

REGULAR WORK SESSION OF THE FARMVILLE TOWN COUNCIL
HELD ON MAY 7, 2025

At the regular work session of the Farmville Town Council held on Wednesday, May 7, 2025, at 6:00 PM, in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, located at 116 North Main Street, Farmville, Virginia, there were present Mayor Brian Vincent, presiding, and Council members Sallie Amos, A.D. “Chuckie” Reid, Daniel Dwyer, Tommy Pairet, Adam Yoelin, Donald Hunter, and John Hardy.

Staff present were Town Manager Scott Davis, Town Attorney Gary Elder, Finance Director Julie Moore, Community Development Director and IT Support Ashley Atkins-Austin, Chief of Police Andy Ellington, Town Planner Robert Dvorak, Deputy Clerk Jacqueline Vaughan, and Clerk of Council Mary McKay.

Mayor Vincent called the meeting to order, and all guests were welcomed. A shout out and thanks was offered to the Clerk as Municipal Clerk’s Week was mentioned.

The Clerk called the roll, noting all Council members were present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Dwyer made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Mr. Reid, and with all in favor stating “aye”, the motion passed.

DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest made.

FINANCE REPORT

Finance Director Julie Moore reported on the March 2025 reports. Comparing revenue to budget, the General Fund revenue appears to be behind budgeted amounts due mainly to some of the revenue not being actual money received but planned uses of savings shown in the budget to cover future costs. Ms. Moore provided the example of funds set aside each month to make the bond payment. The tax and license categories are above the nine-month projected mark in the budget. Comparing revenue to prior year, the General Fund and Airport Funds are below prior year’s revenue due to ABM lease proceeds being recognized last year and this year the amount of proceeds wasn’t as large. Last year there were major ongoing projects at the airport with none this year. Ms. Moore reported the total expenses to budget are currently below the nine-month mark with the Water Fund above. There were ABM expenses paid out this year that were not budgeted but that fund will be below budget at year end, once that amount is moved out of expenses and

placed into capital assets. The total expenses to the prior year are slightly above as discussed in previous months.

FARMVILLE REGIONAL AIRPORT LEASE

Town Manager Davis reported that the lease currently being used was provided to the Council in the meeting packet. Not being updated for some time, staff wishes to update the current lease and have looked at what is being used at other municipal airports. The current figures for a general hanger were noted as \$360/year for the lease and \$120/year for a maintenance fee. These figures exclude the larger hangers. The proposed rates would be a \$450 lease of the ground and a \$250 maintenance fee. The additional revenue would help towards future work needed to change out the gas pumps from underground to above ground pumps. With limited available state funding, no federal funding, and an estimated cost of over \$1 million, the costs for the needed project would be incurred mostly by the Town. The lease terms also have been updated and reviewed by Town Attorney Gary Elder. A review was made of a key change, moving to a 20-year period renewable every five years, compared to the prior lease having an annual renewal period. Some input had been received from tenants, and it was felt there would be more investment made to individual hangers if a longer lease term was provided and require the hangers to be used for their intended purpose. From an inquiry made by Mr. Pairet, the number of hangers was reported as not known at this time.

DOMINION ENERGY SITE PLAN UPDATE

Community Development Director Ashley Atkins-Austin reported that the Farmville Planning Commission met on April 16, 2025, and voted 6-0 to approve the site plan for the Dominion Energy Expansion on East Third Street and Milnwood Road. The site plan was found to be adequate with respect to the Farmville Town Ordinance.

Town Manager Davis added that the report was being provided for informational purposes. Site plans are not brought forward to the Council as that approval is made by the Planning Commission.

DISCUSSION: FUTURE JOINT MEETINGS WITH THE PLANNING COMMISSION

The Town Manager reported that the Comprehensive Plan is five years old and should be reviewed every five years. It was mentioned at the Council Retreat by a majority of Council members of wanting more involvement in the review process of the plan. Guidance was requested from the Council on holding joint meetings with the Planning Commission so that the two bodies

can communicate directly during review of the plan. Discussion was held. There was a consensus from the Council on holding joint meetings and moving forward with the review. A June or July start date was suggested. Brief comments were made on when to hold the joint meetings to possibly coincide with meetings already scheduled.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Being near the end of the efficiency work for the ABM project, the Town Manager mentioned he wanted to be certain that the Council approves moving away from the leak detection portion of the project. There are less than 90 water meters remaining to be installed, and all other areas have been completed except for the solar work at the water and wastewater treatment plants. That work is through a power purchase agreement and is separate from ABM. Training for the payment system will take place next week and should be rolled out the following week. The leak detection system was the next item to be implemented. A reminder was made that the leak detection system wasn't going to be townwide, only starting at a certain point to begin the process. What was not understood until this point was that there are three methods for leak detection. A review was made of the three methods:

- Connecting the leak detection system to a fire hydrant -
Cannot have a charged fire hydrant in the winter due to freezing temperatures.
- Attach the system to a pipe underneath a bridge -
There are only two bridges in Town.
- Having vaults encasing a portion of pipes which could be read from the top of the vault head - The Town does not have any vaults around water pipes.

Until a future investment can be made, it was reported that moving forward with a leak detection process is not feasible at this time. The cost included in the ABM project was \$40,000 and the goal is to work with their staff to return the equipment so that the \$40,000 won't be spent but can be revisited at a later time. Council members were asked to consider and advise by next week. Town Manager Davis added that once all the meters are installed and working properly, community members including commercial customers, can log into the mobile application and be able to see if there is a large increase in usage which could indicate a leak in the water line. He reported that the detection system is more about larger lines distributing the water.

Council member Hunter mentioned that if there are no other options to consider, there's no need to think about that portion of the project for another week.

ABM LEAK DETECTION

Mr. Hunter made a motion to do away with the leak detection from ABM and explore at a later date, seconded by Mr. Pairet, and with a recorded vote of Council members Reid, Dwyer, Pairet, Yoelin, Hunter, Hardy, and Amos voting “yes”, the motion passed.

COMMENTS BY MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL

Council member Yoelin thanked those in attendance and for the participation.

Mayor Vincent gave another shout out and expressed appreciation to Town Manager Davis and the Finance Department for once again earning an award for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association for the third consecutive year.

There being no other business and on a motion by Mr. Reid, seconded by Mr. Hunter, with all in favor stating “aye”, the meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Brian R. Vincent, Mayor

Mary H. McKay, Clerk of Council