

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2010**

The August 9, 2010 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:

Council Members Bobby M. Cundiff, Jerry W. Greer, Sr.,
Robert L. Moyer, Robert W. Strickler, and Gregory B. Walker

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Angle.

For the record, the following were present: All members of Town Council as noted, Town Manager C. James Ervin, Assistant Town Manager/Community Development Director Matthew C. Hankins (and Planning & Zoning Administrator), Town Attorney John T. Boitnott, Chief of Police David Cundiff, Fire Chief Charles Robertson, Finance Director Linda Woody, Public Works Director Cecil R. Mason, Superintendent of Water Department Robert Deitrich, Superintendent of Wastewater Treatment Plant Timothy Burton, Community Partnership for Revitalization Executive Director Katie McElroy, and Town Clerk Patricia H. Keatts.

The Mayor led the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Due to the recent tragic loss of Vice Mayor/Fire Chief/Fire Marshal Posey W. Dillon and Firefighter Danny Altice while answering a fire call as members of the Rocky Mount Fire Department on Monday, July 26, 2010, the Mayor requested a "moment of silence" immediately following the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

- Motion was made by Council Member Strickler to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Walker and carried unanimously by those present.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Let the record show there were none at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING

Let the record show there were none at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- July 12, 2010 Regular Council Meeting

The Mayor asked if there were any corrections, and there being none, the Mayor entertained a motion.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the draft Council meeting minutes as presented with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Cundiff. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously by those present.

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 approval of draft "Resolution by the Rocky Mount Town Council in Support of United Way of Franklin County, Inc."
- Miscellaneous Action
- Departmental Monthly Report
- Bill List

There being no discussion, the Mayor entertained a motion.

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

HEARING OF CITIZENS

Let the record show that no one had contacted the Town Clerk's Office to come before Council.

The Mayor opened the floor to anyone wishing to come before Council at this time.

Council Member Greer stated that Mr. James Jarrells would like to come before Council regarding a solution for the stoplight located at State Route 40 West. The Mayor invited Mr. Jarrells to the podium to speak.

- Mr. James Jarrells of 50 Fairlawn Drive, Rocky Mount, came before Council stating that as he attempts to make a left hand turn at the intersection of State Route 40 West and Fairlawn Drive, it is very difficult, and he has actually had to make that turn while the light is still red, as it does not turn green to allow him to make that turn. He requested that the Town consider making that a yield on green so traffic can go when there is no oncoming traffic. The Mayor requested that the Chief of Police look into this matter. The Town Manager stated that staff will get a determination from Virginia Department of Transportation if the sight distances are met, and also see what it would cost if the traffic heads have to be changed.
- A young man by the name of Charles Rakes of 115 Claiborne Avenue, Apartment 3, Rocky Mount, came before Council requesting a place for children to have a place to play after school, and to do things, as he is getting really bored looking at television. He confirmed to the Mayor that he does go to the Town parks to play. The Mayor thanked him for bringing this before Council.

OLD BUSINESS

Let the record show there were none at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

A) Annual Town Hall Meeting

The Town Manager stated that at the request of Council, staff was reminding Council that it is time again to hold an annual Town Hall meeting similar to what was done last October, which at that time, each department head presented to the public a short synopsis of what their department had accomplished during the past year. He further stated that if Council so desires, another Town Hall meeting could be held in October to give each department an opportunity to update the public, and also give Council an opportunity to receive input from the public. The Town Clerk was advised to see what dates in October would be available and to contact Council of those available dates, with a Monday evening being preferred.

B) Appointment to Rocky Mount Beautification and Urban Design (BUD) Commission

The Assistant Town Manager informed Council that staff had received a letter from Lorinda G. Lionberger, Chairman of the Rocky Mount Beautification and Urban Design (BUD) Commission, requesting Council's review and consideration of re-appointing Al Angle, Barbara Garst and Susan Haggood to three-year terms as voting members of the BUD Commission, with all three consenting to serve, if appointed.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to approve the request to re-appoint Al Angle, Barbara Garst and Susan Haggood to three-year terms as voting members of the BUD Commission, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously by those present.

C) Appointment of Town of Rocky Mount Fire Marshal

The Town Manager informed Council that due to the recent tragic loss of Fire Marshal Posey Dillon, Council must appoint a Fire Marshal for the Town of Rocky Mount at this time per State and Town Code.

- Motion was made by Council Member Cundiff to appoint Fire Chief Charles Robertson as Fire Marshal for the Town of Rocky Mount, with motion being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously by those present.

Fire Chief Robertson thanked Council for their support.

D) Appointment of Vice Mayor for Rocky Mount Town Council

The Town Manager informed Council that due to the recent tragic loss of Vice Mayor Dillon, Council must appoint a Vice Mayor to the Rocky Mount Town Council at this time in accordance with Town Code.

- Motion was made by Council Member Greer to nominate Council Member Walker as Vice Mayor, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Strickler. There being no further names submitted and no discussion, let the record show that the motion on the floor passed unanimously by those present.

Vice Mayor Walker thanked Council for the nomination and stated that he would do his best.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A) Finance & Human Services Committee

Council was informed by the Town Manager that the Finance & Human Services Committee had met on July 22, 2010 to review several issues, being:

1. The Mayor had requested that the Committee consider ways to review Town purchases. It was the decision of the Committee that a summary of each bill run be delivered to the Committee members as part of their weekly packet, and that any questions they had regarding a specific item could be addressed prior to the next scheduled Council meeting.
2. The Committee also heard an overview of the current holiday pay policy from the Town Manager and representatives from the Finance Department. It was the recommendation of the Committee that Town staff draft a holiday pay policy that shifts from the current practice of accumulating time as leave and move to a standardized system of paying holiday time to employees in essential positions. A policy will be drafted and presented to Council within the next two months.
3. The Finance Director participated in discussion with the Committee on how to improve the budget development process and several ideas emerged. These included: larger print; a strategic focus on the budget during the initial work sessions; and linking of outside agency funding to Town objectives.

Chairman Strickler mentioned that the Committee had given a lot of thought and discussion on these items, and he believes everything discussed seemed very reasonable and is something they can live with, with them seeing if it works, especially with the bills, and he also thinks the holiday pay adjustment is appropriate, and regarding the budget, always looking at ways to improve the process.

- Motion was made by Council Member Strickler to approve the recommendations of the Finance & Human Services Committee, 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 by those present.

B) Public Utilities Committee

The Town Manager reported to Council that the Public Utilities Committee met on July 22, 2010 to discuss the Town's water manufacturing, distribution and billing system. He further reported that there was significant discussion with Town staff on how to increase the amount of water accounted for. It was agreed during that meeting that the Public Works Director would randomly test some older meters in the system and that the Superintendent of the Water Plant would calibrate the

pumps at the Water Plant as a starting measure. The Committee agreed to meet again at the end of August to receive the report prepared by Thompson & Litton relative to the Town's water system, with that meeting being scheduled for August 31, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Cundiff stated that they are trying to get handle on how much water is being made, how much the accountability is, and if there are any errors in it, they can catch it and let the people know that the Town is doing its job.

Let the record show that a motion is not needed at this time.

OTHER MATTERS, CONCERNS AND RISE 'N SHINE APPEARANCES

A) Referrals to Planning Commission from Town Council

The Assistant Town Manager confirmed to the Mayor that there were no referrals at this time from the Planning Commission; also, the Council did not refer anything to the Planning Commission at this time.

B) Rise 'N Shine Appearances

The Town Manager confirmed to the Mayor that he had appeared on the Rise 'N Shine show early today.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

A) Council Member Greer

- Requested that there be a committee set up to review the Town of Rocky Mount's Charter, with him also requesting to be on that committee. The Mayor assigned Vice Mayor Walker and Council Member Cundiff to serve on the committee as well. The Town Clerk will check on available dates for this meeting.

CLOSED MEETING

At 7:20 p.m., motion was made by Council Member Strickler to go into *Closed Meeting*, and seconded by Council Member Greer and carried unanimously to discuss the following:

- Section 2.2-3711(A).1 – Discussion, consideration or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of any public body (Rocky Mount Town Council).

At 7:50 p.m., motion was made by Council Member Greer to come out of *Closed Meeting* and to reconvene the meeting back into open session, with motion on the floor being seconded by Council Member Moyer and carried unanimously by those present.

CERTIFICATE OF CLOSED MEETING

Whereas, the Town of Rocky Mount Council has convened a *Closed Meeting* on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

Whereas, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires certification by this council that such *Closed Meeting* was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Rocky Mount Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each members' knowledge: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the *Closed Meeting* was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting by the public body.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

- Motion was made by Council Member Strickler certifying that: (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under this chapter was discussed; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or consider in the meeting by the public body was discussed. Motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Walker. The Mayor swore to adopt the motion on the floor by Council Member Strickler that this was all that was discussed as defined in Section 2.2-3412 Code of Virginia. Voting yes were Vice Mayor Gregory B. Walker and Council Members Bobby M. Cundiff, Jerry W. Greer, Sr., Robert L. Moyer, and Robert W. Strickler.

The Mayor reported that no action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:53 p.m., motion was made by Council Member Cundiff to adjourn, seconded by Council Member Moyer and carried unanimously by those present.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Patricia H. Keatts/Town Clerk

/phk