

10 Robertson St.
Regular Meeting Number 9 of Radford City Council, F.Y. 2016-2017

The New River City
January 9, 2017

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. Michael Turk.

Others present were as follows:
Mr. David Ridpath, City Manager
Ms. Jenni Wilder, City Clerk

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the invocation was led by Chaplain James Henagar.

MINUTES APPROVALS: On a motion by Mr., Marshall and seconded by Mr. Turk that the minutes for December 12, 2016 Work Session are approved as presented.

VOTE:

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

MINUTES APPROVALS: On a motion by Mr. Gropman and seconded by Dr. Harshberger ___ that the minutes for December 12, 2016 are approved as presented.

VOTE:

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

INTRODUCTION:

SUBJECT: New Personnel

SUMMARY: City Manager Mr. David Ridpath introduced new employees from various City Departments to City Council.

RESOLUTION:

SUBJECT: Robert Allen Hall Service Above Self Citizenship Award-David Horton

SUMMARY: The Resolution recognizes David Horton for his contributions and support of our community, special projects and events, as well as community organizations. The Resolution reflects the ideals of the Robert Allen Hall, Humanitarian Service award established by City Council in 2011. The nominee was recommended by Lisa Davis, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce.

ACTION: On a motion by Dr. Harshberger and seconded by Mr. Gropman that the resolution recognizing Mr. Horton is approved as presented.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

City of Radford
Resolution Honoring David Horton
Recipient of the “Robert Allen Hall Humanitarian Service Above Self Citizenship Award”

WHEREAS, the City of Radford wished to honor Robert Allen “Big Al” Hall by establishing a Humanitarian Service- Above-Self Citizenship Award in 2011, and

WHEREAS, the establishment of this award recognizes unsung heroes that contribute to making the City of Radford a better place, and

WHEREAS, a humanitarian is recognized as one who extends benevolence and kindness, by putting others before one’s self, and

WHEREAS, David Horton has been involved throughout Radford in various volunteer positions and civic organizations over the years, giving back to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Horton has served as the host and MC of many Radford events including, Main Street Radford Concerts, Relay for Life, Highlanders Festival, the Chili Cook-off, Radford Reads Festival and Mary Draper Ingles Author Panel; and

WHEREAS, David Horton currently serves Radford as the President of the Radford Chamber of Commerce, the Chair of the Beautification Commission, and as a committee member of the Environmental Awareness Committee and Radford Read Festival Committee; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Horton is always willing to give back to the Radford community by donating of his time whenever called upon; and

WHEREAS, David Horton was instrumental in the creation of Sparky’s Run, Radford’ Dog Park; and

WHEREAS, David Horton takes pride in keeping Radford clean and protecting and enhancing Radford’s environment by participating in several environmental events including cleanups through Pathways for Radford, the New River Valley Renew the New Clean Up, the Arbor Day Tree Planting event and by hosting a variety of presentations about trees and the environment; and

WHEREAS, David Horton is a perfect example of a Radford resident that is invested in the community, by donating of time and volunteer hours into Radford without hesitation.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Radford City Council does hereby honor David Horton for his dedication and service to the City of Radford, by presenting him with the Robert Allen “Big Al” Hall Humanitarian Service-Above-Self Citizenship Award.

Bruce E. Brown, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jennifer G. Wilder, City Clerk

Adopted: January 9, 2017

OLD BUSINESS:

SUBJECT: Ordinance 1687: Henry Street Vacation of Right-of-Way

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 is requested to increase the size of his lot for future 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. City staff have also reviewed the request and foresee no conflicts, as long as an easement is retained for current and future utility needs.

A public hearing was held on September 12, 2016 and no comments were received. All adjacent property owners were notified of the request. City Council also “received” the report of the Planning Commission.

A three-member Board of Viewers was appointed at the September 26, 2016 meeting to inspect the right-of-way and report on any inconvenience that may result from discontinuing the public right-of-way.

The Board of Viewers met on October 10, 2016 and reported that no “inconvenience” to the public would be created if the Right-of-Way is closed. City Council received the report on October 24, 2016. The Planning Commission, Board of Viewers and City Staff have all recommend that the Right-of-Way be vacated and a utility easement retained.

A formal survey of the Right-of-Way has been performed by Thompson and Litton and the permanent easement area for current and future utilities has been identified. An Appraisal has also been prepared by McCraw Appraisal and the value established at \$7,140 for Scott and Angela Hill’s portion of the vacation and \$4,998 for Roger Hamilton’s portion of the vacated right-of-way. The appraisal has not been discussed with the applicants pending Council concurrence of the value.

Ordinance #1687 incorporates all aspects of the Right-of-Way Vacation request by Scott Hill, the retention of an easement for utilities and the valuation, as well as the recommendation of the Board of Viewers, the Planning Commission and City Staff.

City Council approved Ordinance #1687 on its first reading at the December 12, 2016 meeting with the amendment that the value be established at 50% of the appraisal. The first reading passed with three affirmative votes. The second reading was deferred.

Since the first reading, one of the adjacent property owners, Roger Hamilton, has withdrawn his interest in participating in the vacation. An affidavit of waiver and consent was signed.

Scott and Angela will now be the only participant in the vacation of the .192 acres at a total value of \$6,069. Ordinance #1687 reflects all modifications and conditions.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall moved that Ordinance 1687 be approved, on the second reading, the motion was seconded by Mr. Turk.

VOTE:

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS
NONE

NEW BUSINESS
SUBJECT: Agreement Workforce Consortium

SUMMARY: The New River/Mount Rogers Workforce Development Area Consortium was created to provide workforce training and oversight to local regions in support of economic development. Our local region Consortium includes the Counties of Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski, Bland, Carroll, Grayson, Smyth, Washington and Wythe, as well as the Cities of Bristol, Galax, and the City of Radford. In 2015, the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act was revised affecting the original regional agreement established in 2010. A new local ordinance is required establishing the required Consortium agreement and related powers, membership and governance.

The agreement has been recommended by the Consortium Board and its Attorney, Sands Anderson, and requires a public hearing. A public hearing can be held on January 23, 2017.

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to schedule a public hearing on the Workforce Consortium Agreement, for January 23, 2017, Mr. Turk seconded the motion

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

SUBJECT: Go Virginia Initiative

SUMMARY: The State of Virginia is establishing a coalition of Business, higher education, community leaders and others into regions throughout the State to promote Virginia's Economic future through strong private-sector growth and job creation. The effort will be known as "Go Virginia". The New River Valley, Roanoke and Lynchburg have been incorporated into one Go Virginia Region. A Regional Board will be established to oversee this effort made up of 15-25 area wide leaders. The New River Valley Regional Commission has asked for recommendation from this area to be considered for the Board. The Board will focus on strengthening communication between business and local government, as well as develop projects that could be supported by "Go Virginia" funds.

Mayor Brown asked Mr. Ridpath to come up with some names and revisit this at the January 23, 2017 meeting.

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.21- GIS Grant

SUMMARY: The City of Radford received a grant from the Virginia Information Technologies agency for our GIS Department. The funds will be used for travel related expenses to attend conferences associated with technology enhancement of 911 related wireless services. The \$2,000 grant was not programmed in the development of the F.Y. 2017 Budget, therefore requiring appropriation. No local match is required.

ACTION: Mr. Marshall made a motion to place 1682.21 on its first reading, Mr. Gropman seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

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

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.22-Chest Compression System

SUMMARY: The Fire Department and our emergency services has recommended the purchase of a "Chest Compression System". The system will be used to perform lifesaving duties and improve efficiency in certain emergency situations. The cost of the system is \$14,850 and can be funded from the Four -4 Life Fund designated for Fire and EMS equipment needs. The equipment was not budgeted in the development of the F.Y. 2017 Budget, therefore requiring appropriation. A brief demonstration will be provided by our EMS personnel.

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to place 1682.22 on its first reading, Mr. Marshall seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger a motion to dispense with the second and final reading and approve Appropriation 1682.22, Mr. Marshall seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

SUBJECT: Consider Appropriation Ordinance 1682.23-Court Renovations

SUMMARY: The Circuit Court Judge's Office was renovated with new bookcase units. The cost of the improvements was \$9,675. The funds to support the project are available in the Courthouse Maintenance Account. Appropriation is required for the expenditure.

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to place 1682.23 on its first reading, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger a motion to dispense with the second and final reading and approve Appropriation 1682.23, Mr. Turk seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

CITY MANAGERS COMMENTS:

NONE

CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Mr. Robert Gropman discussed creating a campaign to attract the Tesla Solar Panel Company to come to Radford. He said it should resemble the grassroots campaign Roanoke used to attract Deschutes. If we can show Elon Musk, to set up shop here they will be building the solar technology here for several years. Radford needs to do something at the foundry.

Mr. Marshall made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56, Mayor Brown seconded the motion.

VOTE:

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

NAYES: None-0

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