

Vice Mayor Andra Higginbotham called a regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on August 9, 2023, at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street.

It was noted that a quorum was present as follows:

A	D. Dwayne Tuggle	P	Andra Higginbotham
P	Janice N. Wheaton	P	Michael Driskill
P	Sharon W. Turner	P	Douglas Thompson

Also present were the following staff members:

Sara E. McGuffin	Town Manager		Jeff Floyd	Police Investigator
Kelley Kemp	Town Attorney		Gary Williams	Director of Plants
Vicki K. Hunt	Clerk of Council		Becky Cash	Plants Operator

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was followed by an invocation by Sharon Turner.

Vice Mayor Higginbotham opened the floor to citizen comments.

There being no one listed to speak on the citizen comment sign-in sheet or otherwise, no comments were made.

Ms. Turner made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Wheaton to approve the consent agenda items consisting of minutes of the meeting held on July 12, 2023, and the July 2023 check registry, as presented.

There being no discussion, the motion carried 4-0-1 via the roll call method as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle		Andra Higginbotham	Aye
Janice N. Wheaton	Aye	Michael Driskill	Aye
Sharon Turner	Aye	Douglas Thompson	Abstain

Vice Mayor Higginbotham opened the floor to citizen comments.

There being no one listed to speak on the citizen comment sign-in sheet or otherwise, no comments were made.

At 7:07 PM, Town Attorney Kemp read a resolution to authorize closed meeting, as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Amherst desires to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matter(s):

- Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, namely emergency services, 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, specifically real property owned by the Amherst Lifesaving Crew and a second property that may be available for the Town.

WHEREAS, pursuant to: §2.2-3711 (A)(1) and (A)(7) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst Town Council does hereby authorize discussion of the aforesated matters in Closed Meeting.

After the reading, Ms. Wheaton made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Turner to approve the resolution and go into closed session.

The motion carried 5-0 via the roll call method as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle		Andra Higginbotham	Aye
Janice N. Wheaton	Aye	Michael Driskill	Aye
Sharon Turner	Aye	Douglas Thompson	Aye

A copy of the Resolution is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

At 7:08 PM, pursuant to the Resolution, Town Council convened in closed session.

At 8:25 PM the meeting reopened to the public.

Clerk of Council Hunt read the following closed session certification to Council:

Do you certify that to the best of your knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under Title 2.2, Chapter 37 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?

Responses via the roll call method were as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle	Absent	Andra Higginbotham	Yes
Janice N. Wheaton	Yes	Michael Driskill	Yes
Sharon Turner	Yes	Douglas Thompson	Yes

There being no further business, on motion of Ms. Turner seconded by Mr. Driskill, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M., until September 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

The motion carried 5-0 as follows:

D. Dwayne Tuggle		Andra Higginbotham	Aye
Janice N. Wheaton	Aye	Michael Driskill	Aye
Sharon Turner	Aye	Douglas Thompson	Aye

Andra Higginbotham, Vice Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF AMHERST

MOTION: Wednesday, August 9, 2023
SECOND: Regular Meeting

RE: AUTHORIZE CLOSED MEETING

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Amherst desires to discuss in Closed Meeting the following matter(s):

- Discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, namely emergency services, 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, specifically real property owned by the Amherst Lifesaving Crew and a second property that may be available for the Town.

WHEREAS, pursuant to: §2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, such discussions may occur in Closed Meeting;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Amherst Town Council does hereby authorize discussion of the aforesated matters in Closed Meeting.

Adopted this 9th day of August 2023.

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council