

MINUTES OF A TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TOWN OF LURAY, VIRGINIA
Tuesday, August 26, 2014

The Luray Town Council met in a work session on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 5:30 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
Pam Flasch
Jerry Schiro
Leroy Lancaster
Joey Sours (*present after roll call*)
John Meaney

Also Present:

Charlie Hoke, Town Manager
Bryan Chrisman, Assistant Town Manager
Mary Broyles, Town Treasurer
Danielle Babb, Deputy Clerk Treasurer
Ligon Webb, Town Planner
Jason Spitler, Town Attorney
Jeff McMillan, Page News and Courier
Bobbi Wells, Page Alliance for Community Action- Chairperson
Susan Betcher, Program Coordinator-PACA Grant

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Barry Presgraves and everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The roll was called with no members absent.

Updates and Discussion Items

Presentation on Page County's Drug Use

Ms. Bobbi Wells, PACA Chairperson, introduced herself and Ms. Susan Betcher who is coordinating one of the organization's program grants. She stated that they would be co-presenting information to Council Members this evening regarding a needs assessment that was completed in Page County. A power point presentation was then presented to council and staff members showing results from the Youth Risk Behavior Survey that was administered to local 8th and 11th grade students. The needs assessment identifies the main needs among county youth which are 1) mental/behavioral health, 2) substance abuse/tobacco smoking 3) physical activity, and 4) teen pregnancy. Ms. Wells presented statistical data from the local schools to support these concerns and answered questions from council members. Ms. Wells and Ms. Betcher discussed grant funding and prevention efforts. They also discussed programs in our local schools, including the YADAPP club at both high schools.

Lastly, Susan Betcher noted that one means of fundraising for outreach efforts is a calendar of Page County Events. She said that council members would be pleased to see that Lake Arrowhead and the Triathlon are featured in the calendar and she has extras available for purchase this evening.

Tax Code Changes

Town Manager, Charlie Hoke, stated that staff would like Council members to consider a change in the town Personal Property Tax Code. This change would be for personal property tax billing to be issued once per year rather than twice. Mr. Hoke stated that currently the tax bill is due June 5th and December 5th. The personal property tax rate is \$0.40 per \$100.00 assessed valuation with the current State tax relief at 98% up to \$20,000 valuation. He explained that currently if a citizen comes into the office with the first half of their tax payment, the office staff will normally inform them of the amount of the second half and ask if they would like to pay for the second half at that time. Many times the valuation of the second tax bill for personal property is less than the cost of the postage stamp. Mr. Hoke explained that the goal of this change is to save a little bit of money, some time, and efforts on behalf of the town. He said there should be little impact on the public. If Council members would consider this, he will place the request on the agenda for the September regular meeting.

Councilman Schiro asked about the change to the tax code. Mr. Hoke said that the new language has been included in the member packets.

RFP for Real Property Finance

Town Manager, Charlie Hoke, discussed the request for proposals for lending institutions for the purchase of real property in the amount of \$327,000. The request is for a general obligation loan for either a 5-year term or 10-year term. The deadline for proposals is August 29th, 2014.

Notice of Public Hearing

Mr. Hoke presented the Notice of Public Hearing and advised that the ad will run for two successive weeks. The notice is in regards to the public hearing for comments on an Amendment to the Town Budget not to exceed \$327,000 for the purchase of real property.

Town Attorney

Town Attorney, Jason Spitler, raised a question regarding the language on the personal property tax code revision. Mayor Presgraves asked if Mr. Spitler had reviewed this and suggested that he be involved in the revision.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Personnel, Section 2.2-3711.A.1 – Town Manager

Mayor Presgraves requested a motion to adjourn into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing matters relevant to Section 2.2-3711.A.1.

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

Motion: Councilman Sours motioned to adjourn the closed session and to reconvene in open session; Councilman Lancaster seconded the motion with the following members voting YEA: Council Members Vickers, Flasch, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Meaney. **Approved 6-0**

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. **The roll was called with all members certifying “Yes”.**

Mayor Presgraves asked members to take action on the business discussed in closed session.

Motion: Councilman Schiro motioned to reappoint Charlie Hoke as Town Manager for another 1-year term based on the current contract date of September with a 5% salary increase; Councilman Sours seconded the motion with the following members voting YEA: Council Members Vickers, Flasch, Schiro, Lancaster, Sours, Meaney. **Approved 6-0**

Adjourn

There being no further business, Mayor Presgraves adjourned the work session of the Town Council at approximately 7:10 pm.

Barry Presgraves
Mayor

Danielle P. Babb
Deputy Clerk-Treasurer