

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 11, 2016**

The April 11, 2016 regular 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, at 7:00 p.m. with Mayor Steven C. Angle presiding.

The following members of Council were present:

- Mayor Steven C. Angle
- Vice Mayor Gregory B. Walker
- Bobby M. Cundiff
- P. Ann Love
- Robert L. Moyer
- Jon W. Snead
- Billie W. Stockton

The following staff members were also present:

- John Boitnott, Town Attorney
- Tim Burton, Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent
- Bob Deitrich, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent
- Rebecca Dillon, Executive Administrative Assistant
- C. James Ervin, Town Manager
- Josh Gibson, Town Planner
- Matthew Hankins, Assistant Town Manager
- Mark Lovern, Lieutenant, Rocky Mount Police Department
- Cecil Mason, Public Works Director
- Linda Woody, Finance Director

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Steven C. Angle.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Angle led in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Agenda amended under special items for the renaming of the Rocky Mount Farmer's Market to the Dorothy R. Cundiff Rocky Mount Farmer's Market.

Presentation of a resolution to Mrs. Cundiff honoring her for her years of service and proclaiming that the Farmer's Market is to be renamed in her honor.

**Motion: To approve the agenda as amended**

**Motion By: Council Member Snead**

**Second: Vice Mayor Walker**

**Motion Discussion: None**

**Ayes: Cundiff, Love, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker**

**Nays: None**

**Action: Approve Amended Agenda by a unanimous vote**

### **SPECIAL ITEMS**

Recognition of Dorothy R. Cundiff for her many years of service to the Town of Rocky Mount and surrounding Franklin County. Mrs. Cundiff has put in tireless hours of work for the betterment of the community with Franklin County Retail Merchants whom she has served for 53 years. With events like the Fun Festival, Auctions, the Holiday Gift and Craft Show, the Farmer's Appreciation Day, Santa on the Market and the annual Christmas Parade. Mrs. Cundiff has also helped sustain the businesses in Rocky Mount by providing essential services like insurance and resources for over five decades.

Recognition of Tommy and Ann Roberson on occasion of their retirement from the clothing store both of them worked in throughout many years of dedicated service. Through providing outstanding customer service in their years of running the retail store The Rocky Mount Town Council declared the week of April 11, 2016 to be Tommy and Ann Roberson Week in the Town of Rocky Mount.

One other item presented was the Community Economic Development Award that Mr. Hankins was presented with last month in Williamsburg. It was awarded to The Town of Rocky Mount for communities fewer than 10,000 residents for the Harvester Project.

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Mayor Angle recessed the meeting to go into public hearing.

Special Exception Use Request for Twin Creek's Distillery: The special exception permit is for a light manufacturing use and Central Business District (CBD). Twin Creek's Distillery is to relocate from 135 Byrd Lane, Rocky Mount to the lower floor of 510 Franklin Street. A special use permit is required because the production does not fit into our other uses in the Town's zoning ordinance.

The property is proposed to have several different uses among them are a cultural museum, an events space, a sales front, a tasting room and a gift shop. Mr. Hankins stated the distillery relocation would be a potential economic and tourism win for the Town as well as being next door to the Harvester which will help capitalize on the cultural strengths of the region and help to bring more people into the Town to spend money with the Town. The planning commission recommended approval 7-0 with the condition that the property should have signage installed that would be clear on where deliveries and pickups would go and parking patterns. Staff recommended approval with the condition in place of the Planning Commission.

Mr. Heartberger spoke representing the applicant saying that he really appreciated all the help and support that he and his people had been given here in Rocky Mount and stated that they

were asking to relocate to the Jones Building because they feel the location would better suite their business and objectives while promoting tourism in the town.

The Mayor opened the floor that if anyone would like to speak they could at this time come to the podium. No one came so the Mayor moved the meeting back into regular session.

**Motion:** The motion was made to approve the special use request based on the Planning Commission's unanimous recommendation with their condition of signage.

**Motion By:** Council Member Snead

**Second:** Vice Mayor Walker

**Motion Discussion:** Council Member Cundiff spoke that he had to vote his conscious.

**Ayes:** Love, Snead, Stockton, Walker

**Nays:** Council Member Cundiff voted no.

Council Member Moyer voted no.

**Action:** The vote was 4-2 in favor of the Special Exception Use Request for Twin Creek's Distillery to move into the Jones Building at 510 Franklin Street, Rocky Mount, VA 24151 with the condition of signage.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

- March 14, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes

**Motion:** To approve the minutes with one correction and that would be to let the record show that Council Member Moyer voted no on closing Franklin Street in downtown Rocky Mount for the Moonshine Festival. Motion was made to approve the draft minutes with the correction as cited.

**Motion By:** Council Member Walker

**Second:** Council Member Stockton

**Motion Discussion:** None

**Ayes:** Cundiff, Love, Moyer, Stockton, Snead, Walker

**Nays:** None

**Action:** Approved the amended draft minutes

## **APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**

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

(1) **Miscellaneous Action:**

(2) **Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations:** Resolution by the Town of Rocky Mount Town Council Addressing Surety or Town E&S/SWM Projects

(3) **Department Monthly Reports**

- Community Development Department
- Finance Department
- Fire Department
- Police Department
- Public Works Department

- Wastewater Department
- Water Department

**Discussion:** None

**Motion:** To approve the consent agenda

**Motion By:** Council Member Stockton

**Second:** Council Member Love

**Motion Discussion:** None

**Ayes:** Cundiff, Love, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker

**Nays:** None

**Action:** The motion carried unanimously.

## **HEARING OF CITIZENS**

Mayor Angle opened the floor to anyone wishing to speak. No one came forward.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

Moonshine Festival:

Mrs. Cynthia Simms Willis, Chairperson of the Moonshine Festival spoke regarding the Festival and to ask Town Council if they would consider changing the opening time from 12:00 noon to 9:00 a.m. in closing Franklin Street for the festival.

Sheila Copenhaver spoke and made Council aware that she had not been contacted regarding the upcoming Moonshine event. Mrs. Copenhaver will close her store for the day and have the event already planned six months ago in the Roanoke store.

The Mayor said Council had three options:

1. Resend closing the street altogether
2. Leave the time as previously agreed to
3. Adjust the time in some way

Greg Winge, 135 Hatcher Street, Rocky Mount, VA, 24151, spoke that he would like to see the Moonshine Festival be a successful economic event.

Lieutenant Mark Lovern spoke and asked Council if they were aware of the Chug For The Jug race going on that morning and the police department would not have anyone available to help with the festival until after the race had concluded.

Council Member Snead stated that he still supported his original decision to close the street from 12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m.

Council Member Cundiff stated that Council went out of their way to be accommodating to the festival the previous Council meeting and stressed that it is no small thing to close any street especially Franklin Street on a Saturday.

Vice Mayor Walker stated to just leave the festival as it is.

The Mayor stated that the festival will stay as it is from 12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Presentation of FY 2017 Proposed Budget: The Town Manager, Mr. Ervin, gave highlights of the proposed budget.

- General Fund 7.9 million dollars
- Utility Fund is 2.8 million dollars
- Utility Capital Fund is \$600,000
- Budget estimates at 11.4 million dollars including putting \$363,000 back into fund balance
- Utility Capital Fund putting \$180,000 back into fund balance and budgeting \$120,000 in those combined funds for contingency
- The budget is balanced and holds out \$363,000 for future flexibility
- Real Estate, Personal Property and BPOL rates continues to be flat
- Growth is expected in most of the revenue streams due to the local economy doing well

Expected are the following:

- Real Estate up 2.2% and property taxes up 7.5%
- Meals and lodging taxes up 6.5%.
- Proposed is a \$1.00 refuse collection as well as \$2.00 for commercial to set aside money for a new refuse collection truck and Town issued cans. Mr. Ervin recommended the Town prefund that purchase.
- Mr. Hankins is purposing moving the transient occupancy tax from 5 to 10%. Also purposed is a \$125,000 campaign for branding and marketing to bring more people into the town to shop, work and play.
- In the budget if Council so chooses to issue them is a 2.5% merit raise for your staff and a 1% COLA should you choose to give it out.

Capital:

- \$180,000 for our participation in the new radio system
- \$50,000 for the long plan of the way finding sign system
- \$50,000 deposit down on the North Main redevelopment plans
- Two new Rocky Mount police vehicles for \$74,000
- Continued work on the Bernard Road Storm and Sidewalk
- \$120,000 marked for Engineering
- \$900,000 Veterans Memorial Park Bank Stabilization
- \$60,000 for security improvements in the Municipal Building
- \$160,000 for building improvements for the water plant and our water distribution system
- \$168,000 to our wastewater plant and our wastewater collection system

As required by law, the budget is balanced but is just proposed and can be added to or taken away from.

Request permission for street closure and use of parking lots for Court Days, Christmas Tree Lighting and Come Home to a Franklin County Christmas:

Mr. Ervin spoke and Mrs. Carolyn Johnson was in the audience. Everything was the same as the previous year.

**Motion: To approve the request**

**Motion By: Council Member Love**

**Second: Council Member Stockton**

**Motion Discussion: None**

**Ayes: Cundiff, Love, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Moyer**

**Nays: None**

**Action: The request was passed unanimously**

Floyd Avenue Fire Station Possible Roof Replacement:

Mr. Ervin spoke regarding the fire department roof. Approximately 5 weeks ago the roof developed a significant leak and the leak made its entrance into the building causing some damage on the inside. It appears to be a timely repair, thus summited for your consideration is an appropriation resolution asking you to move \$28,000 out of the General Fund contingency to enable the Fire Chief to get the roof fixed.

**Motion: To replace the roof at the fire station**

**Motion By: Council Member Cundiff**

**Second: Council Member Snead**

**Motion Discussion: None**

**Ayes: Cundiff, Love, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Moyer**

**Nays: None**

**Action: The request was passed unanimously**

Christian Heritage Academy Heritage Classic 5K Race:

Mr. Ervin spoke for Christian Heritage Academy regarding the 5K Race to be held on May 21, 2016 on Glenwood Drive and Scuffling Hill Road in Rocky Mount, VA. The race is approved by the police department.

**Motion: To approve the request**

**Motion By: Council Member Snead**

**Second: Council Member Cundiff**

**Motion Discussion: None**

**Ayes: Cundiff, Love, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Moyer**

**Nays: None**

**Action:** The request was approved unanimously

**OTHER MATTERS & CONCERNS and Rise 'N Shine Appearances**

Mr. Hankins was on Rise 'N Shine Monday morning.

**CLOSED MEETING & ACTION**

Enter Closed Meeting

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

**Time:** 8:18 p.m.

**Virginia Code Section:**

**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 (Town Manager’s Office).**

**Motion By:** Council Member Love

**Second:** Council Member Stockton

**Motion Discussion:** None

**Ayes:** Cundiff, Love, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker

**Nays:** None

**Action:** Meeting convened into a closed session by a unanimous vote

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.

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Steven C. Angle, Mayor

(Exit Closed Meeting and Reconvene into regular session for the discussion that resumed regarding the Franklin County Moonshine Festival.)

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** To adjourn meeting

**Time:** 8:30 p.m.

**Motion By:** Vice Mayor Walker

**Second:** Council Member Snead

**Motion Discussion:** None

**Ayes:** Cundiff, Love, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker

**Nays:** None

**Action:** Meeting convened

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Steven C. Angle, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Rebecca H. Dillon, Acting Town Clerk