

Mayor D. Dwayne Tuggle called a regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Town Council to order on January 8, 2025, 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	Jared S. Martin	P	Kenneth S. Watts

Also present were the following staff members:

Sara E. McGuffin	Town Manager	Ryan Watts	Police Chief
Tracie Morgan	Dep. Town Manager/Treas.	Becky Cash	Water/Wastewater Operator
Kelley Kemp	Town Attorney		
Vicki K. Hunt	Clerk of Council		

Recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was followed by an invocation given by Andra Higginbotham.

Mayor Tuggle 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.

Mr. Watts made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Higginbotham to approve the consent agenda items consisting of minutes of the meeting held on December 11, 2024, and the December 2024 check registry, as presented by staff.

There being no discussion, 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
Jarod S. Martin	Aye	Kenneth Watts	Aye

Mr. Higginbotham made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Martin to adopt the Resolution to Adopt and Effect the Continuation of Governance for the Town of Amherst for the January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2026, Council Term having the effect of appointing a variety of positions and covering a series of items required by Town Code and Town Charter, as recommended by staff.

There being no discussion, 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
Jarod S. Martin	Aye	Kenneth Watts	Aye

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

Town Attorney Kemp provided an overview of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and the Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) to Council.

Town Manager McGuffin gave a report on an application received by Stuart Johnson to rezone 3.47 acres located at the end of Vista Drive in the Town of Amherst, Virginia, Tax Map Nos 82-A-47 and 96A-1-1- 36, 33, from A-1 to R-1. At its meeting on December 4, 2024, the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the matter and after which voted 5-0 to make a recommendation of approval to Council. Staff recommends that a public hearing be set on the request to rezone at its next meeting.

Mr. Driskill made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Higginbotham to set a public hearing on February 12, 2025, on an application to rezone 3.47 acres located at the end of Vista Drive, Tax Map Nos. 82-A-47 and 96A-1-1-36, 33 from A-1 to R-1.

There being no discussion, 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
Jarod S. Martin	Aye	Kenneth Watts	Aye

Mayor Tuggle 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.

There being no further business, on motion of Ms. Wheaton and seconded by Mr. Driskill at 7:36 PM, the meeting adjourned until February 12, 2025, 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
Jarod S. Martin	Aye	Kenneth S. Watts	Aye

D. Dwayne Tuggle, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of Council