

The regular meeting of the Amherst Town Council was called to order on September 10, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 186 S. Main Street with Mayor Jacob P. Bailey presiding. Council members Bobby J. Bondurant; J. Paul Kilgore; Haney Mottley; Harold Swisher; and Richard Wydner were present. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Police Chief Kenneth Watts, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore and Office Manager Colan Davis were also present.

Tom Fore gave an invocation.

Tim Bell, David Smith and Bif Johnson came forward to make a presentation regarding the Poplar Grove project. It was understood that a formal request pertaining to that development proposal would be made to the Town in the near future.

Town Engineer Herb White and Buddy Spencer came forward to present the design drawings for the Town Square project.

Mr. Wydner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant to approve the August 13, 2008 minutes as distributed earlier. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mr. Mottley gave a report from the Finance Committee on that group's review of the Utility Billing Policy. Mr. Mottley made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Swisher to approve the revisions to the Utility Billing Policy. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mr. Wydner gave a report from the Utilities Committee on a raw water line extension project feasibility study, a cost report on the S. Main Street Water Line project, and the Lotman utility billing policy question raised at the August meeting. By consensus, it was agreed that no further action would be taken on the Lotman matter. Mr. Wydner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant to validate the action by the Town Manager who authorized the Town Engineer to prepare a feasibility study for the raw water line extension project on August 20 at a cost of \$25,000. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

Mr. Bondurant gave a report from the Community Relations Committee on a banner program. A parking meter art project idea was referred to the committee for review.

Mr. Mottley made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Swisher to nominate William K. Iseman for appointment to the Board of Zoning Appeals with a term to expire on August 31, 2009. It was noted this seat became vacant due to Mr. Kilgore's election to the Town Council. The motion passed 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

It was noted that there is still one vacant seat on the Planning Commission and that action on the creation of a Town centennial planning committee is still pending.

On a motion by Mr. Mottley which was seconded by Mr. Kilgore and carried 5-0, the Council agreed to endorse the VDOT permit application for the Lions Club Christmas parade which is to be held from Grandview Drive to Kenmore Road on December 6, 2008 at about 7:00 P.M. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

The Town Manager reported that communication with the county has resulted in a confirmed date for a joint meeting of the Town Council and Board of Supervisors. A dinner at Sweet Briar College on October 16 at 6:00 PM is planned.

The Town Manager reported that authorization to go to bid has been received from VDOT for the Phase 1 portion of the South Main Street Sidewalk project.

The Town Manager advised that due to travel plans Vice Mayor Wydner would be filling in for Mayor Bailey at the regular October meeting.

Mr. Mottley made a motion that the Town Council reconvene in a closed session for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body pursuant to §2.2-3711 A.3 of the Code of Virginia, (1950), as amended. The motion was seconded by Mr. Swisher and carried 5-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

After reconvening in open session, Mr. Wydner made a motion that that the Town Council certify that to the best of each councilors' knowledge that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Title 2.2, Chapter 37 and 15.2-2907 of the Code of Virginia and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed session was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bondurant and carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Mottley, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye".

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Jacob P. Bailey
Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council