

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON DECEMBER 8, 2010

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., in the Town Hall Council Chambers, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, there were present 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 attending were Town Manager, Gerald Spates; Town Attorney, Donald Blessing; Town Treasurer, Carol Anne Seal; Chief of Police, Douglas Mooney; Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins; and Town Planner, Cindy Morris.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Ms. Angela Jackson addressed Town Council. She extended an invitation to Council members to attend the grand opening of Strutz, a men-clothing store opening at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 11, 2010.

Mr. Bill Young and Mr. Bill Gilliam, representatives of Shentel, provided Council members with an update on Shentel's network system services. They spoke of the cable company's recent purchase of JetBroadband and the steps Shentel is taking to upgrade its infrastructure in order to provide the residents and businesses of this community with high quality TV, internet, telephone and customer care services.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 10, 2010

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Dr. Gordon, and with Council members Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting "aye", and Council member Whitus "abstaining", stating he was not present at the meeting, the minutes of the November 10, 2010, regular Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL AND THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with Council members Whitus, Pairet, Overton, and Reid voting "aye", and Council members Thompson and Hunter

“abstaining”, stating they were not present at the meeting, and also Dr. Gordon “abstaining”, stating he left the meeting early, the minutes of the November 18, 2010 joint meeting of the Farmville Town Council and the Board of Supervisors of Prince Edward County were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council approved the Treasurer’s Report.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF THE NOVEMBER BILLS

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

(Bills Printed in Minute Book)

The Town Manager provided an update on the ICA facility. During the discussion members requested that Town Council receive a monthly cumulative report showing the Town’s revenue generated from the operation of the facility.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS CHAPTER 23, SEC. 23-1. OBSTRUCTING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ETC.

Mayor Newman announced it was time to begin the Public Hearing on the proposed amendments to Chapter 23, Sec. 23-1. Obstructing streets, sidewalks, etc. Town Manager, Gerald Spates stated the purpose of the Public Hearing was to hear citizen comments on the proposed amendments. He then summarized the amendment stating its purpose was to prohibit people from leaving grass clipping on sidewalks and streets. No one present wished to comment and the Public Hearing was closed.

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 23, SEC. 23-1. OBSTRUCTING STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ETC.

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council approved amending Chapter 23, Sec. 23-1. Obstructing streets, sidewalks, etc as follows:

Chapter 23

STREETS AND SIDEWALKS

Article I. In General

Sec. 23.1. Obstructing streets, sidewalks, etc.

(c) It shall be unlawful for any person to place or allow to be placed or to continue the accumulation of leaves, grass clippings, sticks, dirt or refuse, etc., from their house, business, yard, or other property onto a public street, a sidewalk, the grass strip between a paved sidewalk and a street, or into a storm sewer inlet or on an area that pedestrians would be expected to use as a public right-of-way. Such refuse shall be gathered into containers and collected with other refuse; provided, however, that this provision shall not apply to the accumulation of leaves placed along the edge of the roadway in the public right-of-way during special collection periods designated by the town for collection of leaves.

(d.) Each day the condition exists constitutes a separate offense. Any person violating any provision of this article shall be guilty of a class 4 misdemeanor.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - INFORMATION ONLY

Members received copies of the minutes from the Budget Committee meeting held on November 17, 2010. Committee members Mr. Whitus and Dr. Gordon spoke briefly on the items the Committee discussed. Mr. Whitus asked that the Budget Committee minutes be corrected. He said that in the Committee's discussions of the 2011-2012 Town appropriations, the Committee proposed eliminating any monetary appropriation to the Prince Edward County Volunteer Rescue Squad, and recommends that the Town support the Squad by continuing to providing free fuel for their vehicles and push snow off their parking area. Dr. Gordon spoke saying Farmville citizens also pay Prince Edward County taxes, so when the County makes a donation it also represents Farmville citizens. He added that the Budget Committee makes recommendations to Town Council, and that all decisions would be made by Town Council.

REQUEST ON BEHALF OF THE FARMVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Dr. Gordon, and with all Council members voting "aye", Council denied a request on behalf of the Farmville United Methodist Church to cover the parking meters on High Street and Randolph Street that are located adjacent to the church.

Mr. Spates informed members that he had received a request to cover the parking meters at the Farmville United Methodist Church. He said Council approved covering the parking meters on Main Street for the convenience of shoppers during the holiday season. He said in

view of the Town's present concerns with Longwood University's student parking issues, he recommended Town Council deny the request.

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORTS

Members received copies of the following monthly reports for informational purposes:

- Building Official's Report
- Property Inspector's Report
- Recreational Activity Report
- Recycling Report
- Golf Tally

Mr. Spates commented on the Building Official's recent announcement to retire as of January 6, 2011, and spoke briefly as to the steps the Town is taking to continue to provide inspections until the position is filled.

**DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE FARMVILLE PLANNING COMMISSION –
INFORMATION ONLY**

For informational purposes, members received copies of the draft minutes of the Farmville Planning Commission meeting held on November 16, 2010.

RESOLUTION – STREETSCAPE PHASE II

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting "aye", Council adopted the following resolution requesting additional funding for Phase II of the Main Street Streetscape Improvement:

**RESOLUTION
FOR THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE FY 2011/2012
TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROJECT
FOR THE FINAL PHASE 2 OF THE
MAIN STREET STREETSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, in accordance with Commonwealth Transportation Board construction allocation procedures, it is necessary that a request by resolution be received from the sponsoring local jurisdiction or state/federal agency in order that the Virginia Department of Transportation program, a Transportation Enhancement Project in the Town of Farmville.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Farmville requests the Commonwealth Transportation Board to continue funding for the second and final phase of the streetscape improvements of the downtown Main Street corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Farmville hereby agrees to pay a minimum twenty percent (20%) of the total cost for planning and design, right of way and/or construction of this project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Farmville hereby agrees to enter into an agreement with the Virginia Department of Transportation to provide oversight that ensures the project is developed in accordance with all state and federal requirements for design, right of way acquisition and construction of a federally funded transportation project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Farmville will be responsible for maintenance, upkeep and operating costs of any facility constructed with Enhancement Program Funds.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that if the Town of Farmville subsequently elects to cancel this project the Town of Farmville hereby agrees to reimburse the Virginia Department of Transportation for the total amount of costs expended by the Department through the date the Department is notified of such cancellation. The Town of Farmville also agrees to repay any funds previously reimbursed that are later deemed ineligible by the Federal Highway Administration.

Adopted this 8th day of December 2010, Farmville, Virginia, by the Town Council of the Town of Farmville.

Mr. Spates spoke of the need to adopt the resolution requesting additional funding of approximately \$430,000 in order to complete Phase II of the Streetscape project. He said the additional funds would help defray the costs of the bathroom facility and walkway area. He also said that VDOT is not approving any new projects, but will consider appropriating additional funding to existing projects. Discussions took place with members supporting adopting the resolution and commented on the economy saying that bids may well come in below projections.

REQUEST POSTING OF PUBLIC NOTICE FOR FRANCHISE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF SHENTEL CABLE COMPANY

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Hunter, and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council supported the Town Manager’s recommendation and agreed to authorize advertisement of a Public Notice on behalf of Shentel Cable Company for a Cable Television Franchise Agreement. Furthermore, members agreed that the Notice would be published in order for this matter to be on the agenda at Council’s regular work session to be held on Wednesday, January 5, 2011.

The Town Manager asked that the matter be addressed at work session as opposed to the Council meeting, stating that Shentel’s current Agreement expires on January 9, 2011. The proposed Agreement term runs from January 10, 2011 and ends on January 9, 2026. Members voiced concerns with entering into a fifteen (15) year Agreement and questioned if they would

be binding the Town to an exclusive cable company. Representatives from Shentel spoke saying it is not an exclusive Franchise Agreement. The Town Attorney was directed to review the proposed Agreement and members agreed to move forward with the Public Notice posting in order for the matter to be addressed at the January regular work session.

OVER TIME REPORT - INFORMATION ONLY

Members received copies of the monthly overtime report. Council members spoke in support of the decrease in overtime hours for the Police Department. Chief Mooney provided a brief update on various Police Department civic activities and grant opportunities.

TOWN OF FARMVILLE EMPLOYEE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council approved the following 2010 holiday schedule for Town of Farmville employees:

- half of day on Wednesday, December 22
- Thursday, December 23
- Friday, December 24
- Thursday, December 30
- Friday, December 31

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL WATER AND SEWER ADJUSTMENT ON BEHALF OF MS. FELICIA BIGELOW

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Pairet, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Hunter, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council denied a request on behalf of Ms. Felecia Bigelow for an additional water and sewer adjustment on her November utility billing.

Ms. Bigelow submitted a letter to Town Council requesting an additional adjustment on her November water and sewer bill due to a water leak. The Town Treasurer said Ms. Bigelow’s original bill was \$542.89 and was adjusted to \$186.60. Council discussed the request and agreed that the adjustment made by the Town Treasurer was sufficient.

THE TOWN MANAGER AND STAFF PROVIDED A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:

- Town Manager, Gerald Spates provided a verbal update on various town projects and holiday activities. He updated members on the recent Public Meeting held on the Milnwood Road project.

- Director of Public Works, Robin Atkins spoke on recent waterline breaks due to the cold weather.
- Police Chief, Doug Mooney thanked Town Council on behalf of the Police Department for the additional holidays.

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

- Council member Whitus asked that Mr. Spates thank Keith George for the complimentary letter that was written by a pilot for the exceptional service he received from Mr. George when he visited the Farmville Regional Airport.
- Dr. Gordon expressed his concerns that the Town of Farmville does not have a locally based medical care helicopter service that would provide emergency medical transportation within the “golden hour”.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk