

MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
August 17, 2010

Note to Reader: Although the printed agenda document for this City Council meeting is not part of these minutes, the agenda document provides background information on the items discussed by City Council during the meeting. A copy of the agenda document for this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk.

Emporia City Council held a regular meeting on Tuesday, August 17, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, located at 201 South Main Street, Emporia, Virginia. Mayor Samuel W. Adams, III President presided over the meeting with James Saunders, President, offering the invocation.

ROLL CALL

The following City Council members were present:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris
Councilman James C. Saunders
Councilwoman Doris T. White
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple
Councilman John R. White

Others present:

Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor
C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney
Brian S. Thrower, City Manger
Steven B. Hall, Assistant City Manager
Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk
W. S. Harris, Jr., Treasurer
Joyce E. Prince, Commissioner of the Revenue
Bernard Richardson, Chief of Police

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, August 3, 2010 regular meeting, as presented, seconded by Councilwoman White, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye

Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye
Councilman John R. White aye

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A listing of the August 17, 2010 bills had been presented to City Council members.

General Fund \$ 1,755,237.38
Utility Fund \$ 207,176.62

Councilman White moved to approve payment of the bills presented. Councilman Saunders seconded the motion which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris aye
Councilman James C. Saunders aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye
Councilman John R. White aye

FINANCIAL AND TAX REPORT

Honorable W.S. Harris, Jr., City Treasurer provided City Council members with highlights of the City’s financial position. There were no questions regarding the report.

COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE REPORT

Honorable Joyce E. Prince, Commissioner of the Revenue, provided her report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

PERMIT AND INSPECTION REPORT

Randy C. Pearce, Building/Fire Official, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

POLICE REPORT

Bernard Richardson, Chief of Police, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

CITY SHERIFF REPORT

Honorable Sam C. Brown, Sheriff, provided is report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the reports.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney, had no matters to report to Council.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Adams reported the addition of **November 2, 2010 Council Meeting – Request to Cancel.**

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Councilman Saunders, which passed as follows:

- Councilman F. Woodrow Harris aye
- Councilman James C. Saunders aye
- Councilwoman Doris T. White aye
- Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey aye
- Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV aye
- Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye
- Councilman John R. White aye

NEW BUSINESS

10-67. Meherrin Regional Library System State Budget Cuts – Request by Sarah A.P. Raible, Direction

Mr. Thrower reported that Sarah A.P. Raible, Director of the Meherrin Regional Library System (MRLS), had requested the City of Emporia to allocate an additional \$1,624 to the MRLS to cover its portion of state budget cuts. He also reported that the City level funded the MRLS at \$92,535 this fiscal year. He further reported that the City made no cuts to the library from the previous fiscal year during the FY11 budget adoption process. He stated that in contrast, local civil groups and organizations were cut five percent this fiscal year.

Mr. Thrower recommended that this is an unbudgeted expense and a state budget cut, and do not recommend the City to allocate an additional \$1,624 to the MRLS. He stated that if City Council agreed with this recommendation, no action is required.

There was no discussion regarding this item.

10-68. Industrial Park Sign – Appropriation Ordinance

Mr. Thrower stated that during the Fiscal Year 09-10, the City received an insurance refund in the amount of \$3,060.00 to replace the damaged Industrial Park ID Sign. He also stated that the construction of the replacement sign was not completed during Fiscal Year 09-10 but has since been completed. He further stated that the appropriation ordinance for the use of these funds technically lapsed on June 30th with the close of Fiscal Year 2009-2010. He advised that Council need to re-appropriate those insurance funds into the current operating budget.

Mr. Thrower recommended that Council adopt Ordinance No. 10-35 to appropriate the sum of \$3,060.00 in Previously Received Insurance Funds for the Replacement of the Industrial Park Sign

Councilman Harris made a motion to adopt **Ordinance No. 10-35** to appropriating the sum of \$3,060.00 in Previously Received Insurance Funds for the Replacement of the Industrial Park Sign, seconded by Councilwoman Temple, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye
Councilman John R. White	aye

Councilman Saunders inquired about the installation time for replacement of the damaged Industrial Park ID Sign. Mr. Throrer reported that the installation time should be completed within the next couple of weeks.

10-69. October 5, 2010 Council Meeting – Request to Cancel

Mayor Adams requested cancellation of the October 5, 2010 meeting due to the VML Annual Conference held in Hampton this year starting Sunday, October 3, 2010 and ending Wednesday, October 6, 2010.

Councilman Harris inquired if Council could cancel the November 2, 2010 meeting due to Election Day.

Councilman Harris moved to approve cancellation of the October 5, 2010 and November 2, 2010 Regular City Council Meeting, seconded by Councilman White which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye
Councilman John R. White	aye

10-70. Virginia Peanut Festival Fireworks Resolution

Mr. Throrer reported that in accordance with Article III. Fireworks; Section 38-68. Use and Discharge of the City of Emporia's Code of Ordinances, a resolution requesting authorization for the use of fireworks by the Virginia Peanut Festival Committee as part of the 2010 Peanut Festival celebration.

Mr. Throrer recommended that Council adopt Resolution No. 10-12 authorizing the use of fireworks by the Virginia Peanut Festival Committee.

Councilman Lankford moved to approve **Resolution No. 10-12** Authorizing the use of fireworks by the Virginia Peanut Festival Committee as part of the 2010 Peanut Festival celebration, seconded by Councilman Saunders which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye
Councilman John R. White	aye

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Adams asked if anyone wished to bring a matter before City Council members adhering to the three minute time limitation.

Joyce Johnson, 507 Gowin St, addressed Council stating that there were problems with buzzards around her home. Mayor Adams stated that he will send out the Animal Control Officer and contact the Gaming and Inland Fisheries Agent for a solution.

Mayor Adams recognized that Grant Bradley who was in attendance at tonight council meeting was working on his Merit Badge on Citizenship in the Community.

With there being no further comments to come before City Council, Mayor Adams closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

*****Closed Session*****

Councilwoman Temple move that Closed Session be entered for the purpose of discussing **Virginia Code §2.23711(A) (7) Legal matter requiring the advice of counsel.** Councilman White seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman John R. White	aye
Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

*****Regular Session*****

Councilman Saunders moved that the meeting be returned to Regular Session. Councilwoman White seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman John R. White	aye
Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye

Councilwoman L. Dale Temple aye

CERTIFICATION

Councilman Saunders moved to certify the following:

1. only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and
2. only such public business matter as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by City Council.

Councilman Lankford seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman John R. White	aye
Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Edward V. Lankford, IV	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before City Council, Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting.

Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor

Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk