

AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE VINTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON TUESDAY, MARCH 2, 2021, AT 7:00 P.M. BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 15.2-1413, CODE OF VIRGINIA (1950), AS AMENDED, ORDINANCE NO. 1016 AND SECTION 4-0.01(G) OF CHAPTER 1289 OF THE 2020 ACTS OF THE VIRGINIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bradley E. Grose, Mayor
Sabrina McCarty, Vice Mayor
Keith N. Liles
Laurie J. Mullins
Michael W. Stovall

STAFF PRESENT: Pete Peters, Town Manager
Susan N. Johnson, Executive Assistant/Town Clerk
Jeremy Carroll, Town Attorney
Anne Cantrell, Finance Director/Treasurer
Fabricio Drumond, Police Chief

The Vinton Town Council meeting was held via Zoom with livestreaming on the Town of Vinton, Virginia Government Facebook Page. The Mayor called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Town Clerk called the roll with Council Member Liles, Council Member Mullins, Council Member Stovall, Vice Mayor McCarty and Mayor Grose present and announced there was a quorum of Council. The Town Clerk next announced the names of staff and others present, confirmed that the meeting was being held in accordance with Town Ordinance No. 1016 and Section 4-0.01(g) of Chapter 1289 of the 2020 Acts of the Virginia General Assembly and that everyone present was participating by electronic means.

Roll call

After a Moment of Silence, Council Member Liles led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

Under upcoming community events/ announcement, Vice Mayor McCarty first commented on the success of Restaurant Week and a thank-you note received from Farmburguesa and then announced the following: March 5 – 1:00-5:00 p.m. – Council Retreat; March 5-6 – 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - National Unplugged Days - Vinton History Museum; March 15 – 10:00 a.m. – first annual State of Small Business via Zoom; March 25 – Virtual State of the Town hosted by the Vinton Area Chamber of Commerce; Senior Expo has been postponed to September and the Dogwood Festival

will be held April 23-24 with more information to be provided at a later date.

Council Member Liles made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor McCarty and carried by the following vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Approved minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of February 16, 2021

Under awards, introductions, presentations and proclamations, Chief Drumond made brief comments and introduced Robert Rowell, the new Police Officer in the Department, who was present at the meeting electronically.

The next item on the agenda was a report from the Vinton Historical Society/History Museum. Randy Layman, President of the Historical Society, first expressed appreciation to the Town for its sponsorship and financial report. Mr. Layman next commented on the impact that the COVID-19 Pandemic has had on the Museum and the protocols that they have been following upon their reopening in late June of 2020. They have 15 regular participating volunteers, down from 20 for the previous year and have had substantial social media connections through both the Vinton History Museum and Vinton Memories & History Facebook pages.

With regard to the National Unplugged Day mentioned by Vice Mayor McCarty, most of the activity will be on Saturday, March 6th, and they have put together 100 packages for the event.

Two of their most successful fund raisers, the Yard Sales, were victims of the Pandemic and represented a severe loss of operating income. The unique CHAIR-ity Auction brought in \$1,901.00 and after allowing for auction expenses netted \$1,726.00 in replacement income. They have also collected dues and received CARES Act funds through the Town of Vinton for equipment and supplies and have applied to Roanoke County for support during the regular budget process in the amount of \$1,600.00.

Mr. Layman next commented that they still have several capital improvements projects in their plans including electrical connections and security cameras.

In response to a question about the hours of operation, Mr. Layman commented they are open from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the first Saturday of every month and also commented on the Little Free Library outside on the Museum Grounds.

The next item on the agenda was a briefing on a proposed lease agreement with Cargill Animal Nutrition for the use of eight vacant lots that are adjacent to the mill for the purpose of temporary parking for trailers and an employee parking area. The Town Manager commented that these parcels are located on 11th Street and Railroad Avenue adjacent to Cargill. They were acquired by the Town through FEMA flood mitigation grant funding and can never be built on.

The Town Manager next commented that the current lease is expiring and the new lease will be for 15 months to get it on a fiscal year basis to run from July 1st to June 30th with all of the other Town leases. The lease will also allow for three additional 12-month renewals. Cargill pays \$100 per parcel on an annual basis for these lots and that amount would remain the same. This item will be brought back to Council at the March 16th meeting for a Public Hearing and action to approve the new lease.

The next item on the agenda was a briefing on a proposed Amendment No. 3 to the Agreement for Application Hosting and Technology Support Services between Avenu Enterprise Solutions, LLC and the Town. Anne Cantrell first commented that in 2018 Avenu bought out ACS Enterprise Solutions, which is the Town's current accounting payroll and utility billing system. As a part of the process, Avenu is asking to renegotiate the terms of the agreement to include a price increase, which has not been done in several years. We need to continue to use this software until we get fully converted on our new one which is anticipated to be in January of 2022. If we are not able to convert all of our data into the new system, we may need to extend this to a longer period of time. Any future amendments would be brought back to Council for their consideration and approval.

The next item on the agenda was a briefing on a Resolution to appropriate \$35,000 from Fund Balance to the Utility Fund Special Projects Expense

Account for unresolved change orders on the Glade Creek Sanitary Sewer Line Relocation Project. Anne Cantrell commented that several issues have delayed the completion of this project and the most recent contractor hit rock, which was not accounted for in the original contract price. The project is now completed, but the contractor has submitted a change order and Council needs to appropriate the funds to pay the final invoice. Rather than take the matter through the Finance Committee and delay payment, staff decided to go ahead and brief Council and then bring it back to the March 16th meeting for approval.

The Town Manager commented that as a result of the Glade Creek Greenway Phase II construction project, exposure of the sewer line was discovered due to erosion on Glade Creek. These steps were taken to relocate the sewer line so it would be secured and allow for the completion of the greenway.

The Town Manager commented that the Municipal Building will be reopened to the public on March 29th. The State of the Town has been moved to a virtual format and RVTV is assisting in producing the event. We will be working over the next few weeks filming certain aspects for the production as well as creating the Mayor's narrative for the presentation with a release date of March 25th.

The Town Manager next commented that last week the crosswalk at Carilion on West Cleveland from the employee parking lot to the Medical Center was restored and new crosswalks were added that connect the Library to the Museum and Our Daily Bread to Vinton Baptist Church.

Under Appointments to Boards/Commissions/Committees, Council Member Liles made a motion that Kellie Moore be appointed to the Board of Zoning Appeals as an alternate to complete Joe Robertson's unexpired term beginning March 2, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022; the motion was seconded by Vice Mayor McCarty and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Appointed Kellie Moore to the Board of Zoning Appeals as an alternate to complete Joe Robertson's unexpired term beginning March 2, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022

Council Member Stovall made a motion that Ray Sandifer be appointed to the Roanoke Valley Regional Cable TV Committee to fill the vacant citizen position for an unexpired term beginning March 2, 2021 and ending August 31, 2021; the motion was seconded by Council Member Mullins and carried by the following roll call vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None.

Appointed Ray Sandifer to the Roanoke Valley Regional Cable TV Committee to fill the vacant citizen position for an unexpired term beginning March 2, 2021 and ending August 31, 2021

The Mayor commented on the report from Randy Layman about the Vinton Historical Society/Museum and reminded Council of the Retreat on March 5th.

Comments from Council: Vice Mayor McCarty commented that her nephew asked her to inquire again about a skateboard park in Vinton; Council Member Liles commented on a recent opportunity to get together with a former employee of Vinton Motors at Joe Goodpie's; Council Member Mullins welcomed Ray Sandifer to the RVTV Committee to serve with her and the Town Clerk and Council Member Stovall commented that someone recently gave praise to Chief Drumond for hiring quality police officers. With regard to the skatepark, he commented that perhaps the Town should decide as to whether or not we are going to put a skatepark somewhere in the Town.

Vice Mayor McCarty made a motion to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Council Member Liles and carried by the following vote, with all members voting: Vote 5-0; Yeas (5) – Liles, Mullins, Stovall, McCarty, Grose; Nays (0) – None. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Meeting adjourned

APPROVED:



Bradley E. Grose, Mayor

ATTEST:

Susan N. Johnson, CMC, Town Clerk