Clerk providing each Council member a copy of the requested letter, which was read into the record.

Council Member Lester questioned how the additional cost was arrived at as outlined in paragraph 3 of the letter. The Mayor commented that this would be up to both parties' attorneys to work out.

The Mayor stated that with the lack of agreement between the two parties, the Council will ask for a specific remedy to this problem, and since the Town Attorney responded to Mr. Furrow's letter, Council will not take any action during this meeting. He further stated that Council will take action during the May 12, 2008 regular Council meeting if no resolution is made between the two parties, and that he will make specific recommendation to Council during the May 12, 2008 Council meeting.

The Assistant Town Manager was instructed by the Mayor to contact the two attorneys regarding Council's suggestion.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Assistant Town Manager presented to Council the following committee reports:

A) Public Safety Committee

The Public Safety Committee met on March 11, 2008 to discuss the proposed restructuring plan for the Rocky Mount Police Department, which was presented to Council under "New Business", with Council action being taken at that time.

B) Streets, Sidewalks & Sanitation Committee

The Streets, Sidewalks & Sanitation Committee met on April 1, 2008 for the purpose of reviewing speed limit requests by Council.

1. North Main Street
 - i. Increase certain areas from 25 mph to 35 mph
2. Pell Avenue
 - i. Increase certain areas from 25 mph to 35 mph
3. South Main Street
 - i. Decrease certain areas from 35 mph to 25 mph

Council Member Lester stated that since the committee last met, he has had the opportunity to go back and take several looks at each one of the streets, taking into consideration the sight distance. He further stated that some of the conditions have changed on North Main Street, South Main Street, and Pell Avenue, as the Town had changed the speed limits in the past due to existing and future conditions (i.e., workers leaving the former Lane building no longer existing; emergency vehicles now exiting the Emergency Services Building; and ingress/egress of workers at MW Manufacturers). He further commented that if Council is considering changing the speed limits to accommodate situations, the Town may need to implement some type of flashing light system in order to get the driver to know he is approaching a congested area.

There was discussion on what Pell Avenue, South Main Street, and North Main Street speed limits should be.

The Assistant Town Manager recommended to Council that if they were not open to taking action during this meeting, they may want to consider referring it back to the committee for further review and consideration.

The Mayor suggested that Council consider the recommendation of the Assistant Town Manager to refer the matter back to the committee, and for staff to provide cost figures and data (if provided) for three each flashing warning light signs to be placed on each street, similar to what is now on South Main Street.

C) Joint Meeting of the Public Facilities & Special Events Committee and the Farmers' Market Committee

The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that the Public Facilities & Special Events Committee held a joint committee meeting with the Farmers' Market Committee on March 6, 2008 to review proposed changes to the "Rules & Operating Guidelines of the Farmers' Market". Subsequent meetings with the farmers and craft vendors have taken place since the March 6 meeting. The Assistant Town Manager updated Council regarding the outcome of those subsequent meetings.

The Assistant Town Manager further informed Council that both committees recommended Council's approval, along with staff's recommendation of approval, of the new rules and regulations to guide staff and the Town's partners in the operation of the Farmers' Market, with the primary changes to the regulation including:

- Changing the Market year to April 1 – March 31
- Allowing seafood and meat sales from inspected vendors
- Minor fee changes, including the addition of a quarterly rate
- Revised fees for use of all parts of the facility
- Updating definitions of allowed sales
- Revised table layout
- Protections put in place for the structure
- Rules intended to guide respectful, civil behavior by all users

Vice Mayor Seale commented that it looks like the Assistant Town of Rocky Mount Manager had done a good summary from what came out of both meetings, one with the farmers and the other with the crafters. He also stated that the proposed changes may not be perfect, but will address issues of concern.

There being no further discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Vice Mayor Seale to adopt the rules and operating guidelines for the Farmers' Market as presented, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Greer. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously.

RISE 'N SHINE APPEARANCES

The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that Council Members Lester and Tuning attended this *Rise 'N Shine* show with him this morning.

It was brought to Council's attention by the Town Manager that one thing that was brought up by the commentator, Mr. Richard Shoemaker, was The Crooked Road, and not very many people knew that one of the gateways to The Crooked Road was Rocky Mount.

Council discussed community leaders of the Town and County may need to come forward and start some type of fund raising for funds from the private and public sector to be used for some type of music venue to start the ball rolling on this venture, with the Town Council asking that the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager designate a fund account to receive such funds once the fund raising efforts start.

OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST

The Assistant Town Manager brought before Council several other items of interest:

- A letter had been received from a Mr. Smith of Donald Avenue, commending the Public Works Director for coming to his home after hours to work on a sewer line blockage he had.
- New name tags were handed out to all Council members.
- All Council members have received a copy of the proposed budget, with the budget work sessions scheduled for Monday, April 21, and Wednesday, April 23, with both sessions starting at 4:00 p.m. to be held in the Council Chambers.
- An article had appeared in *The Franklin News-Post* about “The Naked Tattoo” van. Staff has been working on this matter for a couple of months, with the Town doing what they can do legally to address the concern.
- Met with Mr. Keister Greer this past Friday regarding Celeste Park, and the Town has placed a sign on the property regarding fund raising for the project.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

A) Council Member Lester

Requested staff to contact Community Partnership for Revitalization to see if they can display on an easel (or something similar) the events that are going on within the Town.

Requested prayer for former Mayor Broaddus M. Shively, who is in the hospital.

B) Council Member Dillon

Requested the Town Clerk to give him a copy of the current Town policy regarding flowers being sent to employees, etc. (Memorial/Gifts Policy).

CLOSED MEETING

Let the record show there were no *Closed Meeting* items at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:01 p.m., motion was made by Vice Mayor Seale to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Tuning and carried unanimously.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia H. Keatts/Town Clerk

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/phk