

10 Robertson St
Regular Meeting Number 4 of Radford City Council, F.Y. 2016-2017

The New River City
September 12, 2016

Radford, Virginia

The regular meeting of the Radford City Council was convened at 7:00p.m. in Council Chambers, 10 Robertson Street, Radford, VA. The Mayor of the City, Dr. Bruce Brown, was present and presiding. Other members of City Council present were Mr. Robert Gropman, Dr. Richard Harshberger, Mr. Daniel Keith Marshall and Mr. David Michael Turk.

Others present were as follows:

Mr. David Ridpath, City Manager
Ms. Jenni Wilder, City Clerk
Mrs. Gail Cook DeVilbiss, City Attorney
Mr. Basil Edwards, Economic Developer
Mr. Donald Goodman, Chief of Police
Ms. Melissa Skelton, Community Developer

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Brown, and the invocation was led by Chaplain Jim Henagar.

MINUTES APPROVALS: On a motion by Dr. Harshberger seconded by Mr. Gropman _____ that the minutes for August 8, 2016 are approved as presented.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown
NAYES: None-0

MINUTES APPROVALS: On a motion by Mr. Marshall seconded by Mr. Turk that the minutes for August 22, 2016 are approved as presented.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown
NAYES: None-0

PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Vacation of Right-Of-Way

SUMMARY: Scott Hill requested the vacation of the unimproved section of Henry Street, adjacent to his property at 1312 Fourth Street. The area is approximately 60'X140'. The vacation was requested to increase the size of his lot for additional single family construction. Mr. Marshall made a motion at the August 8, 2016 meeting to permit the City Attorney to schedule the public hearing.

Mayor Brown opened the public input hearing at 7:10

No Comments

Mayor Brown closed the public input hearing at 7:10

Clerks note: Notice of the public hearing has been duly advertised.

PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Amending Zoning Ordinance – Craft Beverage Manufacturing

SUMMARY: The Code of Virginia permits localities to consider “Craft Beverages”, manufacturing and distribution, with appropriate local ordinances. The Planning Commission has discussed including the provision in the B-1 (Business Neighborhood), B-2 (General Business) and B-3 (Central Business) Zones of the Radford City Code. Dr. Harshberger made a motion to schedule a public hearing at the August 8, 2016 meeting to consider an amendment to the zoning ordinance for this purpose.

Mayor Brown opened the public input hearing at 7:13

Dr. Shanley- Dr. Shanley stated that he personally knows people who are working on a proposal to bring craft brewing to Radford and that currently there are about 11 craft breweries in the NRV and Roanoke. Dr. Shanley believes that craft beverage manufacturing is the newest growth industry and is a great opportunity to diversify businesses in Radford. This would benefit locals and tourist, as well as attract individuals into town and make Radford more attractive. Dr. Shanley asked the crowd who was here in favor of the craft beverage manufacturing and many in the crowd raised their hand, he ended by encouraging Council to support this ordinance.

Ms. Laurie Murphy- Ms. Murphy is the owner of Green Heron Arts and is in favor of the craft beverage ordinance, stating that she would remain open longer if a brewery was downtown and that by allowing for breweries in downtown it would encourage retail businesses to come in and be great for economy there.

Mr. Jeff Kleppin- Mr. Kleppin stated that when Deschutes announced in they were coming to Roanoke they held an event at Blue 5 in Roanoke which he attended. While there, Mr. Kleppin had the opportunity to speak with Gary Fish CEO of Deschutes and asked him why they chose Roanoke. Mr. Fish stated that they could make beer anywhere, but Roanoke is a great community and they wanted to be a part of it. They wanted to make a difference and they day of the Street Pup in Roanoke they raised \$85,000 for local nonprofits. Mr. Kleppin went on to encourage Council to vote for the ordinance and talked about how craft beverage manufacturers are popping up everywhere on the I-81 corridor. Mr. Kleppin concluded by stating that breweries will bring people into Radford for events, as well as attracts local food vendors and serves as ambassadors for Radford. Vote for the ordinance craft beverage manufacturers are local entrepreneurs who want to be a part of the community.

Ms. Laurie Buchwald- Ms. Buchwald stated she appreciated Jeff’s comments. While in Nelson County on a motorcycle Ms. Buchwald noticed that they highlight all the breweries, wineries and cideries within the region. She likes that collaboration and believes that Radford needs to bring businesses into the community. Go for it.

Ms. Marceline Hunter- Ms. Hunter stated that in her time as a tour guide for Sunshine Tours they frequently planned tours around going to wineries and breweries. In 2002 there were 95 wineries in Virginia and now there are 205. Allowing for this beverage manufacturing would attract tour buses into our community, allowing for visitors to frequent restaurants and events. This will encourage Tourism.

Mayor Brown closed the public input hearing at 7:23

NOTE: Planning Commission had a quorum and they will take action at their September 19 meeting, which will be presented to City Council.

Clerks note: Notice of the public hearing has been duly advertised.

PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Appropriation Ordinance –RHS Roof Replacement

SUMMARY: The proposed appropriation ordinance of \$2,045,000 to the School Board is for the Radford High School roof replacement.

Mayor Brown opened the public input hearing at 7:26

No Comments

Mayor Brown closed the public input hearing at 7:26

Clerks note: Notice of the public hearing has been duly advertised.

OLD BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Vacation of Right-Of-Way Henry Street

SUMMARY: Scott Hill has requested the vacation of the unimproved section of Henry Street, adjacent to his property at 1312 Fourth Street. The area is approximately 60'X140'. The vacation was requested to increase the size of his lot for additional single family construction. The Planning Commission reviewed the right-of-way vacation at its August 15, 2016 meeting and unanimously voted that the request was compliant with the comprehensive plan, provided utility easements were maintained.

Mr. Howard, Planning Commission Chair stated that State Code makes the Planning Commission look into these in order to make sure they are in compliance with the comprehensive plan. The Planning Commission has been to the site and it is in compliance with the comprehensive plan, only requirement is a utility easement, the property is too costly for city to pursue right of way.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to receive the Planning Commission Report, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Laurie Buchwald mentioned that she has noticed a great discrepancy between the numbers of trash cans in front of homes throughout Radford. There is a variety of cans and volume of trash. She suggested limiting the volume of trash per household, which will create an incentive to recycle and allow people to more efficient with waste. Mr. Ridpath followed up to Ms. Buchwald's comments by stating the City has a three trash cans per household policy and citizens get charged for additional cans.

Chief Goodman presented City Council with an award from the Department of Motor Vehicles for highest seatbelt use in the commonwealth, in a community of our size. Mr. Goodman states that this is really a citizen's award, citizens are buckling up, RCPD is just enforcing the law and counting how many seatbelts are being used.

NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: NRVCS Contract

SUMMARY: The New River Valley Community Services agency provides Radford citizens and the New River Communities with mental and behavioral health services. The City contributes \$39,658 in local required funding to the agency. The F.Y. 2017 contract illustrates the scope of services, reporting requirements, agency responsibility and funding. The City has contracted with this state agency for services for nearly 40 years.

ACTION: Mr. Gropman made a motion to approve the NRVCS contract, as presented, Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

Comments:

Dr. Harshberger stated he just wanted to comment on what a good job NRVCS does.

Mr. Gropman stated the commonwealth wants NRVCS to ask for a 10% increase in funding, but because they are operating in the black they are not requesting additional funding. However, the state often requires certain things.

SUBJECT: Water Plant-Chemical Bids

SUMMARY: The Water Treatment Plant received bids for one of the chemicals, Poly Aluminum Chloride (PAX XL8), used in our treatment process of portable water. Radford received one bid from Kemira for \$0.182/liquid pound, level with the current year price. The City uses 118 tons of the chemical each year.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to award the chemical bid to Kemira, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: WWI & WWII Committee Appointment

SUMMARY: The Virginia General Assembly created a Commission to commemorate the 100th anniversary of World War I and the 75th anniversary of World War II. Special events and programs will be held across the state associated with honoring our veterans, encouraging public education, connecting people to history and tourism, as well as preserving historic sites. Localities have been encouraged to participate in planning for these events by appointing a liaison to coordinate with the State Commission.

Recommendations to serve: Deb Cooney, Scott Gardner, Bob Nicholson. Bud Jeffries, Gary Harris.

SUBJECT: Metropolitan Planning Organization

SUMMARY: The City of Radford became a part of the New River Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization in 2013. The MPO has had a Memorandum with the State of Virginia since 2012, however an MOU needed to be formally extended to Radford to finalize our participation in the organization due to FTA requirements associated with Radford Transit. Appointment of a staff member to the Board is required.

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to authorize Mr. Ridpath to sign the MPO Joiner Resolution, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to appoint Mayor Brown, as the Council representative and Ms. Melissa Skelton as the Radford staff representative, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.08: \$2,045,000 for School Roof Replacement

SUMMARY: The Budget Appropriation #1682 provided \$2,045,000 to Radford City Schools for much needed roof replacements at Dalton Intermediate School, and Radford High School.

The project has been designed and managed by Thompson Lytton and the bid awarded to Roofing Solutions, Inc. An Appropriation is required to transfer the funds from the Capital Reserve designated for the schools.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to place 1682.08 on its first reading, Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to dispense with the second and final readings and approve Appropriation 1682.08, Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.09: \$300,000 for the Fire Truck

SUMMARY: City Council authorized the purchase of a new frontline pumper for the Fire Department at its meeting on August 8, 2016. The new truck will replace Engine #7 and includes a 75' ladder and 750 gallons of water storage capacity. A generous contribution from Radford University will provide the down payment. The \$300,000 contribution has been held in the Capital Reserve Fund and needs to be appropriated for expenditure. The truck is being purchased from Atlantic Emergency Solutions, the state contract provider.

ACTION: Mr. Gropman made a motion to place 1682.09 on its first reading, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Mr. Gropman made a motion to dispense with the second and final readings and approve Appropriation 1682.09, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.10: \$4,300 for Tourism Arts Grant

SUMMARY: The Virginia Commission for the Arts has awarded \$2,400 to the City of Radford for a "Tourism Arts Grant". The project includes sculptures and installation supplies for an artist trail on the Cultural Heritage site adjacent to Unruh Drive, as well as related signage and

marketing materials. A local match of \$1,900 is required and can be accommodated from the existing Tourism Budget. The grant and the local match total \$4,300.

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to place 1682.10 on its first reading, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to dispense with the second and final readings and approve Appropriation 1682.10, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682:11: \$9,481.74 for Police K-9 Program

SUMMARY: The Police Department has requested \$9,482 from the “K-9 Donation” account for the K-9 Program. The funds would be used to purchase supplies and equipment.

ACTION: Mr. Gropman made a motion to place 1682.11 on its first reading, Mr. Marshall seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Mr. Gropman made a motion to dispense with the second and final readings and approve Appropriation 1682.11, Mr. Marshall seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682:12: \$251,233

SUMMARY: The Sheriff’s Department has requested an Appropriation in the amount of \$251,233 to continue efforts with New River Community Services for the Crisis Intervention Center. The New River Valley Community Services Board received funds to support officers, training, equipment and supplies for the Radford Sheriff’s Department who was tasked with the security detail for the Crisis Intervention Team Center. The “center” provides a secure location where individuals, who may be experiencing a mental health event, can be evaluated by a clinician to determine the need for hospitalization or release. The legislation and program was a

result of mental health related incidents which occurred around the state. All costs are reimbursed 100% to the City of Radford for this service.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to place 1682.12 on its first reading, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

Discussion: Sheriff Mark Armentrout states that they were fortunate to have NRVCS approach their office for this, it created 5 full time positions and is a win-win for the City, servicing the mental health community and the Sheriff's Office can use the deputies for court as well, he appreciates Council's support.

Patrick Halpern from NRVCS spoke about stats from the Radford Center: The center opened in January 2016, in the first 6 months there were 60 transfers of custody, To date the center has serviced 1500 people, and in the past 2 months close to 30 transfers of custody.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to dispense with the second and final readings and approve Appropriation 1682.21, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS:

Mr. Ridpath spoke about how Radford cannot say enough how appreciative we are for the donations and partnerships that help fund the K-9 program and make it successful.

Mr. Ridpath also discussed Renew the New a river clean up event with over 450 volunteers in Radford, we collected over 4 tons of debris.

Mr. Ridpath mentioned that Mrs. Devilbiss is working on the ENS/Stormwater permitting process, which is moving rapidly. The MS4 is a state mandated program and staff has met many times working on the report, there is a lot of information on our website about the Stormwater/MS4 program.

Mr. Ridpath mentioned he will be bringing new hire Chris Childress, Code Enforcement Officer to the next meeting to introduce him to Council.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mr. Turk stated that they had a good first meeting with the Business Economic Improvement Team, who is composed of Mr. Turk, Mr. Edwards, Ms. Flinchum, Mr. Ridpath. Mr. Price and Mr. Williams, he is looking for this to be productive committee with good things to come.

Mr. Gropman began by reading names in favor of the Craft Beverage Ordinance, whom he has received e-mails from. He followed by reading a letter of support from John and Kelly Wheeler.

Mr. Gropman asked that Mr. Edwards and the EDA look into a Radford prototype similar to the incentive matrix in Manassas, Virginia.

Dr. Harshberger mentioned he had a good meeting with Mr., Edwards and Mrs. Davis about business retention, they began to put together a questionnaire.

Mr. Marshall discussed his and Mr. Edwards' meeting with Representative Griffith. He said they had a good discussion and hope to develop a relationship with him in order to receive some federal funding.

Mayor Brown stated he has reached out to Jim Perkins and is working with Radford University to bring conferences and concerts to Radford.

Mayor Brown also wanted to make Council aware that the October 10, 2016 meeting date conflicts with the VML Conference, they might need an alternative date. Mayor Brown also mentioned having Scott Gardner and the Heritage Foundation look into doing living histories for civil rights by getting the schools involved and capturing the voices while they are still here.

Mr. Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 p.m., seconded by Mr. Gropman.

VOTE:

AYES: Mr. Gropman, Dr. Harshberger, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Turk, Mayor Brown

NAYES: None-0

ATTEST: _____
Jennifer G. Wilder, City Clerk of Council