MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 9, 2016, 6:30 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 6:30 p.m.

CLOSED SESSION:

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Vernall, to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) of the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended to discuss Personnel Matters; i.e. Council Appointees. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

RECONVENEMENT:

Upon reconvening from Closed Session, Councilman Green moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, to adopt a resolution certifying that only personnel matters relative to Council appointees were discussed during the Closed Session. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

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

AUDIENCE FOR VISITORS:

There were no speakers.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

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

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

NO: None.

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Vernall, to adopt the minutes of the work session held April 25, 2016 as submitted. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

1. **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS FOR REFUNDING CERTAIN OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE CITY AND FOR UP TO $ 900,000 FOR CERTAIN CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

The City Manager, J. Randall Wheeler, reminded Council that at its April 11, 2016 meeting the City's financial advisors, Davenport & Company presented a plan to refinance approximately $18 million in debt and secure a modest amount of new financing for long-term capital needs identified in the FY 2017 proposed City budget. He pointed out that the refinancing of the current debt, according to Davenport & Company, has the potential to reduce debt service over the life of the bond by over $1 million while not extending the term of the original bond. While the City is issuing new debt, the debt service on the refinanced debt together with the new bond debt service will be lower than the debt service currently due on the existing outstanding bonds.

Mayor Hunt opened the public hearing; however, since no one spoke the public hearing was closed.

An ordinance authorizing the issuance of bonds to refinance current debt and to secure funds for capital projects was presented for Council's consideration and Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Ayer, that it be adopted as an emergency measure. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

2. RECEIPT OF BIDS AND ORDINANCE CONVEYING A CERTAIN UTILITY EASEMENT FOR CONTINUED PROVISION OF NATURAL GAS SERVICE TO 48 SOUTH LAWSON ROAD

The City Manager stated that Council, at its April 25, 2016 meeting, had authorized the advertisement of the City's intent to receive written bids for the granting of a permanent underground utility easement on City property for the purpose of continuing the provision of natural gas service to the property located at 48 South Lawson Road. An emergency temporary easement had previously been granted because of the medical need of the resident.

Mayor Hunt asked the City Clerk, Judy F. Wiggins, to open and real aloud the one bid that was submitted. Ms. Wiggins stated that Virginia Natural Gas (VNG) submitted a bid of $1.00 for the prescribed easement. In addition, she pointed out that VNG will also be responsible for reimbursing the City for the cost of the required legal advertisement.

Mayor Hunt opened the public hearing. Since no one came forward, the public hearing was closed.

An ordinance granting the easement was presented for consideration and Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Vernall, to dispense with the second reading and adopt it on first reading to become effective immediately. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

3. SCHOOL BOARD APPOINTMENTS

A public hearing was held at this meeting to receive public comments on those persons to be considered for appointment to the School Board. The names of those persons to be considered were read aloud by the City Clerk, Judy F. Wiggins, which included Anne L. Rollins, Western Precinct and Jennifer M. Mosteller, Eastern Precinct.

Mayor Hunt opened the public hearing. Those present at the meeting were given the opportunity to submit other names for consideration or to offer comments on the two announced. Since no one spoke, the public hearing was closed.

No action other than the public hearing could be taken at this meeting. The appointments will be made at the next meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **SECOND READING AND FINAL ADOPTION OF THE FY 2016-2017 ANNUAL FINANCIAL PLAN**

A public hearing on the proposed FY 2016-2017 Annual Financial Plan was held on April 25, 2016. The following budget resolution and ordinances were presented for a second reading.

The City Manager stated that the following amendments were made to the FY 2017 Annual Financial Plan resolution subsequent to and pursuant to Council's directives following the April 25, 2016 work session discussion:

- $4,569 increase in State Library Aid to be used for books, AV materials and periodicals for the Library;
- $3,000 decrease in animal control costs;
- $5,710 increase in the estimate for 599 Funding; and
- $8,710 increase in the contingency budget.

In conclusion, he stated that the net effect of the changes is a total increase of $10,279 in the original, proposed budget.

Resolution Amending Resolution No. 4019 Adopting the Proposed FY 2016-2017 Annual Financial Plan for the City of Poquoson, Virginia

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Ayer, to adopt the FY 2016-17 Annual Financial Plan resolution amending Resolution No. 4019, adopted on April 25, 2016, in accordance with the previously identified amendments. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

Ordinance to Lay a $1.07 per $100.00 Assessed Value on all Real Estate in the City of Poquoson, Virginia, for the General Operation of the Various Departments of the City Government

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Vernall, to adopt the ordinance. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

Ordinance to Lay a $4.15 Levy on all Personal Property, a $.00001 Levy on all Watercraft, a $1.50 Levy on all Privately Owned Camping Trailers and Motor Homes, and a $1.07 Levy on all Vehicles without Motive Power, used or designated to be used as Manufactured Homes in the City of Poquoson, Virginia, for the General Operation of the Various Departments of the City Government

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Vernall, to adopt the ordinance. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: Councilman Ayer.

Ordinance to Appropriate Funds to the Various Governmental Funds of the City of Poquoson, Virginia for FY 2016-2017

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Ayer, to adopt the appropriation ordinance. Recorded on the motion:

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

NO: None.

In conclusion, Mayor Hunt thanked the City Manager, the Finance Department and all Department Heads for the excellent budget for FY 2017.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR VRS**

The City Manager stated that the Appropriation Act from prior years allows political subdivisions to choose either the employer contribution rate certified by the Virginia Retirement System (VRS) or to pay an alternate rate. As the adopted FY 2017 City budget includes the alternate rate, a resolution confirming this choice was presented for Council's consideration and Councilman Green moved, seconded by Councilman Ayer, that it be adopted. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

2. **RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE SUMMER CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE**

The City Manager stated that Council has typically cancelled one of the two regularly scheduled meetings during the summer months, i.e. June, July and August. He explained

that two resolutions, one canceling the first meeting of the month and another canceling the second, were presented for Council's consideration.

Councilman Green moved, seconded by Vice Mayor Freeman, to adopt the resolution canceling the first Council meeting of June, July and August. Recorded vote on the motion:

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

NO: None.

COMMENTS OF THE CITY MANAGER:

The City Manager expressed appreciation to all of the City's civic groups that do so much to improve/enhance our community. He especially thanked the Poquoson Kiwanis Club for recently painting the guard rail in front of the Poquoson Shopping Center and helping the City to plant trees/vegetation in the micro-park in front of Fire Station #2.

Traffic Concerns – South Terrace & Terrace Drive/Bunting Lane

The City Manager reminded Council that two meetings prior to this meeting, Councilman Green requested that staff review the traffic concerns expressed by residents on South Terrace and Terrace Drives. He pointed out that the aerial photograph provided to Council, shows potential road improvements, i.e. two solid yellow center lines running from the intersection of the aforementioned streets to Odd Road and replacing the yield sign at the South Terrace/Terrace Drive intersection with two stop signs.

In addition, he stated that Councilwoman Crawford had requested that safety improvements be made on Bunting Lane to address the speeding that often occurs. In response to this request, the City Manager referred Council to the aerial photograph in their agenda packet showing a potential safety improvement on this street, i.e. a 3-way stop at the intersection of Bunting Lane and Floyd Avenue.

Following a brief discussion, Mayor Hunt suggested that Council give both of these traffic concerns and potential safety improvements additional thought. He requested that all property owners along both affected roadways be notified that proposed improvements will be considered by Council at the May 23, 2016 meeting, at which time the public can provide input during Audience for Visitors.

COUNCIL DIRECTIVES:

Councilman Vernall complimented City staff for providing an excellent budget that did not raise taxes yet provided increased compensation for employees. Lastly he reminded everyone that the Annual Poquoson Kiwanis BBQ sale will be held on Saturday, May 14th and that the proceeds are used for community projects.

Councilman Green stated that the Poquoson Exchange Club had completed installing the blue reflectors in the roadways throughout the City to identify fire hydrant locations.

Councilman Ayer echoed the previous comments and pointed out that the Community Development Department had issued building permits during the month of April for jobs valued at approximately $1.6 million.

Councilman Southall echoed previously made comments commending City staff on the FY 2017 budget.

Councilwoman Crawford thanked everyone for their hard work on the budget and specifically thanked the City Manager for trying to address the safety issues on Bunting Lane.

Mayor Hunt stated that the City continues to work with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in an effort to obtain permission for citizens to utilize the Cow Island beaches. He too thanked City staff for their hard work that produced the excellent FY 2017 budget.

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 7:38 p.m.