

**A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE TOWN COUNCIL
OF
THE TOWN OF LURAY, VIRGINIA**

Monday, March 11, 2019

The Luray Town Council met in regular session on Monday, March 11, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. in the Luray Town Council Chambers located at 45 East Main Street, Luray, Virginia at which time there were present the following:

Presiding: Mayor Barry Presgraves

Council Present:

Ronald Vickers
Jerry Schiro
Jerry Dofflemyer
Leroy Lancaster
Joseph Sours
Leah Pence

Also Present:

Steve Burke, Town Manager
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager
Jason Botkins, Litten & Sipe
Mary Broyles, Clerk-Treasurer
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer
Bill Huffman, Luray Downtown Initiative
Chief C.S. "Bow" Cook, Luray Police Department
Lt. Chris Stoneberger, Luray Police Department
Mike Uram, Stanley Town Council
Rose Ann Smythe, 127 South Court Street
Will Daniels, 40 Greenfield Road
Lisa Smith, 5 South Broad Street
Audre King, 630 West Main Street
Members of the American Legion- Luray Post #22

A quorum being present, Mayor Presgraves declared the Council to be in session for the transaction of business. All present stood for a moment of silence. Councilman Vickers led everyone in the United States Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Councilman Vickers motioned to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, motion seconded by Councilman Dofflemyer with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

Consent Agenda

- (A) Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting – 2-11-2019
- (B) Minutes of the Council Work Session- 2-26-2019
- (C) Financial Reports Ending February 28, 2019
- (D) Accounts Payable checks totaling- \$ 218,889.10

GENERAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Rose Ann Smythe- Green Hill Cemetery

Ms. Rose Ann Smythe spoke on behalf of the Green Hill Cemetery and the need for continued financial support. Ms. Smythe stated that cemeteries are one of the only authentic and historic places that remain. She noted that the founders of Luray rest in Green Hill Cemetery as well as many other founding contributors. Ms. Smythe explained that the cemetery maintenance is currently being funded solely on private donations. However, it will not be enough to sustain the summer mowing season without further support.

Will Daniels – 40 Greenfield Road, Green Hill Cemetery

Mr. Daniels said that he is a newcomer to Town, moving to Luray last Spring. He has enjoyed working with the cemetery board and is very proud of all they have been able to accomplish.

Lisa Smith- 5 South Broad Street, Compass Tea Room

Ms. Smith spoke on behalf of her new business and a lack of parking downtown. She stated that her customers are finding it difficult to locate parking and are unaware of the public parking lot in the rear of her business. Ms. Smith requested additional parking signage to point to the public parking area.

Audre King- 630 West Main Street

Mr. Audre King spoke about the Community Center on West Main Street and noted that he has previously spoken with some members of Council. Mr. King stated that all improvements to date have been done through private donations and that the center is very close to opening. One remaining need is the buildings sewer system; a sewer tap needs to be made and the town's sewer line is in the back of the property. The cost for the sewer tap is approximately \$6,000 dollars, and Mr. King is asking the Town to waive this fee. Mr. King said that the center is also needing to install its HVAC system, and the assistance with the sewer would be a tremendous help to the center. Mr. King said that he is hoping for a late spring or early summer opening.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Special Use Permit- Hotel Laurance- Flags in Right-of-Way

Mr. Burke presented the public hearing regarding the Hotel Laurance request to install four flags on the north face of the building. The Planning Commission has recommended several conditions in regards to insurance, the condition of the flags, and the attachments. Councilman Lancaster suggested the flags be lit since they will be displayed at all times.

Councilwoman Pence read aloud the following statement: "As some of you may know, I have an interest in Hotel Laurance, LLC, which is located at 2 South Court Street in Luray, Virginia, and is the subject of a request for Special Use Permit being considered by Council. [In addition, I own a wedding planning and event design company called Another Wild Hare, which has offices at 57 South Main Street, Suite 211, in Harrisonburg, Virginia, as well as 295 Madison Avenue, 12th Floor, in New York City. I have provided wedding and event planning services at Hotel Laurance on past occasions and may do so again in the future.] I am abstaining from Council's discussion and any subsequent vote on the Hotel's request for a special use permit to avoid any conflict of interest and to ensure that Council's decision is viewed as having been made impartially in the best interest of the Town."

Mayor Presgraves opened the Public Hearing for citizen comment; with no comments on the subject, the hearing was closed. Councilman Schiro inquired about a potential building permit from the County. Mr. Burke noted that if there is not a requirement for one, then it would be onerous on the Town to be sure the flags are properly installed. Councilman Lancaster continued that he would like to request lighting as a condition of approval. Mr. Bill Huffman of LDI mentioned that lighting may be an issue due to the location of the flags outside windows where guests would be sleeping. Members discussed various options for non-invasive lighting.

Motion: Councilman Schiro motioned to approve a Special Use Permit to the Hotel Laurance to install four flags up to twenty square feet in area each extending into the public Right-of-Way with the following conditions: 1) Applicant shall maintain liability insurance in excess of \$1,000,000 coverage with the Town identified as an additional insured; 2) Signs shall be maintained in non-frayed and non-faded condition; 3) flag support attachments be anchored and secured with sufficient redundancy to reduce the risk of detachment with bolts through the entire outer brick and brackets that secure the pole with bolts; and 4) appropriate lighting be provided if possible. Motion seconded by Councilman Lancaster with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemeyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours. ABSTAIN: Pence. **Approved 5-0**

DEPARTMENTS, TOWN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

West Main Street Bridge Project Update

Assistant Town Manager, Bryan Chrisman, updated Council on the progress of Main Street Bridge. Mr. Chrisman advised members that the metal deck pans have been installed and are ready for concrete. The waterline fasteners are in place, and conduits will be put back in place for Century Link. Other continued issues are safety around the worksite and maintaining restricted access. Mr. Chrisman said the bridge team is working on the final designs, coordinating final budget needs, and scheduling.

ACTION & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Code Amendment- Section 70-6.a Littering Prohibited

Mr. Burke requested to consider a proposed Code Amendment to Town Code Section 70-6a. Littering Prohibited. The Town has experienced an increase in dumping household trash in our parks and recreation garbage cans. The amendment would allow for police enforcement.

Motion: Councilman Vickers motioned to approve the Code Amendment to Section 70-6a. Of the Town Code as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Lancaster with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

Proclamation – American Legion 100th Anniversary

Manager, Steve Burke, said that the Council is requested to adopt a Proclamation honoring the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion. The Proclamation recognizes the Miller-Campbell-Baker Post#22 and March 24th to 31st 2019 as the “Luray American Legion Centennial Week”.

Motion: Councilman Dofflemyer motioned to approve the Proclamation recognizing March 24th to 31st 2019 as “Luray American Legion Centennial Week” as presented. He further authorized advertising this Proclamation and the Legion celebratory dinner on the Town’s Social Media. Motion seconded by Councilman Vickers with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

2018 Planning & Zoning Annual Report

Mr. Burke requested Council consider the 2018 Planning Commission Annual Report for approval.

Motion: Councilwoman Pence motioned to approve the Planning Commission Annual Report 2018 as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Sours with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

Bounce House Donation

Mr. Burke requested action on the previous discussion of donating the Town’s older bounce house to the Town of Stanley with the understanding that it would be available to the Town if its primary bounce house was not available.

Motion: Councilman Dofflemyer motioned to approve the donation of the Town’s older bounce house to the Town of Stanley as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Vickers with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence.

Approved 6-0

Speed Limits- Roundabout Project

Mr. Chrisman requested Council consider lowering the speed limit on West Main Street and Leaksville Road in association with the installation of a roundabout at Northcott Drive and West Main Street. Mr.

Chrisman discussed the current 35mph speed limit on West Main and areas of 40mph speed limit on Leaksville Road. He further explained that the posted speed limit within the roundabout will be 15mph, and that it would be prudent to lower the surrounding limits. Councilman Dofflemyer asked about the timing needed for the change in speed limit. Mr. Chrisman responded that ideally the change should be made in advance of the roundabout construction. Councilman Lancaster suggested implementing the change now.

Motion: Councilwoman Pence motioned that Council adopt an Ordinance amending the speed limits on West Main Street and Leaksville Road as discussed. Motion seconded by Councilman Lancaster with the vote as follows: YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

Mr. Chrisman advised that a speed study would need to be conducted in advance of making the changes.

-Recess-

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Potential Disposition of Real Property, Section 2.2-3711.A.3

Mayor Presgraves requested a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters relevant to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 regarding the potential disposition of real property.

Motion: Councilman Schiro motioned to recess the regular meeting and to convene in executive session; Councilman Dofflemyer seconded the motion with the following members voting YEA: Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence. **Approved 6-0**

-Closed Meeting-

Certification: Mayor Presgraves asked members of Council to certify that to the best of their knowledge only matters covered under Section 2.2-3711.A.3 were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed session. **Motion:** Councilman Schiro motioned to certify the closed session; Councilman Lancaster seconded the motion with the following members voting YEA: Mayor Presgraves, Council Members Vickers, Dofflemyer, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Pence.

ADJOURN

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm.

Barry Presgraves
Mayor

Danielle Babb
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer