



TOWN OF HAYMARKET TOWN COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING ~ MINUTES ~

Danielle Kijewski, Clerk of Council
<http://www.townofhaymarket.org/>

15000 Washington St
Haymarket, VA 20169

Monday, May 1, 2017

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

A Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Town of Haymarket, VA, was held this evening in the Board Room, commencing at 7:00 PM.

Mayor David Leake called the meeting to order.

1. Call to Order

Councilman John Cole: Present, Councilman Chris Morris: Present, Vice Mayor Joe Pasanello: Present, Councilwoman Susan Edwards: Present, Councilman Connor Leake: Present, Councilman Steve Aitken: Present, Mayor David Leake: Present, Clerk of the Council Alice Jarrell: Present, Interim Clerk Denise Andrews: Present, Town Engineer Katie McDaniel: Present, Town Attorney Martin Crim: Present, Town Manager Kimberly Murray: Present, Town Treasurer Roberto Gonzalez: Present, Town Planner Steve Gyuris: Present.

2. Invocation - Reverend Erin Bair, St. Michael's Anglican Church

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Citizen's Time

Amy Alonge (6776 Jefferson Street): Ms. Alonge come to raise once again the matter of law enforcement for the traffic on Jefferson Street; since the Town is coming up on the last 45 days of school, requests a decoy vehicle on Jefferson Street to discourage illegal runs around school buses, of which 17 were observed during a 2-week observation period by the Police Department.

Dottie Leonard (14801 Washington Street): Ms. Leonard agrees with the suggestion of a decoy vehicle to discourage unsafe driving. She received a mailer with information about the upcoming budget season, but would have liked to receive a certified notice of the upcoming zoning changes, as her neighbor did.

Tony Guiffre (6741 Jefferson Street): Asks the Council to pursue an option to bring Verizon FIOS service to the Town.

5. Public Hearings

A. Chapter 58 of the Town Code - Zoning Ordinance (Staff is Requesting the Public Hearing for the Zoning Ordinance be Tabled Until the May 15, 2017 Meeting)

Staff is requesting the Public Hearing for the Zoning Ordinance be Tabled until the May 15, 2017 Meeting.

B. Fiscal Year 2017/18 Town Budget

Presentation by Kimberly Murray, Town Manager

Ms. Murray reviewed highlights from the Council's budget Work Sessions. Considerations for FY2017-18 included removing reliance on fund balance, addressing the 9.22% increase in health insurance premiums, a place holder of \$45,000 for debt service payment for the Town Center project, accommodation of development service needs, and giving an overview of Town services.

There are 4 meetings planned on the FY2017-18 Budget, and drafts and presentations will be uploaded to the website and updated as they are revised.

Items of note include Town Services & Programs, trends in revenue generated by the Town's meals tax, the state of the Reserve Fund account, and trends in operational expenses due to the several staff changes over the past year.

Health Insurance: premiums are rising, and Murray presents several options for levels of employee and employer contribution.

Real Estate Tax: Murray gives historical background and proposed guidance to raise the Real Estate Tax rate up to 0.166 per \$100 of assessed value, as well as the financial impact to homeowners in the Town.

BPOL Tax: Murray provides a comparison with taxation levels in the County and in other municipalities, and summarizes projected revenues.

IT Budget: the Town was seriously lacking in security measures, which Murray proposes to rectify with an investment in better systems, which will boost security and efficiency in the future.

Public Works: Murray is renegotiating the Town's waste management contract, and the leasing of police vehicles will provide savings in future years. The Town's contracted Building Official has raised his fees, and the Public Works budget item also needs to fund aging infrastructure within the Town, such as repairs to the streetlights and sidewalks.

Debt Service: Ms. Murray proposes a placeholder of \$45,000 for debt service payment on the Town Center capital project.

Public Comments

Rebecca Bare (14977 Cheyenne Way): suggests several changes that would reduce the Town's budget: enacting a probationary period on large expenditures for the first year of a Police Chief's tenure, eliminating Town staff positions not required by charter, eliminate Council's funds and stipends, apply for more grants for the Town Center and Haymarket Community Park.

Maureen Carroll (6862 Track Court): Feels that empty police car parked outside Haymarket Station is symbolic of vain efforts to complete large Town projects; she would like the Council to make the completion of the Haymarket Community Park a priority in the upcoming budget.

James Carroll (6862 Track Court): He feels that the Council should consider abolishing the Town's Police Department, as Prince William County could provide comparable services at a lesser cost.

Chuck Carnahan (6654 Hunting Path Road): feels that the Town should live within its means - he suggests selling superfluous Town properties to reduce its debt, and operate at neutral costs or with a surplus.

Bob Weir (6853 Saint Paul Drive): angered at the way the Town has drawn down on its Reserve Fund, and does not think that raising taxes is the solution. He would also like Council to consider the potential that the General Assembly will eliminate the BPOL tax in the near future; it should realize that the revenue it generates is not guaranteed. He thinks the proposed budget should be started from scratch.

Dottie Leonard (14801 Washington Street): would like to see the redeveloped Town Center and Community Park made priorities in the upcoming budget, and does not think that the Town

needs a full-time Planner. She does not think that it would be wise for the Council to raise taxes for bills that will be mailed in April, as it is an election year.

Following the hearing of public comments, the Council takes a short recess.

6. Consent Agenda

A. Mayor and Council - Regular Meeting - Feb 6, 2017 7:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Cole, Councilman
SECONDER:	Joe Pasanello, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Cole, Morris, Pasanello, Edwards, Leake, Aitken

B. Mayor and Council - Regular Meeting - Mar 6, 2017 7:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Cole, Councilman
SECONDER:	Joe Pasanello, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Cole, Morris, Pasanello, Edwards, Leake, Aitken

C. Mayor and Council - Work Session - Mar 27, 2017 6:00 PM

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Cole, Councilman
SECONDER:	Joe Pasanello, Vice Mayor
AYES:	Cole, Morris, Pasanello, Edwards, Leake, Aitken

7. Department Reports

A. Town Engineer's Report - Katie McDaniel

The Town is introduced to Katie McDaniel, the new contracted Town Engineer.

Ms. McDaniel provides an update from Rinker Design, and on progress of the Town's Pedestrian Improvement Plan.

Vice-Mayor Pasanello has some questions:

Is the Town's \$5,600 contribution for nutrient credits a one-time payment, or annual?

Ms. Murray answers that she believes it is a one-time payment.

Regarding Town Center projections, when can the Town expect real numbers from the bids? Ms. Murray answers that she and Ms. McDaniel will have meetings on this matter in the upcoming week, and suggests that an estimator do some estimates so that the Council has a rough understanding.

When will the sidewalk / crosswalk in the work zone at the western end of Town be operational again?

Ms. Murray says that she will contact the project manager on this matter.

B. Town Planner's Report - Steve Gyuris

The Town is introduced to Steve Gyuris, the Interim Town Planner.

Mr. Gyuris says that he has a lot of catching up to do, but will answer any questions that the Council may have regarding specific projects.

The Council Members have no questions.

C. Building Official's Report - Joe Barbeau

The Council Members have no questions on the report.

D. Police Department Report - Chief Kevin Lands

Chief Lands informs the Council that the Department assisted at a school bike rodeo and attended the Business Roundtable, and he personally attended the Virginia Chiefs' Meeting.

The officers have found and attended to a number of open doors in the course of their nightly business checks.

Officers Jake Davis and Coire O'Neal led a self-defense class at the QBE building, which reached capacity and was attended by all officers.

The new vehicles are scheduled for their equipment upfit in the coming week, and the ghost car program has been going well. These cars do not sit in their places permanently, but are left in strategic locations when their officers are off-duty.

Officer O'Neal provides an update on the Car Show, on which he has served as lead organizer: the event will include the raffle of a 1966 Mustang, and will take place in collaboration with the Rotary Club from 2-6 PM on May 13th. Chief Lands commends Officer O'Neal for all his work to put this event together.

Officer Jason Davis is out on leave, as his family has just welcomed a baby daughter.

Councilman Leake asks about the Police Department's average response time, in comparison with the County; Chief Lands says that he will gather the data.

Vice-Mayor Pasanello suggests that the Department and Council take a hard look at the value of Police Department programs.

Chief Lands shares that there will be a large grant reimbursement to the Department for bringing itself up to current standards of body cameras.

Councilman Cole supports the idea of Jefferson Street traffic study.

Councilman Morris commends the Police Department's nightly business checks, which leave five business cards around the Town each night.

Councilwoman Edwards thanks the officers and Chief for their service and hard work.

E. Business & Community Relations Report - Denise Andrews

Ms. Andrews thanks the Town, residents, sponsors, and businesses for their support of a successful Earth Day celebration.

The next Town Business Roundtable will take place in July, and will be hosted by Brett Frye at Tobaccology.

Ms. Andrews was invited to present at the Regency Women's Club's 4th Annual Spring Luncheon, where she spoke on the history of Haymarket's buildings.

The Haymarket Museum will open for the season on June 10th, with an exhibit on the history of the Town.

The Town Staff continue to work on content for the new website, which will hopefully go live by late summer.

Andrews explains how Town events pay for themselves over the course of the year, which is a point that may not be clear from the raw numbers in the budget.

Councilwoman Edwards suggests that the Town send a letter to the administrators of Battlefield High School, thanking them for the assistance of the senior class.

F. Treasurer's Report - Roberto Gonzalez

Mr. Gonzalez summarizes the Town's finances, with special attention to the proposed budget and incoming BPOL taxes. Council and Ms. Murray suggest that the Town's Finance Committee hold a meeting prior to the Council meeting of June 5th, or that the Council hold another budget Work Session to continue discussion on specific items.

Councilman Aitken suggests May 15th as a date for another Public Hearing, and that the agenda for the Council's Work Session be kept to two items.

G. Town Manager's Report - Kimberly Murray

Though the Council will discuss it later, Ms. Murray has put information related to the recent Dominion Power order in her report, and provided links for it on the Town website.

Provides update on the number of FOIA requests that have been processed by the Town's staff, and suggests creating a form for requestors to complete and submit. The General Assembly has enacted legislation related to this suggestion that will come into effect before the end of the year.

Ms. Murray raises the issue of the need for a public message board that the Town Staff can use as a third location to post notices.

Other legislative updates include guidance on short-term rentals, and a defeat of the proposed amendment to BPOL taxable revenue; a legislative summary is provided in the agenda packet. Two new tenants have signed leases for upstairs offices at 15026 Washington Street.

8. Agenda Items

A. Appointment of Clerk of Council for Unexpired Term- Alice Jarrell

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Steve Aitken, Councilman
SECONDER:	Susan Edwards, Councilwoman
AYES:	Cole, Morris, Pasanello, Edwards, Leake, Aitken

B. Resolution #2017-03 - Dominion Virginia Power

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HAYMARKET REGARDING THE VIRGINIA STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION'S APPROVAL OF AN OVERHEAD TRANSMISSION LINE THAT WILL PERMANENTLY DAMAGE THE TOWN'S HISTORIC CHARACTER

WHEREAS, For some time now the Town Council of the Town of Haymarket ("Town") has watched with growing alarm at the handling by the Virginia State Corporation Commission ("SCC") of the application submitted by Virginia Electric and Power Company d/b/a Dominion Virginia Power ("DVP"), case no. PUE-2015-00107 ("Application"), regarding proposed electric facilities for a 115 kV transmission line conversion, a new Haymarket 230 kV Double Circuit Transmission Line, and a new 230-34.5kV Haymarket Substation ("Haymarket Project"); and

WHEREAS, the Town previously expressed opposition to the Haymarket Project because it does not serve a public need, but instead serves the need of a single DVP customer ("DVP's Favored Customer"); and

WHEREAS, the SCC admits that the Haymarket Project does not serve an immediate public need, and instead is needed to provide service to DVP's Favored Customer; and

WHEREAS, the SCC claims that the Haymarket Project will permit DVP to support overall growth in the area, but the area in question is unlikely to be developed with sufficient intensity to require upgraded transmission lines; and

WHEREAS, the SCC has moved to approve the Haymarket Project along the Railroad

and Carver Road route, or as an alternative along the Carver Road route, which will have transmission towers looming over the Town, thereby damaging the Town's historic and attractive character, even though a partially underground route was available that would have required DVP's Favored Customer—rather than the Town and its citizens—to bear the impacts of the Haymarket Project; and

WHEREAS, the insult of the transmission line route approval comes on the heels of the injury done to the Town by DVP's "double-stacking" of distribution lines along Washington Street, which multiplied the number of overhead lines while increasing the height of the power poles, all for the ostensible purpose of future growth but in reality driven by an immediate need for a redundant circuit for DVP's Favored Customer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Town of Haymarket, meeting in regular session this 1st day of May, 2017, that the Council hereby declares that the SCC approval of the Railroad and Carver Road route and the alternative Carver Road route are unacceptable, contrary to the public interest, and contrary to the law because the SCC failed to give sufficient weight to scenic assets, historic districts and the environment, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of the Town of Haymarket respectfully requests DVP's Favored Customer to come forward and agree to bear the cost of undergrounding the transmission line, instead of damaging the Town's historic and attractive character with unnecessary and unsightly transmission lines.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Susan Edwards, Councilwoman
SECONDER:	John Cole, Councilman
AYES:	Cole, Morris, Pasanello, Edwards, Leake, Aitken

C. Discussion: Town Code Sec. 30-50 Open Storage of Inoperative Vehicles - Chief Lands

Chief Lands reports that when notices are sent in connection with this matter, a sixty-day enforcement timeline begins.

Mayor Leake raises the point that, according to the Town Charter, inoperable vehicles at auto repair shops should be screened if in public.

Morris says that this would be considered if business were actually being conducted and customers served.

The general consensus by the Council is not to begin with aggressive targeting of Code violations, but rather to talk first. Official correspondence from the Town is the first step, which may encourage business owners to comply voluntarily.

Murray reminds Council that it is the job of Town staff to enforce the Code; she thinks that the sending of enforcement letters is a good idea.

Councilman Leake and Vice-Mayor Pasanello both support the sending of the violation notices. Councilmen Aitken and Morris support the notices as well, but also are keen to enforce the law. They suggest a letter from Town staff to follow up on the notices.

Councilman Cole would like the Mayor to go in person to discuss the matter with the businesses in question; Aitken says that this is a different process, and one that must be done with consideration of the legalities.

Town Attorney Martin Crim suggests that the best approach would be a soft touch - staff should reach out, and then send a letter.

Murray agrees to send a friendly letter as a head's up, and then to follow with an official notice with a 60 day enforcement clock if no changes are forthcoming after 15 days. The Council agrees by majority consent.

D. VRE-Gainesville/Haymarket Extension - Update

Nothing to report at this time.

E. Appeal of ARB Decision - Demolition of Structures: 14941 Washington Street & 6707 Jefferson Street

The Council has received a letter from the applicant requesting a continuance of its consideration, so this item is tabled until the Council's June 5, 2017 Regular Meeting.

F. ARB Update - Councilwoman Susan Edwards

Councilwoman Edwards refrains from commenting on the upcoming appeal regarding the requested demolition permit. With the resolution of plans for A Dog's Day Out and the ongoing project of a resident to restore a house on Madison Street, Edwards feels like a lot is being done to increase the value of properties in the Town.

G. Planning Commission Update - Councilman Connor Leake

The Planning Commission will join the Council for an additional Public Hearing on the new Zoning Map at the Council's June Meeting.

9. Councilmember Time

A. John Cole

Suggests the implementation of an updated speed table by the end of the summer; as discussed in April's Town Council meeting, this measure would be updated by the County, and help to slow cars down.

B. Susan Edwards

No comments at this time.

C. Steve Aitken

No comments at this time.

D. Chris Morris

Shares his excitement at the direction in which the Town is headed; there are lots of good developments on the way, but it is important that those are pursued and enacted in the proper way, with due diligence.

E. Joe Pasanello

Thanks those who shared their comments at the Public Hearing, and to Ms. Murray for her budget presentation. He would be happy to bring these comments for consideration when the Council meets to revise the proposed budget.

F. Connor Leake


Thanks Ms. Murray for her hard work in support of the new Zoning Ordinance, to the Town Staff, and to Chief Lands and his officers. He assures Ms. Leonard that the Planning Commission did examine both the old and new Ordinances, in response to her earlier comment.

G. David Leake

Thanks Ms. Murray for her presentation, and looks forward to continuing along the path to realize the Town's vision and rebranding.

Submitted:

Approved:


Danielle Kijewski, Clerk of Council
David Leake, Mayor

Minutes Acceptance: Minutes of May 1, 2017 7:00 PM (Consent Agenda)

