

Hurt, Virginia

February 6, 2018

Council held its scheduled monthly meeting Tuesday, February 6, 2018, at Town Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting opened at 6:02 p.m. with a quorum present.

Roll Call

Members present: Johnson, Bivens, Watson, Clay, and Adams (Absent: Neal)

A motion was made to enter closed session to discuss prospective business, as authorized by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3711(A) (5).

Motion: Watson Second: Johnson Passage: unanimous

Closed session began at 6:03 p.m. and concluded at 7:08 p.m.

A motion was made to certify that only matters pertaining to prospective business were discussed during closed session, as authorized by VA FOIA Sec 2.2-3712 (D).

Motion: Bivens Second: Clay Passage: unanimous

The meeting recessed at 7:09 p.m. and reconvened for open session at 7:14 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Johnson, Bivens, Watson, Clay, and Adams (Absent: Neal)

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Councilman Watson

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mayor Poindexter

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve accounting reports and previous meeting minutes as presented.

Motion: Clay Second: Johnson Passage: unanimous

Appointments

Mr. Jeff Arthur spoke to Council and expressed interest in filling the open seat on the Planning Commission.

A motion was made to appoint Mr. Arthur for a four-year term expiring December 31, 2021.

Motion: Bivens Second: Johnson Passage: unanimous

Hearing of Citizens and/or Guest Speakers

Mr. Mark Moore, Pittsylvania County Parks and Recreation Director, introduced himself and shared plans for Wayside Park. He made a presentation covering various phases of upgrades to be done depending on local and grant funds. There will be improvements to the gates to give a more natural appearance, defining and graveling the parking area, strengthening the bridge, repairing and cleaning the gazebo, plus upgrades to restrooms and play area facilities.

Council Members' and/or Committees' Reports

Planning & Zoning Commission: None

Economic Development: None

Human Resources, Legal & Police: None

Budget & Finance: None

Public Works & Relations: None

Attorney's Report

No report. Attorney Eller was absent.

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Administrative Office Report

Ms. Nichols read a letter from Mr. Todd Simpson & Mrs. Beth Simpson who attend New Prospect Baptist Church. They were requesting use of Town Hall (building and grounds) for the Easter egg hunt Saturday, March 24, 2018 at 11:00 a.m. Council agreed for them to use the premises with a staff member present.

Police Report

No report. Chief Rowland had to leave the meeting in response to a call.

Public Works Report

Mr. Hodges shared that he had known Mr. Jeff Arthur since elementary school and they worked together for the Town of Altavista. He feels that Mr. Arthur would be an asset serving on the Hurt Planning Commission. Water valves have been ordered, but there is a three-six week turnaround time to get them here. Moore’s has been contacted and arrangements made with them to complete the repair work.

Systems East, the company that originally installed the computer system in at the water tower, has been contacted about installing a battery backup power supply at the tower. They provided a quote of \$2,757.90, which is the lowest quote, for a backup power supply that would last up to six hours and link to the PC.

A motion was made to accept the quote from Systems East and proceed with completion of the work.

Motion: Watson Second: Bivens Passage: unanimous

Mr. Hodges asked Council to look at 114 East Spencer Road for vegetation overgrowth. A couple of letters have been sent to the homeowner, including a certified letter, both of which were returned.

As information, Thunderstruck (located in Staunton Plaza) has suffered some vandalism. The front window has been damaged due to someone shooting a BB gun at it. The Pittsylvania County Building Inspector looked at the location and the building is ok. There were a couple of issues: no sprinklers, and lighted exit signs need to be installed. The front window will be closed in at the renter’s expense.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Poindexter stated there needs to be defining criteria for the “Qualifying Senior” real estate tax discount. No documentation has been found, but auditors have recommended the town adequately advertise this rate if we are going to offer it. This is something that needs to be discussed with Attorney Eller.

The 2017 web traffic report was carried forward to next month while awaiting complete information.

Council and staff were reminded that any item requests for the next newsletter should be sent to the Mayor by Tuesday, February 13, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Poindexter updated everyone on VDOT’s expected timeline for the Staunton River Bridge between the towns of Hurt and Altavista. Their current plan is to leave the weight limit at eight tons until the bridge closes for replacement in early 2019 unless something unforeseeable happens. The project is scheduled to go out for bids in September of this year, with a target completion time in late 2020.

A motion was made to enter closed session for personnel matters (VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3711(A) (1)).

Motion: Watson Second: Clay Passage: unanimous

Closed session began at 8:31 p.m. and concluded at 9:14 p.m.

A motion was made to certify that only personnel matters were discussed in closed session (Sec. 2.2-3712 (D)).

Motion: Johnson Second: Watson Passage: unanimous

There being no further business, Council adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Susan Nichols

Susan Nichols, Clerk

Gary Poindexter

Gary Poindexter, Mayor