

Mayor Jacob P. Bailey called the regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on May 12, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall at 186 S. Main Street. Council members Bobby J. Bondurant, J. Paul Kilgore, Harold Swisher and Richard Wydner were present. Haney Mottley was absent. Town Manager Jack Hobbs, Police Chief Kenneth Watts, Director of Public Utilities Tom Fore and Office Manager Colan Davis were also present.

Father William Crites, Church of the Epiphany gave an invocation.

At 7:01 P.M. Mayor Bailey opened a public hearing on the proposed FY 11 budget. The Town Manager gave a brief synopsis of the proposed budget. There being no one present who wished to speak, the hearing was closed at 7:05 P.M. It was noted that adoption of the budget is anticipated at the Town Council's June meeting.

Police Chief Kenneth Watts came forward to present a copy of the letter he had sent to Dogwood Street property owners regarding on-street parking. Mr. Kilgore made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Wydner to ask VDOT to limit parking on Dogwood Street to one side by installing no parking signs. The motion passed 4-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye". Mr. Mottley was absent.

Norman Carson, 368 Grandview Drive, came forward to appeal unpaid real estate tax liens on against his property that were assessed prior to his purchasing the property. Mr. Carson was asked to provide the information requested in the letter sent by the Town Manager on April 20, 2010 on or before the June Town Council meeting.

Steve and Susan Williams (126 Maple Lane) and Barbara Cotton (146 Maple Lane) came forward to ask the Town Council to adopt a "leash law". Chief Watts was asked to investigate the situation prior to a Town Council discussion on the matter at the June meeting.

Mr. Bondurant made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Wydner to approve the minutes for the April 15, 2010 meeting as previously submitted. The motion passed 4-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye". Mr. Mottley was absent.

Mr. Wydner led a discussion on a proposed prepaid availability policy. By consensus, the Town Council agreed to hold a public hearing on the proposal during its June meeting.

After reviewing information on recent Walnut Street improvement "commitments," Mr. Kilgore made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Bondurant to authorize and instruct the Town Manager to request a current and official report from VDOT on what would be involved in achieving state-maintained status for Walnut Street and to request that a cost estimate be included in the report. The motion passed 4-0. Messrs. Bondurant, Kilgore, Swisher and Wydner voted "Aye". Mr. Mottley was absent.

The Councilors were reminded that there will be a series of committee vacancies after June 30, that applications for those are due on June 1 and that June 8 is the filing deadline for the November Town Council elections.

The Town Manager gave an oral report on the status of an anticipated S. Main Street Sidewalk change order proposal.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:46 P.M.

Jacob P. Bailey
Mayor

Attest:

Clerk of Council