

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**March 9, 2020
7:00 p.m.**

The following members of Council were present: Mayor Steven C. Angle
Vice Mayor Billie W. Stockton
Council Member Bobby M. Cundiff
Council Member Robert L. Moyer
Council Member Mark H. Newbill
Council Member Jon W. Snead
Council Member Gregory B. Walker

The following staff members were also present: John T. Boitnott, Town Attorney
Tim Burton, Waste Water Treatment Superintendent
Ken Criner, Chief of Police
Rebecca H. Dillon, Town Clerk/Executive Administrative Assistant
C. James Ervin, Town Manager
Edward "Jeff" Gauldin, Water Superintendent
Matthew C. Hankins, Assistant Town Manager
Jessica Heckman, Town Planner/ Planning Administrator
Brian Schofield, Public Works Superintendent
Linda P. Woody, Finance Director
Elizabeth "Beth" Simms Campos

Regular Council Meeting of the Rocky Mount Town Council (hereafter referred to as "Council") was held in the Council Chambers of the Rocky Mount Municipal Building located at 345 Donald Avenue, Rocky Mount, Virginia, with Mayor Steven C. Angle presiding.

1. Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Angle led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Approval of Agenda

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

Motion By: Vice Mayor Stockton
Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

4. Special Items

Town Manager introduced Ms. Elizabeth "Beth" Simms Campos as Beth will fill the Town of Rocky Mount's new Economic Development & Cultural Place Making position.

Ms. Campos thanked Council for the opportunity given to her.

Also under Special Items, Town Manager Ervin gave a Coronavirus update by sharing with Council how the Town of Rocky Mount was preparing for the virus. Town Manager Ervin shared that some of the Town Employees were using a glove protocol as well as protective gear appropriate for what the Town considered essential personnel. Town employees were meeting in groups of only three when it was necessary to meet as well as practicing social distancing.

Lastly under Special Items, Mrs. Peggy Santrock was recognized for her many years of service to the Town on the Economic Development Authority. Mayor Angle presented Mrs. Santrock with a gift from the Town by way of thanking her for her service.

5. Public Hearing

5.1 Disposition of Public Property in the Industrial Park

Prior to the meeting, an ad was placed in the Franklin News Post as public notice of this public hearing.

Mayor Angle moved the meeting into recess for the public hearing.

Assistant Town Manager Hankins presented for Council's consideration the authorization for disposition of public property on Weaver Street in Rocky Mount. The prospect was interested in the 3.1 acres of property located across the road from NewBold Corporation by Empire Foods under the Tax Map & Parcel Number 20300 00101. The prospect did not wish for the name of the business to be made public until the performance agreement could be completed and signed. Since the property is located in the industrial park and is jointly owned by Rocky Mount and Franklin County, the County must also agree to the terms of the contract. Staff recommended that Council provide two items of incentive to attract the investment which would be the Town's one-quarter interest in the property valued at \$21,000 and a cash incentive to assist the company with grading and stormwater.

Mayor Angle asked if anyone wished to speak. No one came forward.

Mayor Angle returned the meeting to regular session.

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Council Member Moyer

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (6): Vice Mayor Stockton, Council Member Cundiff, Council Member Moyer, Council Member Newbill, Council Member Snead, and Council Member Walker

Approved (6 to 0)

6. Approval of Draft Minutes

6.1 February 10, 2020 - Regular Meeting Minutes

Received by Council in their packet for this scheduled meeting were draft minutes for review and consideration of approval.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

7. Approval of Consent Agenda

This month's consent agenda consists of the following items:

7.1 Miscellaneous Action (none at this time)

7.2 Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations (none at this time)

7.3 Departmental Monthly Reports

7.3.1 Community Development Department

7.3.2 Finance Department

7.3.3 Fire Department

7.3.4 Police Department

7.3.5 Public Works Department

7.3.6 Wastewater Department

7.3.7 Water Department

Motion By: Council Member Cundiff

Second: Council Member Moyer

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

8. Hearing of Citizens

Mayor Angle opened the floor to any citizens wishing to speak.

Let the record show that no one came forward.

9. Old Business (none at this time)

10. New Business

- 10.1 Review and Consideration of the Appropriation of Funds Toward the Purchase of a UTV for the Rocky Mount Police Department

Town Manager Ervin, shared with Council an opportunity for the Rocky Mount Police Dept. to purchase a Kubota UTV for \$9,167 for which a resolution was presented. The Rocky Mount Police Department was provided a Kubota previously for a one-year period to use within the department however, the term of that one-year donation has expired and a new opportunity to purchase the Kubota has been given to the Town. Town Manager Ervin stated that the funds for the purchase would come from the General Fund contingency.

Motion By: Vice Mayor Stockton

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: (5): Vice Mayor Stockton, Council Member Moyer, Council Member Newbill, Council Member Snead, and Council Member Walker

Nays: (1): Council Member Cundiff

Approved (5 to 1)

Let the record show that the vote was 5-1 in favor of the Kubota purchase with Council Member Cundiff being the only no vote.

- 10.2 Review and Consideration of the Franklin County Family Resource Center 5K Run/Walk for Domestic Violence.

Town Manager Ervin presented to Council the Franklin County Family Resource Center 5K Run/Walk for Domestic Violence. The event would begin at 9:00 a.m. with the route of the run/walk, the same as the previous year. The Rocky Mount Police Department had reviewed and approved the plans for the event.

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

10.3 Review and Consideration of the Kingdom Run 5K.

Town Manager Ervin presented to Council the Kingdom Run benefit 5K scheduled for August 29, 2020. The event will begin at 8:00 a.m. at the Rocky Mount church of God which is also where the event will end. Organizer, Jacqueline C. Meador met with the Rocky Mount Police Department who reviewed and approved the plans for the benefit.

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Newbill

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

10.4 Review and Consideration of Johnny CASA 5 Miler-5K Run/Walk.

The Johnny CASA 5Miler-5K Run/Walk Event scheduled for December 19, 2020, will begin at 9:00 a.m. with the same course as the event has had for the previous three years. The organizer, Mr. Johnny Nolen, met with the Rocky Mount Police Department to review the event information. The Police Department approved the plans for the race.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Cundiff

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

11. Committee Reports

11.1 Finance and Human Services Committee Meeting on February 25, 2020

Town Manager Ervin presented to the Council a summary of the Finance and Human Services Committee meeting such as the proposed renewal for health insurance covering town staff for the 2021 fiscal year. The recommendation given to Council by the Finance Committee was to approve the renewal with Local Choice including the proposed contribution rates in the budget. There was also a consensus to clearly communicate to staff that FY2021 would be the last year that the Town agreed to pay 100% of the employee only portion.

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Council Member Newbill

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

11.2 Streets, Sidewalks and Streetlights Committee Meeting on February 27, 2020

The Streets, Sidewalks and Streetlights Committee met on February 27th, and visited the Old Fort Road extension to view the parking issues. Members of the Committee as well as members of Council agreed that navigation of large Public Works and Public Safety equipment was an issue. The fire truck was taken up to Old Fort Rd and a good deal of curbside discussion was made. Also taken into consideration was the given number of houses and width of the street as well as the cost of improvements to the neighborhood. The RPUD zoning classification in the neighborhood was an issue as well. It was the Committee's recommendation to send this item back to the Planning Commission and ask how the Town can tweak the residential zoning to the betterment of the neighborhood. Council Member Snead asked if some community meetings could be set up to try and help resolve the issues. Mayor Angle ask if PC had set up any meetings. Assistant Town Manager Hankins stated it would likely not be a fast process as holding such meetings would take time.

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

Approved

12. Other Matters, Concerns and Rise 'N Shine Appearances

Town Manager Ervin was on Rise 'N Shine.

Mayor Angle expressed concern of the first left turn into the Rose's parking lot just prior to McDonald's heading West. Town Manager Ervin stated that McDonald's had helped the Town to purchase a barricade for use regarding that turn but the Town had reservations about using it at this time due to the entrance needing paving. CM Walker asked if the turn was clearly marked No Left Turn. \$15,000 was paid for the barricade thus the Town wanted to take care of the barricade for future use. Vice Mayor Stockton suggested the Town move forward with putting some measure into place as if someone were to have a fatality at the entrance, the cost would be much higher. Vice Mayor Stockton also suggested the Town air on the side of safety and correct the problem sooner rather than later.

Mayor Angle asked if Town Manager Ervin would update council regarding the lack of EMT services in Rocky Mount during the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m. Town Manager Ervin shared with Council that in his research of the Franklin County Rescue Squad, Town Manager Ervin had learned that the Rescue Squad had over the years began to grow smaller and smaller in people and therefore the best times of the day to receive a good response time to a call placed would be between the hours referenced by Mayor Angle. Town Manager Ervin shared that the response time of calls was on average about 9 1/2 minutes when fully staffed but increased to about 13 minutes when staffed lower or it could even be as much as a 20 minute wait response as an ambulance could possibly be coming from Ferrum or Fork Mountain or longer distance. disadvantage of the Town and the nursing homes in the Town. The question was asked of the rescue squad why didn't the squad have an evening shift to run calls to give better response time and the answer was greeted with imbalance. Mayor Angle asked for movement as he would like the problem to be corrected sooner rather than later. Council Member Cundiff stated the Town should have the services available to the people of the Town. Council Member Cundiff then complimented Mayor Angle and Town Manager Ervin for stepping in and trying to remedy the problem.

13. Closed Meeting and Action

Mayor read aloud sections.

13.1 Section 2.2-3711(A).7

Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel. (Uptown Owned Property)

13.2 Section 2.2-3711(A).5

Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry, or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community. (Industrial Park)

Enter Closed Meeting

Motion: To go into closed session under the Virginia Code Section cited below.

Time: 7:45 p.m.

Certificate of Closed Meeting Discussion:

Council certified unanimously that nothing was discussed in the closed meeting other than what was stated in the motion to enter the closed meeting. No action was taken during the closed meeting.

Whereas, the Rocky Mount Town Council has convened a closed meeting on Monday, March 14, 2016 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 (1950), as amended, 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

14. Adjournment

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Time of Adjournment: 8:26 p.m.

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

Rebecca H. Dillon, Town Clerk