

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON FEBRUARY 17, 2010

At the regular monthly meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, February 17, 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 Allegiance.

Mayor Newman asked if any guests wished to address Town Council. Town Manager, Gerald Spates introduced Longwood University students Trey Brindle and Molly Sprinker. Mr. Brindle and Ms. Sprinker spoke on Longwood's "The Big Event", scheduled for March 27, 2010. "The Big Event" is a one-day service project where Longwood students go into the community to help neighbors with chores (raking leaves, gardening, trimming bushes, washing windows, etc.) around their property. It is a service provided free of charge and used as a way for Longwood students to give back to the community. This will be the second year that Longwood University has participated in the nationwide event. They are hoping to be able to provide community service jobs for approximately 100 students. Job request forms were given to each Council member and provided to community residents attending the meeting.

Due to guests present, Mr. Spates asked to dispense with the regular order of business to discuss the request conditional use permit on behalf of Ms. Janie Irons.

REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF JANIE IRONS

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Overton and with all Council members voting "aye", members referred a request for a conditional use permit on behalf of Ms. Janie Irons of 313 First Avenue back to the Farmville Planning Commission. Ms. Irons is requesting a conditional use permit to operate a Bed & Breakfast at her residence of 313 First Avenue. The property is zoned Residential District R-1A and a Bed & Breakfast establishment is an allowed use with a conditional use permit.

Members were reminded that Ms. Irons had previously been granted a conditional use permit to operate a Bed & Breakfast at her residence but withdrew the request due to financing

restrictions. She has since reapplied. The required Public Notice has been advertised and the property is posted. The Town Office received one telephone inquiry. The Farmville Planning Commission met on January 19, 2010 to discuss this matter. The Commission has asked that Town Council take no action on the request until they have the opportunity to discuss community comments made at this evening's Council meeting.

Council returned to the regular order of business.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Dr. Gordon and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the January 13, 2010 special Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the January 13, 2010 regular Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Dr. Gordon and with all Council members voting "aye", the minutes of the January 14, 2010 reconvened Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

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

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Reid and with a recorded vote with Council members Hunter, Gordon, Whitus, Overton, Reid and Pairet 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
- Recreational Report

Discussions took place in regards to the Building Official's Report and the economy. Council asked that the Building Official's Report be modified to include a yearly comparison in order to establish any possible trends.

REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF DR. VARA BONAGIRI

This matter was continued.

Mr. Spates informed Council that the Farmville Planning Commission met on January 19, 2010 and has recommended Town Council continue this matter pending the Commission's request for a detailed site plan and other information.

Dr. Bonagiri has requested a conditional use permit to utilize the existing house as a residence at 1402 Milnwood Road and construct up to three (3) additional buildings for future office space. The property is zoned Business District B-4 and this is an allowed use with a conditional use permit.

TOWN OF FARMVILLE EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting "aye", members supported the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and moved to add Easter Monday to the Town of Farmville Employee Handbook as an approved employee holiday. Members also agreed to consider additional days brought before Farmville Town Council at the recommendation of the Town Manager.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE RETIREMENT PLAN

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with a recorded vote Council members Overton, Gordon, Pairet, Whitus, Reid and Hunter voting "aye", Council approved the proposed amendments to the Town of Farmville Retirement Plan.

Members received copies of the proposed amendments. Mr. Spates stated the amendments are necessary in order for the Plan to comply with the recent requirements by the Internal Revenue Service.

RESOLUTION HONORING LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT, DR. PATRICIA CORMIER

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting "aye", Council adopted the below resolution honoring Dr. Cormier's service to the community:

**TOWN OF FARMVILLE
A RESOLUTION IN HONOR OF
DR. PATRICIA PICARD CORMIER**

Whereas, Dr. Patricia Picard Cormier has served honorably as the 24th President of Longwood from 1996 to 2010; and

Whereas, her visionary leadership has transformed Longwood from college to university status along with NCAA Division 1 classification, and a comprehensive long-range strategic plan: VISION 2020; and

Whereas, her exemplary leadership and crisis management during and after the Great Fire of 2001, helped to restore the historic Ruffners to their former glory, with new and improved infrastructure; and

Whereas, her support of the community following that fire, resulted in a donation of \$100,000 to the Town of Farmville for a new ladder truck for the Farmville Fire Department; and

Whereas, her annual community breakfasts have helped to keep civic and business leaders informed of progress and initiatives at Longwood University; and

Whereas, her academic foresight helped to create a new undergraduate program in nursing, which will meet a growing need for health care in Farmville, Southside Virginia, and the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, her endorsement of the arts and arts education through support of the Longwood Center for the Visual arts has expanded exposure of the arts to all ages; and

Whereas, her knowledge of public/private partnerships and the evolution of student lifestyles helped to create three off-campus residential villages—Lancer Park, Longwood Village, and Longwood Landings at Midtown Square; and

Whereas, her recognition of the important role of community colleges resulted in articulation agreements with every community college in the Commonwealth; and

Whereas, her personal commitment to students and scholarship created a lasting legacy through the Cormier Honors College; and,

Whereas, Longwood University has enjoyed consistently high academic rankings under her leadership, including 12 consecutive years in the U.S. News & World Report “America’s Best Colleges” survey; and,

Whereas, her dedication and devotion to higher education exemplify the very embodiment of the Longwood University citizen leader;

Therefore let it be resolved that, in recognition of these and many other accomplishments as President of Longwood University, and by unanimous vote of the Farmville Town Council, Farmville, Virginia hereby adopts this resolution honoring Dr. Patricia Picard Cormier.

ADOPTED this 17th day of February, 2010

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Sydnor C. Newman, Jr., Mayor

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk

Members spoke in support of properly presenting the resolution. Dr Cormier announced her retirement effective July 1, 2010. She has served as President of Longwood University for thirteen (13) years.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the February 1, 2010 special called Council meeting were approved, as presented to each Council member.

VACANCY ON THE FARMVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

Due to health reasons, Mr. William Bell has elected to no longer serve as a member on the Farmville Board of Zoning Appeals. **Section 29-411** of the Town Code requires that a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals also be a member of the Farmville Planning Commission. The Town Manager suggested the Commission make the recommendation to Town Council on the appointment of a Planning Commission member to the Board of Zoning Appeals.

REQUEST FOR SALE OF LAND

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council referred the matter of selling eight (8) acres of the 32 ¾ acre tract of land, next to Farmville’s old landfill and known as Tract H Mountain View Subdivision, to the Property Committee for their recommendation to Council.

Mr. Spates reported that the Town had been approached by representatives of the Callaway Trailer Park expressing an interest in purchasing the eight (8) acres directly adjacent to their property. Callaway Trailer Park is interested in expanding their operation and has converted the Park into a rent to own operation. Members discussed the procedures for selling the land. Mr. Spates said the Town could place an ad in the local paper, requesting sealed bids and suggested a minimum purchase price of \$100,000. Conversations took place on the appraisal of the property and lack of road frontage.

FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL AND PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS JOINT INFORMATIONAL MEETING

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting “aye”, members directed the Town Manager to formally write a letter to Prince Edward County Administrator, W. Wade Bartlett inviting the Board of Supervisors to an informational meeting to discuss various County and Town projects and the direction that both governmental entities are heading.

Discussions took place on the benefits of periodic meetings in order to share information and have a better understanding of the issues facing each government body. Members agreed

that the meetings would be for information sharing only and no voting on issues would take place.

Mr. Spates presented a Power Point presentation highlighting the following projects:

- Water intake on the Buffalo - will provide an additional capacity of 2 million gallons a day safe yield
- Longwood University Pedestrian Bridge
- Renovations to the banquet facility at the Farmville Municipal Golf Course
- Meals on Wheels – March Meals on Wheels event
- Farmers Market

THE TOWN MANAGER PROVIDED A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE FOLLOWING:

- January 2010 Sanitation and Recycling Report
- Ward C and D Community Meeting scheduled for March 3, 2010 at 6:00 pm in the Council Chamber
- Mary E. Branch Community Center dedication, 632 South Main Street at 12:00 noon on March 6, 2010
- Commended the Public Works Department on their handling of the recent snow events

FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS COMMENTED OR INQUIRED ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- Expressed concerns with the economy and Town finances
- Requested an update on the ICA facility and reaffirmed their belief that an ICA representative needs to be present at each Council meeting. Members also requested a tour of the facility
- Condition of pond located in the Greens Subdivision and concerns expressed in a letter from Mr. John Ellington

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Overton a motion was made to adjourn. The motion did not carry.

CLOSED SESSION – PERSONNEL

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council went into closed session pursuant to **Section 2.2-3711.A.1** of the Code of Virginia, for discussion or consideration of or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining or resignation of specific public officers, appointees or employees of the Town of Farmville.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council returned to the regular order of business.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

WHEREAS, the Farmville Town Council has convened a closed meeting on this date 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 requires a certification by the Farmville Town Council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Farmville Town Council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Farmville Town Council.

VOTE: 6

MOTION: Gordon

SECOND: Hunter

AYES: Whitus, Hunter, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon

NOES: none

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Thompson

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Thompson

Clerk

LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

Members spoke in agreement of permitting Town Manager, Gerald Spates to convert a portion of his term life insurance policy to a whole life policy, at his expense.

A \$500,000 term life insurance policy is part of the Town Manager's employment contract. Mr. Spates has expressed interest in converting a portion of the term life policy into a whole life policy, at no additional expense to the Town of Farmville.

There being no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:10 pm

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk