

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 14, 2017**

The August 14, 2017 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, 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
- Robert L. Moyer
- Jon W. Snead
- Billie W. Stockton
- Mark H. Newbill

The following staff members were also present:

- John Boitnott, Town Attorney
- Tim Burton, Waste Water Superintendent
- Ken Criner, Chief of Police
- Robert Deitrich, Water Plant Superintendent
- Rebecca H. Dillon, Executive Administrative Assistant
- C. James Ervin, Town Manager
- Matthew Hankins, Assistant Town Manager
- Jessica Heckman, Town Planner
- Mark Lovern, Lieutenant of Patrol
- Brian Schofield, Public Works Superintendent
- Linda P. 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

Prior to the meeting, Council had received the agenda for review and consideration of approval. At the meeting, two items were added to the agenda. One was a Special Item of

proclamation for The Rocky Mount First Church of the Brethren 60th Anniversary and the other item was a personnel recognition. The position vacancy of Town Planner was filled by Mrs. Jessica Heckman.

Mrs. Heckman came to the podium and spoke of how happy she was to be with the Town and to be able to fill the Town's Planner position.

Motion: To approve the agenda

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Vice Mayor Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Approved the agenda by a unanimous vote.

SPECIAL ITEMS

Special recognition was given for First Church of the Brethren in regard of their 60th Anniversary. The Church began as a vision of dedicated individuals. The new fellowship held its first meeting on February 3, 1955. After careful consideration of sites within the Town of Rocky Mount, the current location of the Church House was selected and construction began in 1957. The first service of the new Church occurred March 2, 1958 with the building being dedicated on June 8, 1958.

After the Mayor read the proclamation, the Pastor of the First Church of the Brethren came to the podium and spoke a few words regarding the church. The Pastor spoke on how long it had been in Rocky Mount and its relationship to the Town of Rocky Mount as well as how thankful he was to be part of not only the church but also its 60th anniversary.

PUBLIC HEARING

None at this time

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

- July 10, 2017 – Regular Council Meeting

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the draft minutes

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Vice Mayor Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Approved the motion by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

- (1) **Miscellaneous Action:** (none at this time)
- (2) **Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations** (none at this time)
- (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 as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Cundiff

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Approved the consent agenda as presented by a unanimous vote.

HEARING OF CITIZENS

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

For the record, no one came forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Resolution for Bond Proceeds

Mr. Ervin stated that at the previous July Town Council Meeting, Town Council had directed Staff as to how to use the \$345,154 of bond proceeds.

Town Council allocated the following:

Angle Bridge Repairs \$150,000

Mary Elizabeth Park renovations \$80,000

Public Works pick-up \$42,000

Public Works chipper \$45,000

Farmer's Market marquee and repairs \$25,000

Public Works plow for pick-up \$3,154

Council Member Cundiff stated that the Town should oblige the Planning Commission and go through the normal procedure allowing the Planning Commission to make a recommendation for the marquee and its use as it would likely have to have a special permit. Mr. Ervin stated that he agreed with Council Member Cundiff that there would indeed need to be a special use permit granted for the marquee, therefore Council should allow for the recommendation from the Planning Commission regarding the marquee to come full course.

Discussion: None

Motion: To make the funds available for the marquee but to accept input from the Planning Commission on the marquee and the repairs at the Farmer's Market.

Motion By: Council Member Cundiff

Second: Council Member Snead

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Approved the motion by a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Friends of the Family Resource Center to hold a Run/Walk for Domestic Violence on October 21, 2017.

Mr. Ervin stated that the Friends of the Family Resource Center and the Family Resource Center planned to hold a 5K run/walk event beginning at 9:00 a.m. on October 21, 2017 on the streets of Rocky Mount. Angela Phillips, Director of the Franklin County Family Resource

Center had been in touch with the Rocky Mount Police Department who reviewed and approved the event.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the request

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Motion approved by a unanimous vote

2. Farmers Market Management Services

Mr. Hankins stated that in the Spring of 2009, Rocky Mount Town Council authorized the Town staff to engage Franklin County Retail Merchants Association and its executive director, Mrs. Dorothy Cundiff, to handle daily management of the Rocky Mount Farmers Market. During the past eight years, Mrs. Cundiff has been very valuable in handling the daily affairs of the market. Mrs. Cundiff's office is located near the market, and her knowledge of the vendors and their crops, crafts and products has helped to continue a robust market. There are however, procurement requirements and to meet those requirements Council must make a decision regarding the further management of the market. The contract for the market is valued at over \$5,000 per year so the Town must do one of the following.

- a) Bid the contract out to interested parties, welcoming the opportunity for Retail Merchants or any other interested party to submit a bid; or
- b) Return the management to the Community Development Department. Should this occur, staff would recommend hiring a part-time staff member to be on site for the start of market days.

The Mayor stated that Council would like to send the information to the Public Facilities and Special Events Committee for discussion. The Mayor asked Council Member Moyer who is chairman of the Public Facilities and Special Events Committee to bring a recommendation back to Council.

3. Franklin County High School Homecoming Parade

The Franklin County High School Student Council Association (SCA) was requesting permission to have the annual Homecoming Parade in Rocky Mount. The parade will be held on September 21, 2017 beginning at 6:30 p.m. The parade route will be different from last year but it has been reviewed and approved by Lt. Lovern of the Rocky Mount Police Department.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the request

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Cundiff

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Motion approved by a unanimous vote

4. Franklin County Virginia Paranormal Ghost Walking Tour

Mr. James Williams of 3230 Webster Road, Glade Hill, Va. 24092 stated that the Franklin County Virginia Paranormal (FCVAP) would like to conduct a ghost walking tour on the streets of downtown Rocky Mount. The walk is planned for the dates of October 6, October 13, October 20 and October 27, 2017. The walk would be guided with a narrator and guide. This was approved by the police department.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the request

Motion By: Vice Mayor Walker

Second: Council Member Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: Motion approved by a unanimous vote

5. Request from Mr. Ben Pinckard of Mowing Bank on South Main Street

Mr. Pinkard asked to address Council regarding the mowing of a bank area on South Main Street. He believes that VDOT promised to mow those areas when the street was widened but has not done so. He would like the Town to mow them more frequently. Staff have met with Mr. Pinkard and agreed to mow the bank twice a year; once in the spring and once in the fall; but that additional mowing's would be outside of the manpower of the Public Works Department. In addition to Mr. Pinkard, there are other residents who have asked for more frequent bank/slope mowing and all have been given the same reply that for staffing reasons banks and slopes not directly adjacent to a street are mowed twice annually.

Additionally, if Council wishes to address the banks outside of mowing, staff has obtained two estimates for treatments to address the banks without mowing. The first is for the installation of Hard fescue (a non-mowed grass recommended for banks and slopes in Virginia) costing \$12,785. The second is for the installation of stone rip-rap costing \$34,061.

Mr. Pinckard asked for Town Council to make a record for when the banks would be mowed and maintained.

Council Member Newbill suggested the Streets, Sidewalks and Streetlights Committee to look at the possibility of the banks being mowed and maintained. The Mayor asked Council Member Stockton to meet with the committee and bring a recommendation back to Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Streets, Sidewalks & Streetlights Committee met on July 20, 2017 to discuss two potential right-on-red prohibitions.

The committee does not recommend either prohibition at this time.

Scuffling Hill

The first intersection, the right from South Main southbound onto Scuffling Hill westbound, has been watched by the Police Department, Public Works and Community Development staffs. The 90-degree turn requires a near-stop and low speed to make. No reportable accidents have occurred in the past year related to the turn from Riverside Minute Market.

Recommendation: The committee recommends the following: staff should continue to monitor the intersection. If hazards emerge, the next step would be to install appropriate traffic warning signs near the intersection. If further hazards emerge, council should reconsider prohibiting right turns on red at the intersection.

Hub Intersection

Traffic with right-of-way had backed up as drivers failed to fully enter turn lanes and blocked traffic while waiting for a light. A council member requested considering a right-on-red prohibition to keep the intersection from being blocked. Police, Public Works and Community Development were already working on a fix, erecting "Do Not Block Intersection" signs in accordance with existing state code.

Recommendation: Those signs appear effective. All staff note few instances of intersection blockages from either 40 approach, but will observe when school traffic returns. The Committee had concerns about long lines of traffic backing up on both approaches and the impact on traffic signal timing if vehicles cannot flow freely. The committee recommends staff monitor the intersection and that police ticket violators who block the intersection without implementing a right-on-red prohibition.

Chief Criner spoke regarding the Hub Intersection. Chief Criner stated that he would like to try continuing to work with the signs instead of the no right on red which would back up the traffic flow through the intersections

REFERRALS TO PLANNING

Mr. Hankins stated that the marquee sign for the Farmer's Market was referred to planning. Mr. Hankins also stated that the Planning Commission recommended at this time that the Town not make any changes to the zoning ordinance related to the size of the lots and the zoning which is industrial zoning.

OTHER MATTERS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Hankins was on Rise n' Shine.

Council Member Moyer inquired when construction would start for the First Responders Memorial. Mr. Hankins replied that the materials had been ordered and Mr. Schofield has been working toward pouring the foundation in hopes of a dedication this fall.

Council Member Cundiff asked if the Town was accepting private donations. Mr. Hankins said the Town was accepting private donations. There will also be \$10,000 from the Town, \$10,000 from Franklin County, as well as donations from the Lights for Life campaign and funds from Tourism money.

Council Member Snead inquired to Mr. Ervin regarding the stone on Power Creek Road where the wreck happened a few weeks previous. Council Member Snead and Mr. Ervin will be visiting the site to determine the needs for the stone such as if it has already polished or if it needs to be included in the overlay for nonpolishing stone.

Vice Mayor Walker inquired about Gilley's Park. Mr. Hankins stated that the contractor sprayed for the geese two weeks previous and that the lilly pads would be removed from the water with help from the State Fish and Wildlife Service who has been working with Franklin County by stocking the ponds and have been taking care of the wildlife in the park. Officer Ryan King with the Police Department will be working with Council Member Cundiff to set up a fishing rodeo or a junior fishing competition at the park. Officer Ryan King will be setting that event up for October. Mr. Hankins stated that all Council members would receive an invitation to the event. Mr. Schofield is working on getting restrooms to the park as well as electric so fountains may be added to the park as well.

CLOSED MEETING AND ACTION

Enter Closed Meeting

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

Time: 7:45 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. Economic Development Authority

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. Board of Zoning Appeals

Motion By: Council Member Stockton

Second: Vice Mayor Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Snead, Stockton, Walker, Newbill

Nays: None

Action: To go into a closed meeting

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

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn meeting

Time: 8:05 p.m.

Motion By: Council Member Moyer

Second: Vice Mayor Walker

Motion Discussion: None

Ayes: Cundiff, Moyer, Newbill, Snead, Stockton, Walker

Nays: None

Action: Adjourned by a unanimous vote

Steven C. Angle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Rebecca H. Dillon, Town Clerk