

REGULAR MEETING OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON JANUARY 11, 2023

At the regular meeting of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, January 11, 2023, at 7:00 PM, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there were present: Mayor Brian R. Vincent, presiding, and Council members D.E. Dwyer, D.L. Hunter, T.M. Pairet, A.D. Reid, S.O. Amos, J.F. Hardy and A.B. Yoelin.

The staff members present were Town Manager C. Scott Davis, Town Attorney Gary Elder, Chief of Police Andy Ellington, Finance Director Julie Moore, Community Development Director Lee Pambid, Public Works Director Robin Atkins, Fire Chief Daniel Clark, IT Support Ashley Atkins-Austin, Deputy Clerk Jacqueline Vaughan, and Clerk Mary McKay.

Mayor Vincent called the meeting to order and welcomed all guests.

Rev. Scott Curtis, Pastor of Heritage Baptist Church provided the Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice-Mayor Reid.

The Clerk called the roll noting all Council members were present. Mayor Vincent welcomed new Council members John Hardy (Ward A) and Adam Yoelin (Ward B).

INTRODUCTION OF FARMVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEW OFFICERS

Chief Ellington introduced the Department's new officers, Derrick Thompson, and Russell Dunford.

INTRODUCTION OF FARMVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT NEW FIREFIGHTER

Fire Chief Daniel Clark thanked Town Council for its support and introduced the Department's new full-time fireman, Ronald Shult.

PUBLIC HEARING – RESOLUTION 2023-01-01 – AMENDING THE FY2022-23 TOWN

BUDGET

With no one signed up or wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE NO. 218 – ALLEY ABANDONMENT – 1702 SOUTH

MAIN STREET

With no one signed up or wishing to speak, the Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Yvette Faulkner was present to inquire who is responsible for the maintenance of the creek located on her property at 1703 Lee Drive. She reported there are two 16" culverts that run

underneath Lee Drive. The sediment in the creek is so low that the water cannot reach the culverts to flow through, so it is backing up into her yard causing it to erode. Ms. Faulkner reported she has purchased rocks, dirt, straw bales, etc. to help alleviate the problem and can no longer afford to do so. She reached out to Town staff and many other agencies and received no solution to the problem. Ms. Faulkner presented pictures for the Council's review.

Mayor Vincent advised the information will be reviewed and he will reach out to a few contacts to see if they have any helpful information or aid to this problem.

Sarah Mullins Spears, founder of Better Days Farmville, was present and addressed the Council. The organization provides families and individuals who are starting over, furnishings and housewares to create a safe and functional home. Ms. Spears mentioned many local partnerships and with their help this past year, assistance was provided to 33 families across Southside Virginia. One expense has been a cost of \$300-\$400 per month for storage to house the donations. She has received an offer for storage containers to be purchased for the organization. Ms. Spears is looking to find a permanent home for Better Days Farmville, possibly a level empty lot with a streetlight which is easily accessible to trucks for pickup. Business cards were provided for Council members.

Zachariah Kowalski was present and spoke on accessibility throughout the town. A few items were mentioned:

- Missing curb cuts
- No concrete used after telephone poles replaced
- Mailboxes in the way on sidewalks
- Drainage from dirt driveways moving onto sidewalks

Mr. Kowalski asked who he needs to talk with and if someone could go through and mark the areas needed for repair and possibly work out some solutions.

Mayor Vincent noted the mail routes that prevent the movement of the mailboxes and the continued conversation to ensure Farmville is as accessible as possible.

PRESENTATION – ABM – ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SAVINGS SOLUTIONS

Town Manager introduced Chrissy Sherriff and Whit Blake with ABM Building Solutions who would provide a presentation from a preliminary study completed for the town and share information on how a more in-depth analysis will increase cost savings. He noted the preliminary study was at no cost to the town.

Ms. Sherriff presented findings from the preliminary assessment performed in fall 2022, and what ABM's infrastructure improvement programs can offer. Mr. Blake reviewed how newer metering technology for the town's water system could offer cost savings. Ms. Sherriff talked about energy conservation measures and recommended facility solutions and how to create a financial revenue source towards funding some infrastructure improvements. A detailed project assessment is needed to determine the full savings.

A discussion was held including Council members making several inquiries including the costs involved. Mr. Blake advised the town's cost is determined from energy and operational savings that are achieved from the implementation of the project. Ms. Sherriff ended the presentation by noting the benefits of working with this program. Council agreed to bring forth a proposal from ABM to the February 1, 2023 Work Session.

PRESENTATION – INTRODUCTION TO PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT

Town Manager provided an overview of the benefits of a planned unit development (PUD), and its ability to attract economic development to create additional revenue and to benefit the community as a whole.

Community Development Director Lee Pambid presented details of planned unit developments and described the land use process which requires multiple public hearings before a request for approval is made. Mr. Pambid further explained the process by reviewing possible frequently asked questions. For clarification, examples of planned unit developments in other areas were mentioned. The Town Manager also offered an example of a PUD in Henrico County, noting there are restaurants mixed-in with housing.

Mr. Pambid reviewed some potential candidate sites that have been identified in the community. A timeline schedule was reviewed with key dates mentioned. He offered to answer any questions from Council members and reiterated that the PUD process begins when an application is made by a landowner. Some discussion was held.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all Council members voting "aye", the consent agenda was approved as presented. The consent agenda includes the draft minutes of the Regular Council meeting held on December 14, 2022, and the minutes of the Special Meeting held on December 28, 2022.

REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE REPORT

On motion by Mr. Hunter, seconded by Mr. Pairet, and with all Council members voting “aye”, the finance report was approved as presented.

BACKGROUND: Finance Director Julie Moore provided a report to Council. The Street Maintenance Fund increased by \$327,000 due to receiving the quarterly VDOT highway funds. Business licenses have been mailed out and are due by the end of February. Ms. Moore noted \$32,278.47 was earned in December from the funds placed with the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP), making a total of \$118,130.63 earned since investing with LGIP.

REQUEST APPOINTMENT OF VICE-MAYOR

Mr. Pairet made a motion to have Mr. Reid appointed as Vice-Mayor, seconded by Mrs. Amos, and with a recorded vote of Council members Hunter, Pairet, Reid, Yoelin, Amos, Dwyer, and Hardy voting “yes”, the motion passed.

BACKGROUND: At the July 13, 2022 Regular meeting, Town Council appointed Mr. Reid as Vice-Mayor for a term of six months as the language in the Code needed to be changed to match the terms of office. Beginning January 2023, the appointment of the Vice-Mayor will be on a calendar-year basis.

REQUEST ADOPTION OF THE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT AND ETHICS

PLEDGE

On motion by Mr. Pairet to adopt the Code of Ethics and Conduct and Ethics Pledge, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote of Council members Pairet, Hunter, Reid, Hardy, Dwyer, Yoelin, and Amos voting “yes”, the motion passed.

TOWN OF FARMVILLE CODE OF ETHICS AND CONDUCT

This Code and its associated Ethics Pledge are aspirational in nature. As such, they are subordinate to federal, state and local law and do not confer and/or mandate any additional duties beyond those required under existing law, nor do they confer any right or cause of action that does not otherwise apply under existing law.

Recognizing that persons holding public office have been given a public trust and that the stewardship of such office demands that performance be at the highest level of ethical and moral conduct, the Town of Farmville adopts this Code of Ethics and Conduct. To honor the public trust and to serve with integrity, civility, and impartiality, the Mayor, the members of Town Council, and those officials who are appointed by Council pledge to do the following:

1. Provide the highest quality of service to the public, acting in a way that is conscientious, diligent, and transparent.
2. Perform the functions of the office with integrity, avoiding any improper use or influence of the office.
3. Not act on a matter in which a conflict of interest exists and be diligent in avoiding even the appearance of a conflict of interest by disclosing the same and acting in accord with the principles underlying this Code.
4. Behave in a manner that inspires public confidence.
5. Treat the public, town employees, and fellow public officials with professionalism, courtesy, and respect.
6. Serve the public interest by upholding the letter and the spirit of Town, Commonwealth, and Federal statutes, regulations, and policies.

The Mayor and members of Town Council will work together to implement and monitor this Code of Ethics and Conduct and to make changes as needed.

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

A. D. "Chuck" Reid, Vice-Mayor

Sallie O. Amos, Council Member

John Hardy, Council Member

Thomas M. Pairet, Council Member

Adam B. Yoelin, Council Member

Donald L. Hunter, Council Member

Daniel E. Dwyer, Council Member

TOWN OF FARMVILLE ETHICS PLEDGE

1. I understand that as a Town representative, I am entrusted with protecting and preserving the integrity of the Town government.
2. I will honor this trust by:
 - a. Upholding the Town of Farmville Code of Ethics and Conduct;
 - b. Putting the public interest first;
 - c. Conducting myself at all times in a manner that brings credit to the Town;
 - d. Serving with integrity, impartiality and transparency;
 - e. Fostering a culture of cordiality and professionalism;
 - f. Taking no action that will result in or create the appearance of personal gain or conflict of interest.
 - g. Making no private promises of any kind that will bind the duties of any office, since a public servant has no word that can be binding on public duty.
3. I will communicate openly and civilly, listening to all views, seeking common ground as a starting point, and being respectful even in areas of disagreement.

REQUEST TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2023-01-01 – AMENDING THE FY2022-23 TOWN BUDGET

Mr. Reid made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-01-01 Amending the FY2022-23 Town Budget, seconded by Mr. Dwyer, and with a recorded vote of Council members Amos, Dwyer, Yoelin, Hardy, Reid, Pairet and Hunter voting “yes”, the motion passed.

BACKGROUND: A Public Hearing was held this evening on the proposed resolution. Surplus funds from the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget will be transferred to the 2022-2023 fiscal year budget in the amount of \$1,656,654.69.

RESOLUTION #2023-01-01

BUDGET AMENDMENT

To amend the Town Budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022 and ending June 30, 2023 in a total amount of \$23,618,089.40. To transfer surplus funds from FY 2021-2022 Budget to the FY 2022-2023 Budget in the aggregate amount of \$1,656,654.69.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE:

That a transfer of funds in the amount of \$1,656,654.69 be added to the FY 2022-2023 Budget so that the amended total of the Town of Farmville's FY 2022-2023 budget shall be \$25,274,744.09; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT \$1,656,654.69 shall be appropriated by the Town of Farmville as follows:

1. \$583,418.93 added to the General Fund Contingency
\$209,223.61 added to the Water Fund Contingency
\$339,978.04 added to the Sewer Fund Contingency
\$524,034.11 added to the Transportation Fund Contingency
2. That this resolution shall be in full force and effect upon its passage.

Approved: _____
Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

I certify that the above resolution was:

Adopted on _____.

Ayes: _____. Nays: _____. Absent: _____. Abstain: _____.

The Honorable A.D. “Chuckie” Reid: _____.

The Honorable Sallie O. Amos _____.

The Honorable Daniel E. Dwyer _____.

The Honorable Tommy Pairret _____.

The Honorable Adam Yoelin _____.

The Honorable Donald L. Hunter _____.

The Honorable John Hardy _____.

**REQUEST TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 218 – ALLEY ABANDONMENT – 1702 SOUTH
MAIN STREET**

Mr. Hunter made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 218 Alley Abandonment, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote of Council members Hunter, Pairret, Reid, Yoelin, Amos, Dwyer, and Hardy voting “yes”, the motion passed.

BACKGROUND: A Public Hearing was held this evening on the proposed ordinance. The alley to be abandoned is located at 1702 South Main Street.

ORDINANCE NO. 218

Authorizing the abandonment of a portion of an alley adjoining properties owned by Edward I. Gordon, Puckett Funeral Home, Inc. and Realty Income Properties 21, LLC, described more particularly on a plat of W.E. Nash dated November 29, 2022.

WHEREAS, an application for abandonment of an alley has been received from Edward I. Gordon; and

WHEREAS, the Town has stated a desire to proceed with the abandonment of unused alleys located in the Town of Farmville; and

WHEREAS, the Town has held a public hearing on January 11, 2023, for the abandonment of said alley and the adoption of this Ordinance;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Farmville Town Council this 11th day of January 2023:

1. That the Council approves the abandonment of a certain portion of a 20-foot alley said to contain 4,907 square feet, as shown more particularly on a plat of W.E. Nash dated November 29, 2022.
2. That pursuant to Virginia Code § 15.2-2006, the Town shall record a certified copy of this Ordinance in the Prince Edward County Circuit Clerk's Office. The aforementioned plat of W.E. Nash shall be attached as an exhibit to the recorded Ordinance.
3. That any deeds and surveys necessary to convey the abandoned property to the adjoining land-owners shall be the sole responsibility of the landowners, and shall be signed by the Town upon approval by the Town Attorney.
4. That this Ordinance shall be in full force effect upon its passage.

Approved: _____
Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

I certify that the above ordinance was:

Adopted on its first reading on _____.

Ayes: _____. Nays: _____. Absent: _____. Abstain: _____.

The Honorable A.D. "Chuckie" Reid _____.

The Honorable Sallie O. Amos _____.

The Honorable Daniel E. Dwyer _____.

The Honorable Tommy Pairret _____.

The Honorable Adam Yoelin _____.

The Honorable Donald L. Hunter _____.

The Honorable John F. Hardy _____.

APPROVAL OF PURCHASE OF FIRE TRUCK USING ARPA FUNDS

Mr. Hunter made a motion to approve the request for the fire truck, seconded by Mr. Reid. Mr. Hunter made an amended motion to adopt Resolution 2023-01-02, Fire Truck Purchase using the American Rescue Plan Act Funds, with an amended second by Mr. Reid, and with a recorded vote of Council members Dwyer, Yoelin, Amos, Reid, Hunter, Hardy and Pairret voting “yes”, the motion passed.

BACKGROUND: Town Manager noted a previous report was provided on this equipment need and the usage of ARPA funds to purchase. Since that earlier report, the price from Pierce has increased by two percent and if payment is made now, the town will avoid any additional price increase. There is a savings if payment is made upfront instead of when the equipment is delivered. Currently there is a 37-month delivery date. A schematic drawing has been provided for this custom-built equipment with a not-to-exceed purchase price of \$950,000.

Mr. Hunter inquired what would be done with the truck being replaced or will it be added to the fleet. The Town Manager reported making the current equipment last until new equipment is received. Fire Chief Clark reported on the certification status of the current equipment. It was reported the current engine is owned by the volunteers and there has been some discussion on the options for the equipment.

Resolution #2023-01-02

Providing American Rescue Plan Act Funds for General Government Use

WHEREAS, the Town of Farmville received funds from the United States Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act in June of 2021 and the second phase of funding in June 2022; and

WHEREAS, the United States Treasury has issued a final ruling on the use of said funds by local governments; and

WHEREAS, general government use is an allowed use of American Rescue Plan Act Funding; and

WHEREAS, Town Council recognizes the need for enhanced fire protection apparatus and equipment; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL:

1. The Town of Farmville Town Council approves the funding of a new Pierce Enforcer Pumper Engine with a not to exceed cost of \$950,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act funds.
2. This resolution shall be in full force and effect upon passage.

Approved:

Mayor

Attest: _____
Clerk of Council

I certify that the above resolution was:

Adopted on _____.

Ayes: _____. Nays: _____. Absent: _____. Abstain: _____.

The Honorable A.D. "Chuckie" Reid: _____.

The Honorable Sallie O. Amos _____.

The Honorable Daniel E. Dwyer _____.

The Honorable Tommy Pairt _____.

The Honorable John Hardy _____.

The Honorable Donald L. Hunter _____.

The Honorable Adam Yoelin _____.

STAFF REPORTS

No additional staff reports were provided.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Vincent reported a discussion will be held at the February 1, 2023 Work Session concerning standing committees. There have been previous conversations on whether standing committees could be eliminated with items to be presented at work sessions when all Council members are available at the same time.

COMMENTS BY THE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF TOWN COUNCIL

Welcome comments were offered to the new Council members, John Hardy and Adam Yoelin.

Mr. Pairet made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all in favor stating “aye”, the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

Mary H. McKay, Clerk of Council