

**MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 8, 2016, 7:00 P.M.
REGULAR SESSION**

PRESENT: The Honorable W. Eugene Hunt, Jr., Mayor
The Honorable Carey L. Freeman, Vice Mayor
The Honorable Traci-Dale Crawford
The Honorable Charles M. Southall III
The Honorable Herbert R. Green, Jr.
The Honorable Raymond D. Vernall
The Honorable Henry W. Ayer III

J. Randall Wheeler, City Manager
Judy F. Wiggins, Assistant City Manager/City Clerk
D. Wayne Moore, City Attorney

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Mayor Hunt called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Hunt rendered the invocation and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

New Employees

The City Manager, J. Randall Wheeler, introduced the City's new Interim Library Director, Amy Blow; and the City's newest employees, Anne Payne, Engineer, and Howard Maltz, part-time Library Associate. Mayor Hunt commended Ms. Blow on the great job she was doing in the Library and welcomed the new employees to the City.

AUDIENCE FOR VISITORS:

Ms. Karen Steele, 190 Little Florida Road, requested that City Council consider purchasing video cameras for School buses in order to identify those drivers who fail to observe the law relative to stopped School buses loading and unloading children.

Mayor Hunt announced that earlier that day the City had received a letter from CRES-EG Development, LLC stating that they were terminating their purchase agreement with the Economic Development Authority for property located on the north side of Victory Boulevard. He added that in the correspondence the developer pointed out that the political, environmental, marketing and other challenges that they faced with the subject Big Woods parcels were the reasons for the termination. In conclusion, he confirmed that this news is official notification that a Wal-Mart development will not occur on the subject parcels.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Ayer, to adopt the minutes of the regular session held January 25, 2016 as submitted. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Councilmembers Crawford, Ayer Southall, Freeman, Vernall, Green and Mayor Hunt.

NO: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. SUNTRUST LINE OF CREDIT EXPIRATION

The City Manager stated that in 2013 the City had obtained a \$300,000 line of credit, as a part of the EDA debt refinancing, in case the Authority or the City had a need to fund an economic development project or to purchase strategically located property. He pointed out that due to the fiscal stability of the City and its current bond rating, staff does not recommend extending this line of credit that expires on February 15, 2016. He reminded Council that the City had used this line of credit in April 2015 when it purchased the home and property at 826 Poquoson Avenue. He also pointed out that the subdivision of the subject property in order to retain City ownership of the rear portion took longer than expected so paying off the line of credit debt would not occur prior to its expiration. In conclusion, the City Manager stated that staff is recommending that a portion of the Fiscal Stability reserve be used to pay this debt and upon the sale of the property the proceeds will be transferred to the Fiscal Stability reserve fund.

An ordinance transferring funds from the Fiscal Stability reserve to the Debt Service Fund for the purpose of retiring the line of credit debt, as well as transferring the proceeds from the sale of 826 Poquoson Avenue back to Fiscal Stability reserve fund was presented for Council's consideration. Councilman Green moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, to dispense with the second reading and to adopt the ordinance on first reading to become effective immediately. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Councilmembers Green, Vernall, Southall, Crawford, Freeman and Mayor Hunt.

NO: None.

ABSTAIN: Councilman Ayer.

2. RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT FOR A STREET SWEEPER

The City Manager reminded Council that in December 2015 it had appropriated \$230,000 for the purchase of a street sweeper to replace the City's current thirteen year old sweeper. He stated that as a result of staff's research, a cooperative contract with the Virginia Public Works Equipment Company through the National Joint Powers Alliance

that meets the City's needs was located. The price of the sweeper is \$225,676 net of a trade-in allowance of \$15,000 for the old sweeper which includes additional warranties. Lastly, he pointed out that the new sweeper will help the City accrue additional TMDL credits.

During Council's discussion, Councilman Ayer expressed concern over the stated trade-in value of the old sweeper.

In response to a Council query, H. Thomas Jones, Public Works Director, stated that the additional warranties included in the purchase price will cover the sweeper for a period of 5 years.

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract with Virginia Public Works Equipment Company in order to purchase the street sweeper as previously outlined was presented for Council's consideration. Councilman Green moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, to adopt the resolution. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Councilmembers Southall, Freeman, Vernall, Green, Crawford and Mayor Hunt.

NO: Councilman Ayer.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager had no comments.

COUNCIL DIRECTIVES:

Councilman Southall welcomed the new City employees and thanked those citizens that were in attendance or watching from home.

Councilwoman Crawford announced that the Poquoson Kiwanis Club's Boating & Fishing Flea Market would be held at the Poquoson High School on the morning of Saturday, March 12th and encouraged everyone to attend.

Mayor Hunt asked the City Manager to forward Ms. Steele's suggestion relative to traffic cameras for School buses to the School Board Administration.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Councilman Green moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, to adjourn the meeting. Recorded vote on the motion:

YES: Councilmembers Ayer, Crawford, Green, Freeman, Southall, Vernall and Mayor Hunt.

NO: None.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:19 p.m.