

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2010

At the regular monthly meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, there present were Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr., presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, D.L. Hunter, T.M. Pairet, O.S. Overton, A.D. Reid and E.I. Gordon. Also in attendance were Town Manager, Gerald Spates, Chief of Police, Douglas Mooney, Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins, Town Planner, Cindy Morris and Town Attorney, Donald Blessing.

Mayor Newman called the meeting to order. Reverend Jim Price offered the opening prayer and Council member Reid led the Pledge of Alliance.

Mayor Newman asked if any guests wished to address Town Council. Town Manager, Gerald Spates introduced Mr. David Schmidt, Softball Commissioner with the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association. Mr. Schmidt thanked Town Manager, Gerald Spates for his assistance in preparing a PowerPoint highlighting attributes of the Town of Farmville. The PowerPoint was part of a presentation used by the Association to bid on a series of Girls State softball tournaments to be hosted in Farmville. Mr. Schmidt said that the committee was so impressed with what Farmville had to offer that they awarded the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association four of the five tournaments that were out on bid. Mr. Schmidt said the series of tournaments will begin in July of 2010 and they anticipate that each event would draw approximately 500 to 800 people to the area.

Mr. Kenneth Jackson a resident of the Leigh District in Prince Edward County addressed Town Council. Mr. Jackson said he is the Vice Chair of the Democratic Party for Prince Edward County and the President of the Mary Branch Community Center, formally known as the Prince Edward County Community Center. Mr. Jackson spoke briefly of the revitalization efforts being undertaken for the Mary Branch Community Center. He said his main purpose this evening was to express his disappointment and displeasure with his governing body, the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Jackson spoke of the Board of Supervisors' meeting held last night. He said members of the Board criticized Farmville Town Council members in regards to Council's recent decisions relating to metered municipal parking. In closing, Mr. Jackson urged both governing bodies to "get along and respect one another".

Mr. Spates introduced Farmville's new Fire Chief, Duane Merritt, his wife Lisa and son Joshua. Chief Merritt has been an active member of the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department for many years. He also serves as one of Farmville's Fire Marshals. Mr. Spates announced that Tim McKay has stepped down as Farmville's Fire Chief since he purchased a home in Chesterfield County but will continue to serve as one of the Town's Fire Marshals. Mr. Spates thanked Mr. McKay for the leadership and dedication he has shown the Town of Farmville and the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Spates welcomed Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors Howard Simpson, Jim Wilck, Pete Campbell, Mattie Wiley, Prince Edward County Circuit Court Clerk, Mabelle Epps and Chamber CEO, Wanda Whitus.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Overton and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the December 9, 2009 regular council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the December 15, 2009 reconvened council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Reid, Gordon, Overton, Hunter and Pairet voting "aye", Council approved the Treasurer's Report.

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Overton and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Whitus, Hunter, Pairet, Reid and Overton voting "aye", Council approved payment of the following bills:

(Bills Printed in Minute Book)

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORTS

Members received copies of the following monthly reports:

- Building Official's Report
- Property Inspector's Report
- Recreation Report
- Golf Course Monthly Tally

FARMVILLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPOINTMENT

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Reid, Gordon, Hunter, Whitus, Overton and Pairet voting “aye”, Council moved to request that the Circuit Court of Prince Edward County appoint Mr. Daniel E. Dwyer to the Farmville Industrial Development Authority. Mr. Dwyer’s term will run through February 28, 2013. He will be filling the seat vacated by Mr. Jim Wilck.

At the December 2009 meeting, members received copies Mr. Wilck’s letter of resignation due to his upcoming appointment to the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors and authorized the Town Manager to solicit letters of interest from community residents. After reviewing those letters submitted Town Council members agreed to appoint Mr. Dwyer.

REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMITS

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council referred the following requests for Conditional Use Permits to the Farmville Planning Commission and authorized advertisement for Public Notices:

1. Request on behalf of Janie Irons to operate a Bed & Breakfast at 313 First Avenue. This property is zoned Residential District R1-A and a Bed & Breakfast is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit. Ms. Irons was granted a Conditional Use Permit by Town Council last year to operate a B&B, however due to a financing issue she requested that the CUP be nullified.
2. Request on behalf of Vara Bonagiri to use the existing structure as a residence and build three office buildings at 1402 Milnwood Road. This property is zoned Business District B-4 and this is an allowed use with a Conditional Use Permit.

WELCOME RECEPTION – POLICE CHIEF MOONEY

Mr. Spates informed members that staff is working on scheduling a welcome reception for Chief Mooney, as Council had requested. The event will be held at the Farmville Train Station and the community will be encouraged to come and meet Chief Mooney.

SUPPORT APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye” members endorsed the Town Manager’s appointment of Mr. Duane Merritt as Farmville’s Fire Chief.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FROM NARCOTIC’S FUND

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Overton and with a recorded vote with Council members Overton, Whitus, Pairet, Reid, Gordon and Hunter voting “aye”, Council approved payment of \$270.00 from the Narcotic’s Fund to Law Enforcement, Inc. for an antenna and repair work to a transmitter.

FARMVILLE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY APPOINTMENTS

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council agreed to request that the Circuit Court of Prince Edward reappoint Mr. Perry Carrington and Mrs. Elizabeth Ragland to the Farmville Industrial Development Authority. Their new terms will expire on February 28, 2014.

Mr. Carrington and Mrs. Ragland are current members of the Authority. Their present terms will expire on February 28, 2010, both have expressed a desire to continue to serve.

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT FROM THE NARCOTIC’S FUND

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Reid, Overton, Pairet, Hunter and Whitus voting “aye”, Council approved payment of \$819.00 from the Narcotic’s Fund to Law Enforcement Associates, Inc for a video recorder.

UTILITY TAX REFUND – ROBERT LEE DAVIS

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Gordon, Reid, Hunter, Pairet and Overton voting “aye”, Council authorized the Town Treasurer to issue a utility tax refund of \$360.37 to Mr. Robert Lee Davis.

UTILITY TAX REFUND – GREEN FRONT FURNITURE

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Hunter, Pairet, Overton, Reid, Gordon and Whitus voting “aye”, Council authorized the Town Treasurer to issue a utility tax refund of \$1338.64 to Green Front Furniture.

UTILITY TAX REFUND – BUFFALO SHOOK

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Overton, Reid, Pairet, Whitus and Hunter voting “aye”, Council authorized the Town Treasurer to issue a utility tax refund of \$720.00 to Buffalo Shook.

UTILITY TAX REFUND – FUQUA SCHOOL

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Pairet, Overton, Reid, Gordon, Whitus, and Hunter voting “aye”, Council authorized the Town Treasurer to issue a utility tax refund of \$5,750.40 to Fuqua School.

PROPOSED EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting “aye”, members tabled the proposed 2010-employee holiday schedule until their February 2010 meeting.

TOWN MANAGER PROVIDED A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE FOLLOWING:

- Sarah Terry Trail
- Renovations to the banquet facility at the Farmville Municipal Golf Course
- Police Department Year End Accident Report
- Sanitation Monthly Report
- Rails to Trails High Bridge Project
- Farmville – Prince Edward County Community Library
- Town Employee Overtime Monthly Report
- Proposed State Budget Reductions – dealing with 599 Funding (Police Department) and Street Maintenance Funds

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 7:43 pm.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk