

WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



Council for the City of Waynesboro, Virginia held a Regular Business Meeting on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Charles T. Yancey Municipal Building, 503 West Main Street, Waynesboro, Virginia, with Mayor Henderson presiding and calling the meeting to order:

- PRESENT: Council Members: Bobby Henderson, Mayor
 Lana Williams, Vice Mayor
 Bruce Allen, Council member
 Terry Short, Jr., Council member
 Sam Hostetter, Council member
- City Staff: Mike Hamp, City Manager
 Julia Bortle, Clerk of Council
 Cameron McCormick, Finance Director
 Luke Juday, Planning Director
 Lisa Jeffers, General Registrar
- Counsel: Mark Bowman, Esq., Litten & Sipe LLC
- Guest: Robert Horowitz, Election Board Secretary
- ABSENT: Jim Shaw, Deputy City Manager

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Mayor opened the meeting and the City Manager lead in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Mayor Henderson then reviewed the process for citizens to comment in person or via telephone during the citizen comment period.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA:

Council member Hostetter moved to adopt the Business Meeting Agenda as presented. Having been seconded and with no objections, **the Business Meeting Agenda was adopted 5:0:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

CONSENT AGENDA:

Council member Short moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Having been seconded and with no objections, **the Consent Agenda was adopted 5:0:**

Regular Business Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020
Adopted October 14, 2020

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

- a. Council Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the August 24, 2020 Regular Business Meeting.
- b. Code Amendment – Chapter 86, Sections 26, 31, and 33; Utilities – clarifying language. (2020-53)

MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor and Council acknowledged the accomplishments of the following employees:

Dustin Fisher, Public Works Department: Named 2020 Wastewater Operations Specialist of the Year by the Virginia Rural Water Association.

Dwayne Schwartz, Nick Beach, John Rasile, Sam Ralston, Waynesboro Water Treatment Plant – The Virginia Rural Water Association named the plant the Systems Plant of the Year.

Corporal Jamie Dunn, Waynesboro Police Department: Awarded Police Department Commendation Ribbon for exceptional service in the SWAT Team as team leader and commander.

Police Crime Analyst Emily Reed: Waynesboro Police Department Commendation Ribbon and 2019 Employee of the Year Award.

Police Officer Ben Doval: Awarded Department Life Saving Medal for lifesaving efforts of an individual found unresponsive on a sidewalk on August 13, 2019.

Police Sergeant Patrick Scott: Department Life Saving Medal for lifesaving efforts of an unresponsive mail in cardiac arrest on December 10, 2019.

Police Detective/K-9 Handler Jessie Shaver: Awarded Police Star Medal for exceptional performance beyond the normal call of duty.

MATTERS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council member Short offered his appreciation to the Police Department and Water Department employees for all they have accomplished and all they do. He appreciated the expansion of Virtex and for bringing additional jobs to the City. He noted that The Wayne Theater is hosting an event tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. showcasing the proposed Virginia Museum of Natural History Waynesboro campus. It will also be broadcast live.

Vice Mayor Williams welcomed the Appalachian Christian School, formerly Afton Christian School, which opened to students last Wednesday at the Maple Avenue location.

Council member Hostetter provided a COVID-19 update for the City of Waynesboro, which cases remain slow and steady. He also expressed appreciation for school teachers for meeting the challenges during the pandemic.

Mayor Henderson stated that the City is growing economically, with the Old Navy location opening over the weekend.

REZONING ORDINANCE – 0 TIFFANY DRIVE:

The ordinance was introduced and discussed at the August 24, 2020 regular business meeting. The Planning Director reviewed the request and the changes to the proffer letter. The applicant agreed to the alterations and provided an updated proffer letter. With no further questions or discussion, the ordinance **REZONING, A 69.46 ACRE PROPERTY AT 0 TIFFANY DRIVE, TAX MAP #41-3-112, FROM RS-12 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL AND H-B HIGHWAY BUSINESS TO RG-5 GENERAL RESIDENTIAL AND R-MF MULTIFAMILY RESIDENTIAL**, was adopted 4:1: (2020-54)

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Nay	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

PUBLIC HEARING – REZONE REQUEST FOR 326 OHIO STREET

The Planning Director made a presentation regarding a rezoning request by Virginia Panel Corp, on behalf of Robert Carty, Jr., to rezone a property at 326 Ohio Street, Waynesboro, Virginia, city tax map number 45-3-A1, currently zoned L-B (Local Business), to L-I (Light Industrial) to expand their operations. After the Planning Commission voted to recommend approval, Virginia Panel pulled out of the purchase of the building; therefore, if the rezoning is approved, Virginia Panel may not be the occupant. Because the application has not been withdrawn for consideration, Council may still want to consider adopting the rezoning ordinance.

The public hearing was opened at 7:26 p.m. With no one signed up to speak or call in, the public hearing was closed. Council member Short moved to table the ordinance consideration until the owner can better express their intent with the site and uses for the parcel. **Having been seconded, the ordinance to rezone was tabled to advance to the Planning Commission for their consideration:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

PUBLIC HEARING – BUDGET ORDINANCES:

The public hearing on the budget amendment is necessitated by exceeding 1% of the adopted fiscal year 2021 budget. The public hearing was noticed on September 5, 2020 in the News Virginian as required by state code. The threshold for the fiscal year 2021 budget is \$1,113,726 and the total ordinances for consideration is \$1,517,152. The public hearing covers items 9 through 11 on the agenda, being divided into three sections: 1) items that can be adopted this evening as they were previously introduced; 2) ordinances that the City is a recipient of funding and can be adopted this evening; and 3) ordinances that may be introduced and discussed but would be adopted at the September 28, 2020 regular business meeting if Council approves.

With no questions or comments from Council, the public hearing was opened at 7:31 p.m. With no callers or anyone signed up to speak, the public hearing was closed.

Having been introduced and seconded at the August 24, 2020 regular business meeting, the following ordinances were adopted 5:0:

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

Regular Business Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020
Adopted October 14, 2020

- a) Economic Development Renaissance Grant – CARES Act: Business Development Grant (\$300,000). **(2020-55)**
- b) School Funding – CARES Act: Funding to be used for PPE, support staff, and cleaning (\$862,914). **(2020-56)**
- c) Valley Academy Fund: Valley Academy to capital needs (\$66,174). **(2020-57)**

Council member Short moved to introduce and adopt the following ordinances which total \$186,614. Having been seconded and with no objections, the ordinances were adopted 5:0:

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

- a) Cares Act Funding: Funding for election expenditures (\$55,902). **(2020-58)**
- b) Safe Routes to School (Office on Youth): Grant funding received to promote safe routes to school (\$39,265). **(2020-59)**
- c) Co-Teaching Excellence (School Board): Grant funding received for salaries and benefits at Wenonah Elementary School (\$7,500). **(2020-60)**
- d) Project Hope Grant (School Board): Grant funding received for educational support services for homeless students (\$53,545). **(2020-61)**
- e) State Career and Technical Education (CTE) (School Board): Grant funding received to upgrade CTE computer labs in Kate Collins Middle School and Waynesboro High School (\$8,420). **(2020-62)**
- f) School Improvement Grant (School Board): Grant funding received for support staff development at Kate Collins Middle School (\$5,266). **(2020-63)**
- g) State Workplace Readiness, Industry Certification and Stem-H Credential Funding (School Board): Funding received for various allowable assessment certifications for Waynesboro High School students in various CTE classes (\$4,933). **(2020-64)**
- h) Title III Grant (School Board): Grant funding received for tutoring and educational online support (\$11,783). **(2020-65)**

Council member Short moved to introduce the following ordinances which total \$101,450. **Having been seconded and after clarifying the source of funding for the Office on Youth grant, the ordinances will be considered for adoption at the September 28, 2020 regular business meeting:**

- a) Safe Routes to School Mini Grant (Office on Youth): Donations and grants to support safe routes to school (\$1,450).
- b) Cares Act Funding: Funding to Social Services to help mitigate the impact of COVID-19 (\$100,000).

APPOINT VIEWERS – REQUEST TO VACATE RIGHT OF WAY

Council was asked to appoint viewers to consider the impact of a request by the City of Waynesboro, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Transportation, to vacate the at-grade railroad crossing at 7th Street near Commerce Avenue in connection with the Southern Connector Road construction project. Due to the approval of the Southern Corridor VDOT-funded road project in 2014 that required an at-grade crossing, several at-grade crossings would have to be closed, including one at the current Lyra plant in the City, one in Front Royal, and the 7th Street crossing in Waynesboro. The Planning Director reviewed alternate routes available to motorists other than the 7th Street crossing. A more in-depth presentation will be made during a public hearing.

Vice Mayor Williams moved to appoint Dot Sayre as chair, Edith Eckman, Garnett Weatherholtz, and Mark Stephens as an alternate, as viewers for the 7th Street railroad crossing application. **Having been seconded and with no objections, the motion was approved 5:0:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

REPORT – BOARD OF ELECTIONS

Robert Horowitz, Secretary of Waynesboro Board of Elections, made a presentation acknowledging the assistance provided to the Board of Elections during the spring elections and the upcoming presidential elections. He noted that early voting begins Friday, September 18, 2020, Virginia’s first no-excuse voting in more than one hundred years. There will be 45 days of voting by mail and 33 days of in-person voting during the early voting period. He reviewed the vote-by-mail process and opportunities for requesting them, and he stated the ballots should be requested before October 23, 2020. Vote-by-mail ballots, if mailed to the Registrar’s Office, must be postmarked by November 3, 2020 and received in the Registrar’s Office by noon on November 6, 2020 to be counted. An alternative is to drop the ballot off at the Gorsuch Building. Voters will be permitted to vote at the Registrar’s Office in the Gorsuch Building following VDH guidelines and building rules, starting Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., September 22 through Friday, November 30, 2020. The Registrar’s Office will also be open for two Saturdays, October 24, 2020 and October 31, 2020. In-person voting will occur at all four election ward locations, following VDH guidelines and precautions.

RESOLUTION - PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX RELIEF ACT (PPTRA) FOR 2020

Council member Hostetter moved to adopt a resolution establishing the Personal Property Tax Relief Act (PPTRA) rate of relief of 42.5% for calendar year 2020. **Having been seconded and with no objections, the resolution was adopted 5:0:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

RESOLUTION (R20-18) SETTING PPTRA RATE OF RELIEF FOR TAX YEAR 2020

WHEREAS the Personal Property Tax Relief Act of 1998, Va. Code §§ 58.1-3523 *et seq.* (“PPTRA”), provides for the appropriation to the City a fixed sum to be used exclusively for the provision of tax relief to owners of qualifying personal use vehicles that are subject to the personal property tax (“PPT”) on such vehicles, and provide the opportunity for the City to fashion a program of tax relief that serves the best interests of its citizenry; and

WHEREAS these legislative enactments require the City of Waynesboro to take affirmative steps to implement and to provide for the computation and allocation of relief provided pursuant to the PPTRA as revised;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Waynesboro, Virginia in accordance with the requirements set forth in Section 58.1-3524(C) (2) and Section 58.1-

Regular Business Meeting
Monday, September 14, 2020
Adopted October 14, 2020

3912(E) of the Code of Virginia, as amended by Chapter 1 of the Acts of the General Assembly (2004 Special Session 1) and as set forth in item 503.E (Personal Property Tax Relief Program) of Chapter 951 of the 2005 Acts of the General Assembly, any qualifying vehicle that has situs within the City of Waynesboro commencing January 1, 2020 shall receive personal property tax relief in the following manner:

- (1) Personal use vehicles valued at \$1,000 or less will be eligible for 100% tax relief;
- (2) Personal vehicles valued at \$1,001 to \$20,000 will be eligible for 42.5% tax relief;
- (3) Personal vehicles valued at \$20,001 or more shall only receive 42.5% tax relief on the first \$20,000 of value; and
- (4) All other vehicles which do not meet the definition of qualifying vehicle (business use vehicles, farm use vehicles, motor homes, etc.) shall not be eligible for any form of tax relief under this program.

ADOPTED this 14th day of September, A.D., 2020

ATTEST:

CITY OF WAYNESBORO

Clerk of Council

Mayor

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REAPPOINTMENTS:

Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board:

Vice Mayor Williams moved to reappoint Mr. Marvin Jones to the Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board for a four-year term ending August 31, 2024. **Having been seconded and with no objections, the resolution was adopted 5:0:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

Shenandoah Valley Social Services Advisory Board:

Council member Short moved to reappoint Ms. Elaine Rose to the Shenandoah Valley Social Services Advisory Board, for a four-year term ending August 31, 2024. **Having been seconded and with no objections, the resolution was adopted 5:0:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

COMMUNICATION, CORRESPONDENCE, AND CALENDAR: With no comments from staff or Council, the meeting continued.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD:

Chanda McGuffin, Waynesboro: thanked Council member Hostetter and City Manager Hamp who came to and supported RISE's library grand opening. She invited everyone to visit and explore the library and volunteer to help with tutoring.

ADJOURN: Having no further business to discuss, Council member Short moved to adjourn the meeting. Having been seconded and with no objections, the meeting was adjourned 5:0 at 7:57 p.m.:

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

Julia Bortle, MMC, Clerk of Council

Bobby Henderson, Mayor