

*The "New River" City*

March 14, 2022

Radford, Virginia

10 Robertson St.

**Meeting Number 14 of Radford City Council, F.Y. 2021-2022**

The regular meeting of the Radford City Council was convened at 7:00 p.m. on March 14, 2022 in the Radford City Council Chambers, located at 10 Robertson Street Radford, VA. The Mayor of the City, Raymond David Horton, was present and presiding. Other members of City Council present were, Vice-Mayor Huntington, Mr. Forrest Hite, Ms. Jessie Foster, and Dr. Richard Harshberger.

Others present were as follows:

Mr. David Ridpath, City Manager

Ms. Jenni Goodman, City Clerk

Ms. Melissa Skelton, Deputy Clerk

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

NONE

**COUNCIL RESPONSE:**

NONE

**MINUTES APPROVAL:**

**ACTION:** Ms. Foster made a motion to approve the minutes from February 28, 2022, as presented, Mr. Hite second the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

**PROCLAMATION: Women's History Month**

**SUMMARY:** The month of March is nationally recognized as "Women's History Month". The designation highlights the historic and ongoing critical roles that women have made to the economy, culture and social progress, the leadership, workforce, the military, as well as equal opportunity.

**ACTION:** Ms. Huntington made a motion to approve the proclamation as presented, Ms. Foster seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SUBJECT: East Main Street Improvement Project**

**SUMMARY:** The City of Radford received Appalachian Commission Funding in 2019 to develop a masterplan to improve East Main Street from Harrison Street to Tyler Avenue. The Plan includes pedestrian and vehicular enhancements, lightning and sidewalk improvements, wayfinding, landscaping, as well as open space planning. The development of the plan included businesses, property owners, customers, students and service organizations.

The City advanced a Request for Proposal to provide engineering and architectural services to design and bid the elements in the masterplan. Six proposals were received. After review of the proposals, interviews and reference checks, the review committee made up of our economic development, planning and engineering staff, as well as planning staff from the Regional

Commission have recommended this contract be awarded to Hurt & Profit. The firm has much experience in transportation and pedestrian needs, infrastructure design, commercial area revitalization, as well as has the characteristics that best match our expected needs and implementation of the East Main Street Project.

**ACTION:** Mayor Horton made a motion to award the contract to Hurt and Profit, Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE

**SUBJECT: Community Garden Lease Agreement**

**SUMMARY:** The Community Garden, located on a .87 acre parcel adjacent to Pulaski Street, has been leased by the City of Radford from the Pepper's Ferry Water Wastewater Authority since April, 2012. The property has many attributes that support this community, quality of life and recreational project including rich soil, fencing, on site water supply and good access. The agreement was originally approved by Council Resolution and requires extension 5-6 years. The City and Authority have discussed the continuation of the gardens, the importance of the program, as well as another extension of the lease. The Peppers Ferry Board endorsed the agreement at their meeting on March 3, 2022.

The current lease that was extended on March 31, 2015 and automatically renewed for an additional 5 years with an automatic renewal for another year to March 2022. The Board has approved another lease renewal from April 1, 2022 to April 2027.

**ACTION:** Ms. Foster made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Ms. Huntington seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**SUBJECT: Radford Transit Surplus Equipment**

**SUMMARY:** The City has received two new buses to replace two buses that have met their useful life as defined by FTA and DRPT. The buses to be replaced, #351, and #352, both 2013 Fords, would be auctioned on a public website and sold to the highest qualifying bidder.

**ACTION:** Ms. Foster made a motion to surplus the buses, Mr. Hite seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**SUBJECT: Appointments to Board and Commissions**

**SUMMARY:** An appointment is needed to replace David Horton on the Virginia First Industrial Authority, Dick Harshberger has expressed interest.

**ACTION:** Mayor Horton made a motion to appoint Dr. Harshberger to Virginia’s First, Ms. Huntington the motion.

**VOTE:**  
AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Dr. Harshberger, Ms. Huntington, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**  
Mr. Ridpath stated the budget process in underway. Mr. Ridpath stated the sinkhole on Main Street is under repair.

Chief Dodson spoke about the new gym equipment that is being installed in the PD, as well as the fact that the police department now has a law fit course coming to Radford and the peer support team is now accredited.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**  
Ms. Huntington congratulated the Radford City Police Department on their accredited Peer Support Team. Huntington-Congrats to RCPD and the accredited Peer support team.

Ms. Foster and Mr. Hite echoed those sentiments.

Dr. Harshberger reflected on Women’s History month and the progress that has been made with women in the workplace.

Mayor Horton suggested that we celebrate and share stories of the women that have influenced our lives here in Radford. Mayor Horton also discussed April as Environmental Awareness Month and that he is excited about how the East Main Project will help build a better Radford for the next 50-100 years.

Ms. Huntington made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm seconded by Mr. Hite.

**VOTE:**  
AYES: Ms. Foster, Mr. Hite, Ms. Huntington, Dr. Harshberger, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: None-0

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Goodman, City Clerk