

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON NOVEMBER 9, 2011

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, November 9, 2011, at 7:00 pm, in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, VA, there present were D.E. Whitus, S.B. Thompson, T.M. Pairet, O.S. Overton, A.D. Reid, and E. I. Gordon. Council member D.L. Hunter was absent.

Staff present 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; Town Planner, Cindy Morris; and Town Clerk, Lisa Hricko.

Mayor Newman called the meeting to order. Reverend Price gave the invocation; and Mr. Reid led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TOWN ORDINANCE CHAPTER 28 WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SEC. 28-55 WATER CONNECTION CHARGE, SEC. 28-58 RATE SCHEDULE, SEC. 28-59 SURCHARGE ON MULTIPLE UNITS SERVED BY A SINGLE METER, SEC. 28-156 SEWER CONNECTION CHARGE, AND SEC. 28-258 SEWER CHARGE

Mr. Spates read the public hearing notice. No one present wished to address Town Council.

Mr. Spates presented comparisons on water and sewer rates and real estate and personal property tax rates of localities of similar population and water/sewer connections. He said that in 2011 the state average for a bi-monthly bill for water/sewer service of 5,000 gallons was \$107.16. With Farmville’s new rates, the water/sewer cost would be \$101.20 for 10,000 gallons. Mr. Spates spoke on the connection fees saying the state average is \$12,663.00 and with the new connection fees, the cost to connect to Farmville’s system would be \$6,500.00. He said for a bi-monthly billing for 5,000 gallons of water/sewer in the Town of Blackstone would be \$132.86, the Town of Appomattox the cost would be \$166.70 and in the Town of South Hill, the cost would be \$122.00.

Mr. Spates compared the real estate tax rate, the personal property tax rate and the meals tax rate of the following localities:

Tax -	Farmville	South Boston	South Hill
Real Estate	.12/100	.19/100	.34/100

Personal Property (Business only)	1.50/100 (195,000)		
Personal Property (Business and vehicle)	2.00/100 (425,000)		1.05/100 (495,000)
Meals	7%	4%	5.50%

Council questioned the revenue generated from the vehicle personal property in South Hill and South Boston. Mr. Spates said many towns charge a personal property tax on vehicles and at one time Town Council discussed this option; but, elected not to impose an additional tax on Town residents. He said if you compare water and sewer rates and real estate tax rates, you would find that the Town of Farmville is very competitive.

Council questioned when the rates would go into effect. Mr. Spates said if approved the new tap fees would go into effect immediately. Unless the Town is working with a contractor and has already discussed tap fees. The new water/sewer rates would be on the first billing in 2012, which is in February. Council asked if there are any ongoing projects where the Town would honor the current tap fees. Mr. Spates identified two projects: Lancer Park and Walk2Campus. The public hearing ended at 7:08 pm and meeting returned to the regular order of business.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Mrs. Diane Andrews addressed Council. She spoke of her concerns when she read an article in The Farmville Herald that said this would be the last year Town Council would approve a permit for a homecoming parade. She said she does not have any school age children; but, she as well as others in the community, enjoys watching the parade on Main Street. It is a “part of Americana and being in a small town”. She said it bring out the community’s feeling of pride and helps us remember a slower less stressful time in life. In closing, Mrs. Andrews said if Council’s decision to no longer permit parades was based on finances, she has spoken to many people who have said they would donate funds. Mayor Newman responded, saying Council is concerned with pedestrian safety at intersections and traffic congestion. The highest volume in traffic occurs on Friday afternoons and that is the day of the week that the school wants to have a homecoming parade. Mrs. Andrews replied, that if the cities of Richmond and Lynchburg could handle it - than for twice a year, the Town of Farmville should be able to too. She said she hopes this wonderful event will continue, year after year.

Mr. Robert Glenn addressed Council. On Council’s agenda for this evening is the Town Manager’s proposal of a one-time bonus of \$1,000.00 to each full time Town employee and

\$100.00 to each part-time Town employee. Mr. Glenn spoke against the proposed employee bonuses. He spoke of the Town's finances and lack of funds to pay off its debt. He said the Town is raising the water and sewer rates and then turning around and giving the money away. He referred to a recent article from The Farmville Herald that spoke of anticipated water and sewer tap fees being used to pay for the employee bonuses. Mr. Glenn suggested that the \$131,000 plus it would cost the Town in employees bonuses would be better used to pay towards the debt on the golf course, train station and municipal building. In closing Mr. Glenn said that the Town workers do an excellent job and deserve the bonus, if there was an excess of \$131,000 plus. Dr. Gordon made the following comments. He said the Town is not broke; and, if the bonuses were approved, the funds would come from the general fund. Mr. Glenn then stated that the Town streets are in dire need of repair and the \$131,000 would be better spent addressing those needs. Dr. Gordon said he welcomed and appreciated Mr. Glenn's remarks but felt that his two earlier comments needed to be corrected.

Mr. Spates asked Council to set aside the agenda in order to hear the verbal recommendations of the Farmville Planning Commission.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF PROPOSED TOWN ORDINANCE SEC. 29-312 (29) USES

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting "aye", Council followed the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and adopted the following ordinance:

Ordinance #149

Chapter 29

ZONING

Division 11. Business District B-3

Sec. 29-312 Uses.

(29) Mixed use commercial and residential provided that all residential be located on the second story of the building or above, with a conditional use permit.

At the October Council meeting, Council referred the proposed zoning amendment to the Farmville Planning Commission and authorized advertisement of a joint public hearing. The

Planning Commission met this evening, after the public hearing, and recommended Town Council adopt the proposed ordinance.

Mr. Matt King, President and founder of Walk2Campus Holdings, LLC is interested in constructing a mixed use commercial and residential development on the property located at 315 West 3rd Street (former Newman Tire location). The property is zoned Business District B-3 and would require an amendment to Town ordinance **Sec. 29-312 Uses**, to allow for mixed use commercial and residential to be located on the second story or above of a building. The proposed project will have commercial businesses on the first floor. The second, third and fourth floors will offer two and four bedroom residential living units.

REQUEST RESCINDING TOWN ORDINANCE SEC. 29-316. HEIGHT

On motion by Mrs. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and rescinded the following ordinance:

Ordinance #150

Chapter 29

Zoning

Division 11. Business District

~~Sec. 29-316. Height.~~

~~Buildings in a business district B-3 may be erected up to forty five (45) feet in height from grade. Church spires, belfries, cupolas, monuments, cooling towers, water towers, chimneys, flues, flagpoles, television antennas and radio aerials are exempt. Parapet walls may be up to four (4) feet above the height of the building on which the walls rest.~~

At the October Council meeting, this matter was referred to the Farmville Planning Commission and authorized advertisement of a joint public hearing. The Planning Commission met after the public hearing and recommended Town Council rescind the ordinance.

Mr. Matt King, President and founder of Walk2Campus Holdings LLC is interested in constructing a mixed use commercial and residential development on the property located at 315 West 3rd Street (former Newman Tire location). The property is zoned Business District B-3 and

would require the Town rescind Town ordinance **Sec. 29-316. Height.** to allow for two and four bedroom living units on the second, third and fourth floors.

REQUEST FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF WALK2CAMPUS, LLC

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and approved a conditional use permit on behalf of Walk2Campus, LLC to construct a mixed use commercial and residential development at 315 West Third Street. Council has directed the developer to submit landscaping plans to the Town Manager, for approval. The property is zoned Business District B-3 and allows for mixed-use commercial and residential development, with a conditional use permit.

At the October Council meeting, this matter was referred to the Farmville Planning Commission and the posting of a public notice was authorized. The Farmville Planning Commission recommended Council approve the request and require landscaping plans be submitted to the Town Manager, for approval.

Concerns expressed by citizens attending the joint public hearing were addressed by Council. A citizen described trash in yards on Friday, Saturday and Sunday mornings from parties on residential properties, presumably rented by University students. Council and the Town Manager spoke of the Town ordinance and the steps the Town takes to address these issues. Mr. Spates stated that rental properties owned by Walk2Campus, LLC have had minimal problems. A citizen remarked about the height of the proposed development. Dr. Gordon said, the height of the structure would be similar to that of the Farmers Coop, located directly across the street from the development.

REQUEST REZONING OF 2317 LAYNE STREET

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Farmville Planning Commission and approved the rezoning of 2317 Layne Street to comply with the subdivision of the lot, as presented. The lot will remain Business District B-3 and Residential District R-3 with new subdivision lines.

At the October Council meeting, this matter was referred to the Farmville Planning Commission and authorized for a joint public hearing. The Planning Commission has recommended Town Council approve the rezoning to comply with the subdivision of the lot.

Council returned to the regular order of business.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2011 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of the October 12, 2011 regular Council meeting were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2, 2011 REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

On motion by Mr. Pairet, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with all Council members voting “aye”, the minutes of November 2, 2011 regular Council work session were approved, as previously presented to each Council member.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT

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

REQUEST APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF OCTOBER 2011 BILLS

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

(Bills Printed in Minute Book)

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORTS

Members received copies of the following monthly staff reports:

- Building Official’s Report
- Property Inspector’s Report
- Recreation Activity Report
- Parking Meter Tally
- Recycling Report

REQUEST PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO TOWN ORDINANCE CHAPTER 28 WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL SEC. 28-55 WATER CONNECTION CHARGE, SEC. 28-58 RATE SCHEDULE, SEC. 28-59 SURCHARGE ON MULTIPLE UNITS SERVED BY A SINGLE METER, SEC. 28-156 SEWER CONNECTION CHARGE, AND SEC. 28-258 SEWER CHARGE

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Whitus, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon, voting “aye”, Council approved the following Town ordinance amendments, as presented:

Ordinance #151

Chapter 28

WATER, SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Division 2. Connections and Charges

Sec. 28-55. Water connection charge.

(a) The basic connection fee is to cover the cost of the service tap w/stop, service line, meter setter and meter box. The basic connection fee shall be assessed all residential, commercial and industrial connectors and the payment shall accompany the application for water service as set forth in the schedule of fees below:

(1) In town:

- a. Residential, 3/4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$2,500.00~~ \$3,000.00
- b. Commercial/industrial, 3/4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment to make tap
- c. All taps, over 3/4" x size of ~~meter tap~~. . . ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00
plus ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00 per unit in excess of one (1)
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment to make tap
- d. Yard, 5/8" tap if connected to existing service line . . . ~~\$500.00~~ \$550.00
~~\$2,000.00~~ \$2,500.00 if connected to main

(2) Out of town:

- a. Residential, 3/4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$4,500.00~~ \$5,000.00
- b. Commercial/industrial, 3/4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$6,000.00~~ \$6,500.00
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment to make tap
- c. All taps, over 3/4" x size of ~~meter tap~~. . . ~~\$10,000.00~~ \$10,500.00
plus ~~\$6,000.00~~ \$6,500.00 per unit in excess of one (1)
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment to make tap
- d. Yard, 5/8" tap if connected to existing service line . . . ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$1,500.00
~~\$4,500.00~~ \$5,000.00 if connected to a main

(f) The total connection fee shall be paid before connection, with twenty-five (25) percent payable at the time of plan approval.

(g) The town council may, in its sole discretion, by resolution, waive a portion of the connection fees for water facilities installed under federal or state funded water projects. The portion of the fee that is waived shall be indicated as town financial participation in the water project.

Sec. 28-58. Rate schedule.

(a) The charge for water shall be:

(1) First 3,000 gallons . . . ~~\$19.03~~ \$21.50

(2) Over 3,001 gallons to 20,000 gallons, per 1,000 gallons . . . ~~\$2.93~~ \$3.50

(3) Over 20,001 gallons, per 1,000 gallons . . . ~~\$4.40~~ \$5.00

(b) The minimum charge for water service to locations within the town shall be ~~nineteen dollars and three cents (\$19.03)~~ twenty-one dollars and fifty cents \$21.50 for up to and including three thousand (3,000) gallons, based on a bimonthly consumption. The minimum charge for service to locations outside of town shall be an additional fifty (50) percent more than the minimum charge within the town. Where consumption outside the town is in excess of three thousand (3,000) gallons, the charge shall be fifty (50) percent more than the charges within the town, based on a bimonthly consumption.

Sec. 28-59. Surcharge on multiple units served by a single meter.

(a) In addition to the charges imposed by other sections of this article, there shall be added to all bills for meters serving more than one (1) unit, a bimonthly surcharge of ~~seven dollars and fifty cents (\$7.50)~~ eight dollars (\$8.00) per unit for all units in excess of one (1), whether occupied or not. For the purpose of this section, a unit is described as follows:

Sec. 28-156. Sewer connection charge.

(a) The basic connection fee is to cover the cost of the service tap w/stop, service line and clean-out. The basic connection fee shall be assessed all residential, commercial and industrial connectors and the payment shall accompany the application for sewer service as set forth in the schedule of fees below:

(1) In town:

a. Residential, 4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$2,500.00~~ \$3,000.00

b. Commercial/industrial, 4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00

plus cost of labor, materials and equipment to make tap

c. All taps, over 4" . . . ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00

plus ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00 per inch in excess of four (4)

plus ~~\$3,000.00~~ \$3,500.00 per unit in excess of one (1)

plus cost of labor, materials and equipment

(2) Out of town:

- a. Residential, 4" tap, per unit . . . ~~\$4,500.00~~ \$5,000.00
- b. Commercial/industrial, 4" tap, per unit. . . ~~\$6,000.00~~ \$6,500.00
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment
- c. All taps, over 4" . . . ~~\$10,000.00~~ \$10,500.00
plus ~~\$10,000.00~~ \$10,500.00 per inch in excess of four (4)
- d. plus ~~\$10,500.00~~ \$10,500.00 per unit in excess of one (1)
plus cost of labor, materials and equipment.

Sec. 28-158. Sewer charge.

(b) For each connection into the town sewer system that is not a user of town water, there shall be a bimonthly charge of, ~~forty eight dollars and forty cents (\$48.40)~~ fifty four dollars and fifty cents (\$54.50) plus a bimonthly charge of ~~forty eight dollars and forty cents (\$48.40)~~ fifty four dollars and fifty cents (\$54.50) for each additional unit, whether occupied or not.

Town ordinance **Sec. 28-55. Water connection charge** and **Sec. 28-156. Sewer connection charge.** are to be effective immediately. **Sec. 28-59. Surcharge on multiple units served by a single meter.,** and **Sec. 28-258 Sewer charge.** will take effect with the first billing in 2012.

A public hearing was held this evening and no one present expressed any comments regarding the proposed water and sewer increases.

REQUEST FOR TWO (2) HOUR FREE PARKING ON BEHALF OF THE DOWNTOWN FARMVILLE GROUP

On motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Pairet, and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Street Committee and denied a request for two (2) hour free holiday parking on behalf of the Downtown Farmville group.

At the October Council meeting, Mr. Spates presented a request from Mr. Jimmy Johnson, Chairman of Downtown Farmville. Mr. Johnson requested Council approve bagging the parking meters on Main Street from Third and Main to J. Ferguson Gallery allowing for two (2) hour free parking for the holiday season, beginning November 4, 2011. Council referred the request to the Street Committee. The Committee has recommended Council deny the request due to ongoing construction, the cost of the meter bags and the complaints from businesses on Main Street that opposed the meters being bagged last year.

ALLEYWAY – 400 BLOCK OF FOURTH AVENUE AND THE 200 BLOCK OF FAYETTE STREET

Mr. Spates provided Council a verbal update on the alleyway located at the 400 block of Fourth Avenue and the 200 block of Fayette Street. He said the shed has been moved. The remaining issue is the property owner at the corner of Fayette Street that has a paved driveway across the alleyway. The Town has surveyed the alleyway and determined the boundaries. Mr. Spates said he will contact the property owner to discuss options.

REQUEST CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT ON BEHALF OF FARMVILLE TOWNES, LLC

On an amended motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and with all Council members voting “aye”, Council referred a request for a conditional use permit on behalf of Farmville Townes, LLC to the Farmville Planning Commission and authorized advertisement of a public notice.

Farmville Townes, LLC is requesting a conditional use permit to construct a townhouse subdivision on property known as “Sunchase”, identified as Town of Farmville tax map parcel #23A9-A-27-A8 containing 7.008 acres and parcel #23A9-A-27-A1 containing 19.10 acres. The property is zoned Residential District R-4 and townhomes are an allowed use, with a conditional use permit. The first phase of the development will consist of 18 units.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF PROPOSED TOWN ORDINANCE CHAPTER 21 POLICE DEPARTMENT SEC. 21-11.1 AUXILIARY POLICE FORCE

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Dr. Gordon, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid and Gordon voting “aye”, Council followed the recommendation of the Police Chief and adopted the following ordinance:

Ordinance #148

Chapter 21

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Article I. In General

Sec. 21-11.1 Auxiliary police force.

(a) Pursuant to Va. Code § 15.2-1731, as amended, for the further preservation of the public peace, safety and good order of the community, the town hereby establishes an auxiliary police force, which will have all the powers and authority and all the immunities of full-time law-enforcement officers; if such forces have met the training requirements established by the Department of Criminal Justice Services under Va. Code § 9.1-101, as amended.

(b) The police chief is hereby authorized to appoint as auxiliary police officers as many persons of good character as he deems necessary, not to exceed 6. The chief of police is also authorized

to prescribe the uniform, organization, and such rules as he deems necessary for the operation of the auxiliary police force.

(c) The auxiliary police officers may be called into service as provided in Va. Code § 15.2-1734, as amended. In addition, the members of the auxiliary police force who have been trained in accordance with the provisions of Va. Code § 15.2-1731, as amended, may be called into service by the chief of police, or his designee, to aid and assist regular police officers in the performance of their duties.

Mr. Spates reported that the Town Attorney has reviewed the proposed ordinance. Chief Mooney said auxiliary officers will be required to follow Farmville Police Department's policy manual. They will be certified police officers and their work schedules will be issued by the Police Department. Auxiliary police officers will have the same arrest powers as a police officer employed by Town of Farmville.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF 2011 TOWN OF EMPLOYEE BONUSES

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Overton a motion to approve the 2011 Town of Farmville employee bonuses, as presented by the Town Manager passed with Council members Overton, Reid and Gordon voting "aye" and Council members Whitus, Thompson, and Pairet voting "nay". Mayor Newman cast his vote to break the tie, voting "aye", in favor of the employee bonuses. Council approved a one-time bonus of \$1,000.00 to each full time employee and \$100.00 to each part time employee.

CLERKS NOTE: The Town Charter Sec. 30 Mayor generally – Powers and duties generally. reads in part, " *The Mayor shall, when present, preside over all meetings of the council with no power to vote except in case of a tie*".

Prior to voting, Council member Reid stated the following: "Under Section 2.2-3115.G. of the *Code of Virginia* this notice shall serve as my declaration that I, A.D. Reid, Farmville Town Council member, am able to participate in the transaction before Town Council this Wednesday, November 9, 2011 regarding employee bonuses. My wife, Frances Reid, is an employee of the Town of Farmville. I am able to perform my duties as a Farmville Town Council member fairly, objectively, and in the public interest."

CLERK'S NOTE: Council member A.D. Reid's signed declaration is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

Prior to Town Council taking action, Mr. Spates asked to read a statement that he had prepared in response to a copy of an e-mail he received. In the e-mail, a business owner in the community opposed giving a bonus to Town employees due to the economy. Mr. Spates'

statement spoke of real estate the Town purchased and current grant projects all undertaken to enhance Farmville and to provide services to the community. In closing, Mr. Spates said since 1978 the Town has only raised taxes .02 cents per \$100.00 and has one of the lowest water and sewer rates in the state. He said he was very proud of the Town employees, praising them for their dedication to their jobs and commitment to this community. Mr. Spates said Town employees have not received an increase in salary in three (3) years, and they should be rewarded for a job well done, regardless of the economy.

Council discussed this matter. Those that opposed the employee bonus spoke in support of the Town employees but expressed concerns with the Town's 2011-2012 budget, and current financial obligations of the Town. Those that supported the bonus also addressed the budget; but, said they felt the Town should invest in their employees and that the employees should be rewarded for the excellent job they do.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR 2011 EMPLOYEE CHRISTMAS DINNER

On motion by Dr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting "aye", Council approved hosting the annual employee Christmas dinner.

Mrs. Thompson made a motion that each Council member donates \$200.00 towards the employee Christmas dinner, totaling \$1,600.00, as a way to show their appreciation to Town employees. Prior to a second on the motion, Mrs. Thompson was reminded the cost of the dinner is approximately \$4,000.00. Mrs. Thompson withdrew her motion.

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO ADVERTISE FOR A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING ON BEHALF OF THE ROBERT RUSSA MOTON MUSEUM FOR GRANT FUNDING THROUGH THE TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all Council members voting "aye", Council authorized advertisement of a joint public hearing on a Transportation Enhancement grant application on behalf of The Robert Russa Moton Museum.

Mr. Spates said only localities can apply for Enhancement grant funds. The Museum has asked the Town to be the fiscal agent for the grant and there will be no financial obligation for the Town. The funds will be used for the construction of a Civil Rights In Education Heritage Trail Tourist Center at the Moton Museum.

REQUEST SUPPORT IN APPOINTMENT OF BEN SEARS AS FIRE CHIEF FOR THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE

On motion by Mr. Whitus, seconded by Mr. Pairet, and with a recorded vote with Council members Whitus, Thompson, Pairet, Overton, Reid, and Gordon voting “aye”, Council unanimously supports the Town Manager in his appointment of Ben Sears as the Town of Farmville’s Fire Chief.

Mr. Spates said Mr. Sears has been acting Chief for the past couple of months. Members of the Farmville Volunteer Fire Department have recommended his appointment. Mr. Sears is a certified fire fighter and resides in Farmville.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Council members received copies of the following monthly reports:

- ICA monthly report
- Employee Overtime monthly summary

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

Mr. Spates thanked Council for their generosity in approving the employee bonuses. He also provided a verbal update on the Milnwood Road and Streetscape projects. Chief Mooney provided an update on the activities of the Farmville Police Department.

FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS INQUIRED OR COMMENTED ON THE FOLLOWING:

Dr. Gordon spoke of a comment he received asking that adequate handicap parking be available at the walk in clinic on Main Street. Mr. Spates said that issue has already been addressed.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm.

Mayor S.C. Newman, Jr.

Lisa M. Hricko, Clerk