

Mayor D. Dwayne Tuggle called a special meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on November 29, 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:

P	D. Dwayne Tuggle	P	Andra Higginbotham
P	Janice N. Wheaton	P	Michael Driskill
P	Sharon W. Turner	P	Kenneth S. Watts

Also present were the following staff members:

Sara E. McGuffin	Town Manager	
Kelley Kemp	Town Attorney	
Vicki K. Hunt	Clerk of Council	

Town Manager McGuffin gave an update on conditions and language contained in a proposed Deed of Gift of Easement by and between Ambler Farm, L.L.C. and Town of Amherst, Virginia, conveying to the town for public purposes property consisting of 22.157 acres, more or less, located in the Town of Amherst, Amherst County, Virginia, fronting on Route 29 (South Main Street).

After discussion the matter was deferred to the December 13, 2023, meeting at which time staff will make a recommendation that Council accept the gift of easement and authorize Town Manager to execute the deed conveying the property.

At 8:16 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 a park, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
- Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body specifically related to litigation with Amherst County and the Life Saving and First Aid Crew.

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.

Ms. Turner made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Watts 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	Kenneth S. Watts	Aye

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

At 8:17 PM, pursuant to the Resolution, Town Council convened in closed session.

At 8:58 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	Yes	Andra Higginbotham	Yes
Janice N. Wheaton	Yes	Michael Driskill	Yes
Sharon Turner	Yes	Kenneth S. Watts	Yes

There being no further business, on motion of Ms. Turner and seconded by Mr. Driskill the meeting adjourned at 9:00 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	Kenneth S. Watts	Aye

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF AMHERST

MOTION: Sharon Turner

Wednesday, November 29, 2023
Special Meeting

SECOND: Kenneth S. Watts

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 a park, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body.
- Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members pertaining to actual or probable litigation, where such consultation or briefing in an open meeting would adversely affect the negotiating or litigating posture of the public body specifically related to litigation with Amherst County and the Life Saving and First Aid Crew.

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 aforestated matters in Closed Meeting.

Adopted this 29th day of November 2023.

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council