

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF VINTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2011, IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VINTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING LOCATED AT 311 SOUTH POLLARD STREET, VINTON, VIRGINIA.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bradley E. Grose, Mayor
Carolyn D. Fidler, Vice Mayor
Robert R. Altice
Matthew S. Hare
William W. Nance

STAFF PRESENT: Christopher S. Lawrence, Town Manager
Theresa Fontana, Town Attorney
Susan N. Johnson, Town Clerk
Consuella Caudill, Assistant Town Manager/Economic Development Manager
Ben Cook, Police Chief
Joey Hiner, Assistant Public Works Director
Lijah Robinson, Accounting Manager

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

The Town Clerk called the roll with Council Member Altice, Council Member Hare, Council Member Nance, Vice Mayor Fidler, and Mayor Grose present.

The Mayor welcomed those in attendance and after a Moment of Silence, Mr. Altice led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag.

Under consent agenda, the Town Manager commented on his appointment to the Roanoke Valley Resource Authority. Upon the resignation of Mike Kennedy and during the process of hiring a Public Works Director, he is requesting to be appointed in the interim so that the Town will have a voting member on the Board. Upon motion by Mr. Hare, seconded by Mr. Nance, with a 5-0 vote, Council approved the consent agenda as presented.

Mr. Nance read a letter from Chief Cook naming Officer Stephen Foutz as Officer of the Month of November.

The next item on the agenda was to conduct a Public Hearing on the request from Appalachian Power Company, a Virginia corporation, a unit of American Electric Power, (AEP) to purchase from the Town certain permanent rights of way and easements for the Huntington Court Transmission Line.

The Town Manager made opening comments that a new 138kV power line is needed to support and provide

Roll call

Approved minutes of December 6, 2011 and December 8, 2011; adopted Resolution No. 1947 reappointing Robert W. Benninger to Vinton Board of Appeals; adopted Resolution No. 1948 appointing Christopher S. Lawrence to Roanoke Valley Resource Authority

continuity of power to the Huntington Court substation. The original easement documents were amended to remove references to allowances of guy wires in all easements and to state that a greenway is permitted within easement No. 37 on Walnut Avenue provided it does not interfere with the operations of the power line. Surveys and appraisals have been completed on the properties owned by the Town and AEP and the Town have agreed on a final offer of \$126,205 for six easements.

The final easement documents were reviewed by our Town Attorney and AEP's Attorney and some amendments were made regarding indemnification and insurance requirements. Ms. Fontana, Town Attorney, explained that the insurance provisions were amended to omit a specific amount of coverage, but that the easements would be adequately insured for any type of problems that could arise within the easement premises.

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing. There were no public comments. Mr. Hare asked when construction would begin and Tom Rotenberry with AEP answered in the first quarter of 2012 and would take 10 to 12 months to complete. The target date to be completed is December of 2012. Mr. Nance and Mayor Grose expressed appreciation to Staff and AEP for working together to come up with a final agreement.

The Mayor then closed the Public Hearing. Upon motion by Mr. Altice, seconded by Vice Mayor Fidler, with a 5-0 vote, the Ordinance was adopted as presented.

The Town Manager announced the appointment of Joey Hiner as the Interim Public Works Director and that he will report directly to Consuella Caudill, Assistant Town Manager.

The Mayor commented that due to the fact that there are no significant items for the January 3, 2012 regular Council meeting, that the two meetings in January be combined into one meeting on January 17, 2012. Mr. Hare asked about meeting on January 10, 2012. He will not be at the January 17, 2012 meeting. The Town Manager indicated that his plans were to present the Water Study at the first meeting in February. After further discussion, upon motion by Mr. Hare, seconded

Adopted Ordinance No. 920 approving purchase and conveyance of rights of way and easements to AEP for the Huntington Court Transmission Line

Approved combining two Council meetings in January into one meeting on January 17, 2012.

by Mr. Nance, with a 4-0-1 vote, with Vice Mayor Fidler abstaining, the motion passed.

The Mayor commented that the City of Roanoke is using power poles for traffic signage and he asked the Town Manager to follow up on the matter and report back to Council. The Mayor then expressed holiday wishes to Council, staff and citizens.

Mr. Hare made brief comments on the Financial Report for October and upon motion by Mr. Hare, seconded by Mr. Nance, with a 5-0 vote, the report was approved as presented.

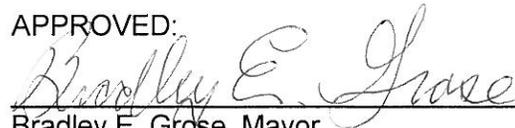
Comments by Council Members: Mr. Hare commented on the white and black posts in the middle of intersections that either need to be painted or removed. The Town Manager indicated that he would work with Public Works to evaluate the current posts and consider other options and Mr. Hiner indicated that he has it on his to do list.

Mr. Nance acknowledged all the Town employees, specifically mentioning Chief Cooley, Darlene Bailey and Mike Kennedy who left the Town this year. He expressed appreciation to Susan Johnson, Town Clerk, and best of luck to Chief Cook in his new position and to Joey Hiner in his interim position. He commented on growth in the Town and on the significant investment for the future Vinton Library. He mentioned Sam Cundiff and the Obenchain family. The Mayor commented as well on Billy Obenchain and the contributions he made to the Town. Mr. Altice wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Vice Mayor also extended holiday wishes and reminded everyone of the New Year's Eve Gala at the War Memorial sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.

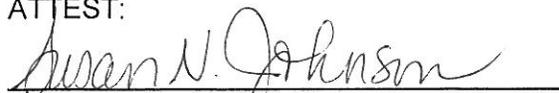
Upon motion by Mr. Hare, seconded by Mr. Nance, with a 5-0 vote, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Approved Financial Report of
October 2011

APPROVED:


Bradley E. Grose, Mayor

ATTEST:


Susan N. Johnson, Town Clerk