

**ROCKY MOUNT TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2019**

The April 8, 2019 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 Billie W. Stockton
- Bobby M. Cundiff
- Robert L. Moyer
- Mark H. Newbill
- Jon W. Snead
- Gregory B. Walker

The following staff members were also present:

- 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 Hankins, Assistant Town Manager
- Jessica Heckman, Town Planner
- Mark Lovern, Lt. of Patrol
- Brian Schofield, Public Works Superintendent
- Justin Woodrow, Interim Fire Chief
- 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.

Let the record show that the agenda was amended to add two closed session items.

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. (Economic Development)

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. (Economic Development)

Motion: To approve the amended agenda

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the amended agenda by a unanimous vote.

SPECIAL ITEMS

None at this time

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:

- March 12, 2019 – Regular Meeting Minutes

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the draft minutes

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

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

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**
- (2) **Miscellaneous Resolutions/Proclamations**
- (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: Vice Mayor Stockton

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

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

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.

Mr. Roger Hodges, 75 Holly Knoll Drive, Rocky Mount, Virginia. Mr. Hodges attended the Public Safety Committee Meeting on March 25, 2019 concerning inoperable vehicles. Mr. Hodges stated that he would like to address Council regarding the restoration of vehicles. Mr. Hodges shared with Council some of his knowledge from the many years of experience he had received in the vehicle business and how to properly restore vehicles.

Mrs. Abbie Pinckard, 125 Riverview Street, Rocky Mount, Virginia. Mrs. Pinckard attended the Public Safety Committee Meeting on March 25, 2019 concerning inoperable vehicles. As Mrs. Pinckard spoke, she requested that a member from the Planning and Zoning Staff provide a review on the status of complaint based violations received, at the time of the next called Public Safety Committee Meeting. Mrs. Pinckard stated she would also like to see a report of compliant based violations received by the Town that had been investigated as well.

Mayor Angle stated that he was not sure that would happen since the Public Safety Committee and the Planning and Zoning Staff were two separate entities. The Mayor suggested that perhaps the report could happen, just not at the time of the committee meeting but in the monthly report that Planning and Zoning puts into the monthly Council packet.

Mr. Art Divers, 425 Knollwood Drive, Rocky Mount, Virginia. Mr. Divers spoke regarding mowing on the sides of the town streets and blowing the grass clippings out into the street while mowing. Mr. Divers explained that it was unsightly and unsafe for vehicles, especially motor cycles to be traveling and drive up on a patch or strip of grass mowing clippings. With mowing season upon us, Mr. Divers asked if the Town could refrain from blowing out grass clippings into the street.

After Mr. Divers spoke, Council Member Walker asked if the practice of mowing and blowing grass clippings out into the street was illegal. Police Chief Ken Criner stated that it was illegal.

Mayor Angle addressed the audience stating that Council would take the comments under advisement.

OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time

NEW BUSINESS

1. Christian Heritage Academy 5K Road Race

Christian Heritage Academy would like to hold their yearly Classic 5K road race again this year. The race will be held on Saturday, May 4, 2019 with the course set the same as in previous years. The event will begin at 8:00 a.m. and will conclude around an hour later at Christian Heritage Academy. Mr. Eric Miller with Christian Heritage Academy has been in touch with the Rocky Mount Police Department and they have reviewed and approved the event.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the Classic 5K road race as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Snead

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the event as presented by a unanimous vote.

2. Southwest Virginia Antique Farm Days Parade

Mr. Ervin spoke regarding the Southwest Virginia Antique Farm Days kick-off parade to be held in town on Sunday, June 9, 2019. The parade would start at 3:00 p.m., beginning at Lowe's and proceed with the same route as in previous years. Mr. Jonathan Custer, who is the Tractor Parade Coordinator, had been in touch with the Rocky Mount Police Department and they have reviewed and approved the event.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the Southwest Virginia Antique Farm Days Parade as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Moyer

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the event as presented by a unanimous vote.

3. Franklin County Department of Public Safety Emergency Services Parade

Mr. Billy Ferguson, Director of Public Safety from Rocky Mount and Franklin County requested permission to hold an Emergency Services Parade in Rocky Mount. The parade would be scheduled for Saturday, May 11, 2019. The parade would begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Lowe's parking lot and end at the Franklin County High School, West Parking Lot. Staging would begin at 9:00 a.m. at Lowes. There would be approximately 15-20 Fire and Rescue vehicles in attendance. Franklin County Public Safety plans to provide free hot dogs and drinks as well as fire hats, junior EMT badges and tattoos for the children. Franklin County Public Safety has been in touch with the Rocky Mount Police Department and they have reviewed and approved the event.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the Franklin County Department of Public Safety Emergency Services Parade as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Council Member Cundiff

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the event as presented by a unanimous vote.

4. Presentation of Budget FY2020

Mr. Ervin presented for Council's consideration the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 budget.

Mr. Ervin stated that the Town had debt of \$5.4 million and a cash on hand of \$8.3 million. There were no changes in tax rates with the current budget; the budget was balanced with the Town having had \$328,000 set aside for contingencies or fund balance. There were two milestones that Mr. Ervin delivered to Council in the FY2020 budget. The first milestone was for the first time in the known history of the Town of Rocky Mount, the FY2020 budget had a self sufficient utility fund. It was also important to mention that for the first time, the Town had a capital budget that exceeded depreciation both from the capital side and from the operations side. The second milestone was that the Town would be reducing the proposed contribution to the Harvester Performance Center by 10% in FY2020. The Harvester had revenue estimated at \$440,000 and expenses estimated at \$387,000 thus a contingency fund estimated at \$54,000 in FY2019.

The general fund was difficult to balance for FY2020 as the Town would be coming up on a reassessment. In the capital fund there would be \$450,000 in the budget to replace the traffic signal at McDonald's and there was one part-time position being moved to a full-time position.

Mr. Ervin explained the budget as a well rounded budget for FY2020 even with many things on the capital list not funded. Mr. Ervin talked about climate change and how it had been affecting the Water Plant, Wastewater Treatment Plant and Public Works Departments. Mr. Ervin ended by thanking Ms. Woody for excellent work with the numbers and for providing the Town with a balanced \$11.5 million budget.

5. Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission 50th Anniversary Resolution

In observance of the 50th anniversary of the creation of Regional Commissions in Virginia, the Rocky Mount Town Council wished to honor the event. Submitted for Council's consideration was a resolution.

Currently, Council Member Newbill and Town Manager, Mr. James Ervin both attend monthly meetings of the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the 50th Anniversary Resolution to honor the Roanoke Valley-Alleghany Regional Commission as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the resolution as presented by a unanimous vote.

6. Virginia Department of Transportation Award and Match for Local Street Maintenance

The Town of Rocky Mount was awarded \$357,469 in funds under the State of Good Repair program that would supplement local road maintenance funds. The funds awarded were for two projects.

The first project was paving of Route 122 at the Town limits and the second project was Route 40 from Walmart to the Town limits. Council was presented for their consideration, an appropriation resolution to appropriate the VDOT award for the Town's use.

The two projects would cost an estimated \$462,715 with the Town's share of the work being \$105,246. The Town's share would be from VDOT maintenance funds.

Mr. Ervin stated that in June of this year, if the Town exceeded the amount of street maintenance funds allowed through VDOT with the local match for the two projects, one being of \$357,469 (which was grant money) and one for \$105,246, which the Town was paying; then the Town would include the \$105,246 in the annual year end "true up" resolution. The action requested from Council was to allow the Town to spend the grant money given from the State of Good Repair program in the amount of \$357,469 to the Town's contractual paving line item.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the Supplemental Appropriation Resolution for Local Street Maintenance.

Motion By: Council Member Walker

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the Supplemental Appropriation Resolution as presented by a unanimous vote.

7. Cox Property Sewer Appropriation Resolution and Authorization to Proceed

As construction had began for the first business going onto the Cox Farm industrial property, the Town also began discussion with several prospects interested in the site. Mattern & Craig, engineers on the Town's retainer, had developed the first phase of proposed 8" sewer line that would be to collect wastewater from several of the planned industrial tracts. The tracts would connect under Norfolk Southern railroad tracks and require six new manholes.

The recommendation to Council was to move forward with approving the bid, issuing a notice to proceed and entering into a contract with the bidder. The recommendation to Council was also made to appropriate the funds with the Supplemental Appropriation Resolution that was presented to Council at the meeting. The one bid was the only bid received.

Discussion: None

Motion: To authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract with the bidder and issue a notice to proceed as well as appropriating the funds to move forward with the appropriation resolution as presented. The total amount listed for the project was \$168,980.

Motion By: Council Member Snead

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the Supplemental Appropriation Resolution as presented by a unanimous vote.

8. Appropriation of Funds to be Received from Community Policing

Mr. Ervin advised to Council that the Rocky Mount Police Department had need for a dedicated vehicle for their community policing operation. The Police Department had funds available to apply toward a vehicle through donations, but the funds available were not sufficient for a vehicle that would meet the department's needs.

The Police Department proposed assigning Community Policing a current administrative vehicle for the funds they do have available and asked Council to appropriate the funds for a replacement vehicle. Staff presented for Council's consideration a supplemental appropriation resolution for \$23,000. The proposal would allow the Police Department to have police lights and radio equipment with the vehicle that the Community Policing could not otherwise afford.

Discussion: None

Motion: To approve the appropriation of funds to be received from Community Policing that would allow the Police Department to equip a vehicle properly to meet the departments needs as presented.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Walker

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved the appropriation of funds as presented by a unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. The Public Safety Committee Meeting on March 25, 2019

The Public Safety Committee met to discuss and consider changes to the Town's inoperable vehicle ordinance.

Chairman Moyer received input from citizens who were in attendance. Mrs. Abbie Pinckard presented two documents to the committee. One document was a collection of rules and ordinances from other area localities. The second document was a collection of color pictures of inoperable vehicles that were taken all around the community.

The consensus of the committee was that the information submitted was to be reviewed and then the committee would meet again to discuss what changes might be prudent to make in the Town's code. The committee, as well as the Planning Commission, was of the consensus for the recommendation of a fitted car cover versus a tarp, which has previously been used in the past.

The committee will meet a second time to make recommendations to staff for ordinance changes.

At this time, Mayor Angle asked for the same people to be notified as was the previous meeting when the date and time were set.

2. The Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting on April 1, 2019

The Community and Economic Development Committee met to discuss and consider the expansion of the Town's current Arts and Culture District.

The committee recommended to Council that the Arts and Culture District be expanded to include the non-commercial parcels abutting North Main Street and that the rules for the program be amended to include a five year incentive period that returned 50% then 40% then 30% then 20% and finally 10% of the designated gross receipts taxes to participating businesses. The incentives would be staggered for 5 years instead of the current 3 years.

Discussion: None

Motion: To move forward with the revision of the Arts and Culture District allowing Mr. Boitnott and Mr. Hankins to draft the proper paperwork needed to bring to the May Council meeting.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Snead

Motion Discussion: None

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

Nays: None

Action: Approved a revision to the Arts and Culture district as presented by a unanimous vote.

REFERRALS TO PLANNING

None at this time

OTHER MATTERS AND CONCERNS

Mr. Hankins was on Rise n' Shine.

Council Member Moyer made a suggestion when coming into town from South Main Street when motorist approach Patterson Avenue, motorist have a 35 mph speed limit that reduces to 25 mph. On the opposite side of the street, there is no sign but the limit is 25 mph and motorist have been seen speeding through the area. Council Member Moyer asked if a sign could be erected in the 25 mph area to remind motorist of what the speed limit was.

Council Member Walker complimented Mr. Hankins for all of his hard work during the fishing rodeo at Gilley's Park.

CLOSED MEETING AND ACTION

Enter Closed Meeting

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

Time: 7:54 p.m.

Virginia Code Section:

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. (Community Development)

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. (Community Development)

Motion By: Council Member Moyer

Second: Vice Mayor Stockton

Motion Discussion: None

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

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: 8:35 p.m.

Motion By: Council Member Newbill

Second: Council Member Moyer

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

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