

Mayor J. Paul Kilgore, Jr. called a regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on May 13, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street. Council members Kenneth Bumgarner, André Higginbotham, Mike Mozingo and Rachel Thompson were present; Kenneth Watts was absent. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Town Attorney Tom Berry, Police Chief Robert Kimbrel, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore and Office Manager Colan Davis were present.

After Mayor Kilgore led the Councilors in a moment of silence, Mrs. Rachel Carton came forward to offer a prayer as a citizen comment.

Mr. Harvey Sellers came forward to ask Council to consider adding a citizen comment time to the end of the agenda.

At 7:05 P.M. a duly advertised public hearing on the Town's FY15/16 Budget was opened. There being no one present who wished to speak, the hearing was closed at 7:06 P.M. It was decided that the budget would be considered for adoption at the June meeting.

Mr. Mozingo asked that the Councilors prepare for a discussion on the adequacy on the Town's livestock regulations at the June meeting.

Mr. Bumgarner made a motion that was seconded by Mrs. Thompson and passed 4-0-1 to approve the minutes from the April 8, 2015 meeting. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo and Thompson voted "Aye"; Mr. Watts was absent.

Mrs. Davis gave a report on her plan to improve the Town's revenue collection procedures.

Chief Kimbrel gave a report on his response to resistance/aggression policy.

Council members were asked to complete the Town Manager's annual review and return it to Mr. Mozingo prior to the end of the month.

There was a discussion on the items remaining to be done at the new Town Hall building, such as procuring furniture and installing signage. Mr. Mozingo made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bumgarner and approved 4-0-1 to approve the purchase of the remaining items needed for the new town hall except the replacement table for the Council room with a cost not to exceed \$10,639. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo and Thompson voted "Aye"; Mr. Watts was absent.

It was decided that the Council would meet on July 1, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. to hear a presentation on the Pay and Classification Study.

The Town Manager reminded the counselors that the legislature and governor have approved changes to the Town's charter as requested and that the understanding last fall was that the Council would follow through by adjusting the Town Code and Personnel Policy in an effort to achieve better alignment of all three documents. The Councilors agreed to review the material and consider action at the June meeting.

The Town Manager gave an oral report on the status of various projects.

Mr. Harvey Sellers, 269 Union Hill Road, came forward to discuss the Town's policy of requiring Town residents to participate in the curbside refuse collection service. He suggested that residents could be given a choice as to whether to receive the service.

The Police Chief was asked to increase patrols for potential speeding and crosswalk problems, especially in the downtown area and school areas. The Town Manager was asked to consult with VDOT on additional signs regarding pedestrians in crosswalks.

There was a discussion about community promotion projects.

Mr. Mozingo made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bumgarner and passed 4-0-1 that the Town Council convene in closed session for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members or consultants pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body; and consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel per the exemption at §2.2-3711A.7 of the Code of Virginia. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo and Thompson voted "Aye"; Mr. Watts was absent.

Mr. Mozingo made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Higginbotham and approved 4-0-1 by a roll call vote that the Councilors 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. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo and Thompson voted "Aye" by the roll call method; Mr. Watts was absent.

There being no further business, at 9:25 P.M. Mrs. Thompson made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Mozingo and approved 4-0-1 to adjourn the meeting. Messrs. Bumgarner, Higginbotham, Mozingo and Thompson voted "Aye"; Mr. Watts was absent.

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J. Paul Kilgore, Jr.  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council