

**REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**HELD ON MARCH 10, 2010**

At the regular monthly meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, March 10, 2010, there present were Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr., presiding and Council members D.E. Whitus, D.L. Hunter, S.B. Thompson, 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 Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal, 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.

Guests present were asked if they wished to address Council.

**REQUEST USE OF RIVERFRONT PARK**

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Whitus and with all Council members voting “aye”, members approved a request by Mr. Averett Jones on behalf of The Southside Messenger for the use of Riverfront Park on Saturday, July 10, 2010. The Southside Messenger requested use of the park beginning at 10:00 am through 6:00 pm to hold a fundraising event to benefit the following organizations: STEPS, Habitat for Humanity, Barksdale Foundation, Charlotte Literacy and Heartland Horse Heroes. The Southside Messenger anticipates approximately 300 people attending the event.

Mr. Jones was present at the meeting to answer any questions Council may have had.

**REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF MR. AND MRS. ECKERT**

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council referred a request for a conditional use permit by Mr. and Mrs. Eckert to the Farmville Planning Commission. Mr. Eckert has requested a conditional use permit to operate a business on the property located at 1000 South Main Street. The property is zoned Business District B-4 and this is an allowed use with a conditional use permit. Additionally, Mr. Eckert is interested in constructing two – two bedroom apartments on the second floor of the proposed commercial/retail space.

Mr. Eckert plans to relocate his business, Midtown Mailboxes, located in Mid-Town Square off South Main Street. He is proposing to construct a new building on the .225-acre lot

adjacent to Burger King. In Mr. Eckert's presentation to Town Council, he said he has had conversations with the owner of Burger King in regards to adding a light to the intersection at Griffin Boulevard and South Main. He said this would make the intersection a four way lighted intersection, which will help those patrons leaving Burger King. He also spoke of constructing a 24' two-way drive to the back of Burger King property giving light access to enter and exit Burger King.

### **CENTRA-SOUTHSIDE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL**

Dr. Gwen Eddleman, President and Chief Executive Officer of CENTRA-Southside Community Hospital appeared before Council, introducing Mr. Dennis Brown, Master Prepared Social Worker and Dr. Marilyn McCloud, Medical Director of Emergency Services. Dr. Eddleman spoke on CENTRA-Southside Community Hospital's concerns no longer having Crossroads emergency service personnel seeing mental health clients in the emergency department or at the Hospital. Dr. Eddleman provided members with copies of recent correspondence between herself and Mr. F. Will Rogers, Executive Director of Crossroads Community Services regarding this issue. Lengthy conversations took place between personnel from the Hospital, Town Council members and staff from the Town of Farmville. All expressed concerns with the safety of the mental health patients and the public safety effect that this decision has on the community. In closing, Dr. Eddleman informed members that she will be appearing before the Crossroads Board of Directors on March 23, 2010 to ask them to reconsider their policy.

In June of 2009, Crossroads Community Services informed local law enforcement agencies that Crossroads will be evaluating clients at Piedmont Geriatric Hospital after hours (5:00 pm through 8:30 pm weekdays and all day Saturday and Sunday); thus, no longer using the space provided for them at CENTRA-Southside Community Hospital. This decision has caused local law enforcement agencies or the families of mental health issue persons the responsibility of transporting those persons in need of evaluation to Piedmont Geriatric Hospital. Causing patrol officers' lengthy time away from the community and risking the safety of non-trained persons transporting those individuals with mental health issues.

In view of the present concerns, Farmville Town Council members asked that Town Attorney, Donald Blessing verify the legality of Crossroad Community Service's recent change in policy; furthermore, Council asked that Chief Mooney attend the Crossroad Board meeting

and that he contact other local law enforcement agencies to request that they too attend. Council also supported organizing a regional meeting with local law enforcement agencies, and representatives from Crossroads Community Services and CENTRA Southside Community Hospital. In conclusion, Council members asked Dr. Eddleman to provide them with a brief synopsis of the Crossroads Community Service Board meeting.

**REQUEST FOR CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF MS. JANIE IRONS**

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and approved a request by Ms. Janie Irons to operate a Bed & Breakfast establishment at her residence of 313 First Avenue.

Chief Mooney introduced Farmville Police Officer Sarah Coen. Officer Coen recently joined the Farmville Police Department; she will be graduating from Longwood University in May of this year.

**REQUEST TO PURCHASE THE FIELD OF DREAMS AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PRINCE EDWARD FARMVILLE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Reid, Overton, Thompson, Hunter and Whitus voting “aye”, Council made a motion to purchase the Field of Dreams and deed the property to the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association with the stipulation that if the Youth Association was to dissolve or no longer operate, the property would revert back to the Town of Farmville. When initially called for the recorded vote Council member Pairet participated; he later stated he is abstaining due to addressing Farmville Town Council earlier this evening on behalf of the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association.

Council member Pairet asked for Council’s permission to address Farmville Town Council on behalf of the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association. Mr. Pairet said he would excuse himself from any deliberations this evening in matters regarding the PEFYA. Mr. Pairet spoke from the podium saying both the Town of Farmville and Prince Edward County has expressed interest in purchasing the Field of Dreams for the Youth League. The Board of the Youth Association was invited to a special called meeting of the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors held this evening. The Youth Association was informed that Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors are offering to purchase the Field of Dreams and deed the property to the

Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association with the stipulation that if the Youth Association was to dissolve, the property would revert back to the County. Mr. Bruce Davis, Vice President of the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association confirmed comments made by Mr. Pairet. Mr. Davis said the Association is interested in “partnering” 50/50 with both the Town and County purchasing the property and deeding it back the Youth Association. Conversations took place on the importance of the Youth Association and the vital role they play in the community. Council members spoke of confusion over previous conversations regarding the County purchasing the property. Mr. Davis said the Prince Edward County Board of Supervisors has offered to purchase the property; furthermore, pledging their continued support if the Town of Farmville was to purchase the property for the Youth Association. Mr. Davis asked Farmville Town Council for the same offer of continued support if the Association was to accept Prince Edward County’s offer. Council was reluctant to endorse this request. Members and staff stressed that there is no animosity between the Town and County but felt it would be advantageous for the Town of Farmville to undertake this project.

Southside Training Employment and Placement Service, Inc. (STEPS) is the owner of the multi-field sports complex property known as the Field of Dreams STEPS is selling the property to pay off their mortgage. Ms. Sharon Harrup, Chief Executive Officer for STEPS, Inc., notified the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association’s Board of Directors of STEPS intent to sell the property. PEFYA has first option to purchase the property. That option expires on Friday, March 12, 2010. Ms. Harrup has also spoken with representatives from Prince Edward County in regards to the County purchasing the property.

Ms. Angela Jackson, Longwood University’s Assistant Director of Off Campus Living appeared before Council to introduce her assistant Mr. Anthony Brumfield, Residence Education Coordinator.

Mayor Newman called for a five (5) minute recess at 8:10 pm.

The meeting reconvened at 8:16 pm.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid and with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, and Council member Hunter abstaining, stating he was not present at the meeting, the minutes of the February 17, 2010 special Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, and Council member Hunter abstaining, stating he was not present at the meeting, the minutes of the February 17, 2010 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 Hunter, Overton, Pairet, Reid, Gordon, Whitus and Thompson voting “aye”, members approved the Treasurer’s Report.

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Hunter and with a recorded vote with Council members Overton, Hunter, Pairet, Thompson, Gordon, Thompson and Reid 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

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

This matter was continued pending recommendations from the Farmville Planning Commission.

**VACANCY ON THE FARMVILLE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS**

This matter was continued pending recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission.

Farmville Town Council referred this matter to the Farmville Planning Commission at their regular February Council meeting. Town Ordinance Section 29-411 requires one member of the Farmville Planning Commission to serve as a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals. The Commission will make their recommendation to Town Council at the April Council meeting.

During the decision, Dr. Gordon inquired as to Council’s feelings on adding a member to the Farmville Planning Commission. Due to resignations, the Commission currently consists of five (5) members. Council supported adding additional members in order to promote diversity and community involvement. Dr. Gordon said both issues would be discussed at the March Planning Commission meeting for Commission’s recommendations to Town Council.

**REQUEST TO AMEND TOWN ORDINANCE SECTION 14-52 MIXED BEVERAGES**

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Dr. Gordon and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council approved amending Town Ordinance Section 14-52 to read as follows:

Chapter 14  
**LICENSES AND PERMITS**

**Sec. 14-52. Mixed Beverages.**

(1) Persons operating restaurants, including located on premises of and operated by hotels or motels:

(a) Two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per annum for each restaurant with a seating capacity at tables for one (1) to one hundred (100) persons.

The Town Manager informed members that Council needs to amend the Town’s ordinance *from seating capacity at tables for fifty (50) to one hundred persons* to read *seating capacity at tables for one (1) to one hundred (100) persons* in order to be in compliance with the Code of Virginia.

**REQUEST USE OF CRUTE STAGE**

This request was withdrawn.

Longwood University student, Steven Wood requested use of Crute Stage on behalf of the Student Editorial Board for a fundraising event to benefit Madeline’s House. Mr. Spates informed Town Council that he and Chief Mooney met with Mr. Wood to discuss the location and plans for the event. It was the consensus that Longwood Landings would offer those attending the event and as well as the performers and vendors a more suitable location.

**REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN OFF ON UTILITY EASEMENTS FOR LONGWOOD UNIVERSITY**

On amended motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Dr. Gordon and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Overton, Pairet, Reid, Whitus, Thompson and Hunter voting “aye”, Council granted authorization to the Town Manager to sign utility easements for Longwood University.

Mr. Pairet made the original motion, seconded by Mrs. Thompson to grant authorization to the Town Manager to sign easements. Council member Whitus asked for clarification of the request; questioning if the request was for authorization to sign easements or utility easements. Mr. Spates informed Council that the Attorney General for Longwood University is requesting Farmville Town Council formally grant the Town Manager authorization to sign utility easements for the University. Accordingly, the motion was amended.

**PRINCE EDWARD FARMVILLE YOUTH ASSOCIATION**

At the request of Council member Pairet the regular order of business was set aside to hear from Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association Board member Mr. David Schmidt. Mr. Schmidt appeared before Council on behalf of the Youth Association to formally request that the Town of Farmville proceed on behalf of the Prince Edward Farmville Youth Association to purchase the property known as the Field of Dreams and to deed the property back to the Youth Association. Council then instructed the Town Manager to begin the procedures necessary to purchase the property.

Mr. Schmidt stated that the Youth Association Board just adjourned their meeting and have decided that it is in the best interest of the youth of the community to accept the Town of Farmville's offer to purchase the Field of Dreams. Farmville Town Council members and the Town Manager spoke favorably of the Youth Association and the tremendous service they provide to the youth of the community.

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Dr. Gordon and with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting "aye", and Council member Hunter "abstaining", saying he was not present at the meeting, the minutes of the March 3, 2010 regular work session were approved as presented.

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT OF THE APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mrs. Thompson and with a recorded vote with Council members Gordon, Reid, Pairet, Thompson, Hunter and Whitus voting "aye", members adopted the following resolution of support of the application to the Virginia Department of Health for the construction of the Town's water distribution improvements and elevated MGD storage tank:

**RESOLUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION TO  
THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
FOR  
CONSTRUCTION OF THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE'S  
WATER DISTRIBUTION IMPROVEMENTS AND  
ELEVATED MGD STORAGE TANK**

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Farmville is eligible, through the Virginia Department of Health's Financial and Construction Assistance Program (FCAP), to apply for the Virginia

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Farmville is applying for construction funds through the Virginia Department of Health for the DWSRF Program by the April 2, 2010 deadline, for grant funds in the amount of \$4,283,687 to construct water lines and an elevated MGD water storage tank in the Town of Farmville; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Farmville has owned and successfully operated a public water system for nearly 100 years; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Farmville currently provides over 7,000 citizens with quality water; and

**WHEREAS**, this water project plans and specifications have been reviewed and approved by the Virginia Department of Health and the Town has been issued a Waterworks Construction Permit. This project is "*shovel ready*"; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the construction of the scope of work identified in the Virginia Department of Health FCAP Application is vital to the deliverance of superior water quality and quantity for Farmville area citizens; now, therefore

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the Town of Farmville urges the Virginia Department of Health to recognize the need for the construction of this project, the citizens it will serve and the construction jobs it will create, and therefore grant the necessary funding to enhance the Town of Farmville's public water system.

Adopted this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2010 by the Farmville Town Council.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

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Sydnor C. Newman, Jr., Mayor

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk

**AMEND AMOUNT OF FINANCING OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND**

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Pairet and with Council members Pairet, Thompson, Hunter, Overton, Whitus, Reid and Gordon voting "aye", Council approved amending the financing of the General Obligation Bond amount from 3.8 million dollars to 4 million dollars.

Mr. Spates spoke saying this motion is not approving borrowing the money it is only amending the previously agreed amount from 3.8 million to 4.0 million. Bond Counsel has recommended the dollar amount be rounded off.

Council members received correspondence and or reports in relation to the following items: February 2010 Recycling Report, correspondence from Dr. Eddleman, report from the Health Department in relation to playground equipment at the Faith & Victory Child Care.

**THE TOWN MANAGER AND/OR STAFF PROVIDED A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE**

- Chief Mooney praised Officers Culley, Ragland, Long and Riviere for their outstanding service to the community and professionalism. He said the Department is also actively working with Longwood University and preparing for the Heart of Virginia Festival in addition the department is in the process of establishing a Neighborhood Watch Program in Wards C and D.
- A verbal update was also provided on the construction of the sidewalks on West Third Street, Rails to Trails project and the metered parking in the municipal parking lot.
- Mr. Spates informed members that the Marines will be visiting the Town from June 5 – 10, 2010 They will be practicing drills.

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

- Council member Hunter inquired as to the date of the Spring Clean-Up Campaign – date scheduled Monday, April 19, 2010.

There being no other business, the meeting was declared adjourned at 8:47 pm

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Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

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Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk