

MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
December 21, 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, December 21, 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 presided over the meeting with Reverend Bishop Lowery, 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

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
Ken Ryals, Emergency Service Coordinator
Todd Anderson, Captain
Royal Jones, Public Works Director

Absent: Councilman John R. White

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, December 7, 2010 Regular Meeting and Public Hearing, as presented, seconded by Councilman Lankford, 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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A listing of the December 21, 2010 bills had been presented to City Council members.

General Fund	\$ 784,297.21
Utility Fund	\$ 63,402.25

Councilman Saunders moved to approve payment of the bills presented. Councilwoman Temple 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

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 his 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.

Mayor Adams read and presented a resolution of appreciation to Ken Ryals and Alvin Jordan. He stated that Mr. Ryals and Jordan had done an excellent job for the City of Emporia.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Adams reported the addition of **Item 10-108 Greenville County School System Bonuses – Request by Council Member Harris.**

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Councilman Lankford, 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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10-102. Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority – Unexpired Term (Brenda Harrell)

Mayor Adams reported that an appointment was needed for the Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority.

Councilwoman Carey moved to nominate Minnie Hill for appointment to the Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority.

Councilman Saunders moved to nominate Edward V. Lankford, IV for appointment to the Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority.

Councilwoman Temple moved that nominations be closed for the Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority, 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
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

Mayor Adams stated that by show of hands, Edward V. Lankford, IV would serve on the Emporia Redevelopment & Housing Authority as of January 1, 2010, with term expiring March 01, 2014.

NEW BUSINESS

10-103. City School Board/Greenville County School Board-Appointments

Mayor Adams stated that a public hearing was held to receive two appointments to serve a four year term on the City School Board, the following names were nominated: Denise Parker, Marguerite Burton, Ella Seaborn, and Shikee Franklin.

Mayor Adams stated that by show of hands, Denise Parker and Marguerite Burton would serve a four-year term on the City School Board, term expiring December 31, 2014.

Mayor Adams stated that a public hearing was held to receive one appointment to serve a four year term on the Greenville County School Board, the following names were nominated: Marguerite Burton, Ella Seaborn, and Shikee Franklin.

Mayor Adams stated that by show of hands, Marguerite Burton would serve a four-year term on the Greenville County School Board, term expiring December 31, 2014.

10-105. Replacement Tanker Truck – Appropriation Ordinance

Mr. Thrower reported that the City of Emporia had received insurance funds in the amount of \$337,336.00 from the Virginia Municipal League Insurance Programs for the replacement of the tanker truck that was totaled in an accident on September 26, 2010. He also reported that in order for the City to pay the towing and storage costs, as well as for the eventual purchase of a replacement truck, Council will need to appropriate the insurance receipts into the FY11 operating budget.

Mr. Thrower recommended that Council adopt Ordinance No. 10-49 to appropriate the Sum of \$337,336.00 in Insurance Receipts for the Purchase of a Replacement Tanker Truck.

Councilman Lankford made a motion to adopt **Ordinance No. 10-49** to appropriating the Sum of \$337,336.00 in Insurance Receipts for the Purchase of a Replacement Tanker Truck, 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

10-106. Fire Department Pumper Truck – Request Authorization to Purchase

Mr. Thrower reported that the City of Emporia, Greenville County, and Emporia Volunteer Fire Department have been discussing the replacement of the #32 Pumper Truck for the last several years. He also reported that the City of Emporia and Greenville County have both agreed to fund the replacement of the truck with debt service starting in FY12.

Mr. Thrower reported that the City Administration issued an Invitation to Bid seeking proposals for the new truck on November 19, 2010. He also reported that those bids were due December 14, 2010. He further reported that the three companies have submitted bids on the truck. He stated those companies and bids include:

<u>Bidder</u>	<u>Amount</u>
C. W. Williams	\$503,886.00
Atlantic Emergency Solutions	\$499,433.00
KME Fire	\$485,159.00

Mr. Thrower stated that Chris Rawlings, Fire Chief, Sheila Cutrell, Finance Director, and himself reviewed the bid documents and determined that KME Fire to be the lowest responsible and responsive bidder.

Mr. Thrower recommended that Council approve KME's bid and authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary documents authoring the purchase and financing of the vehicle. He stated that according to KME's proposal, the truck will be built within 300 days of contract approval. He also stated that the debt service on the vehicle will begin in FY12 upon delivery of the truck and will be built into the FY12 budget.

Councilman Lankford made a motion to approve the KME Fire bid and to authorize the City Manager to sign all necessary documents authorizing the purchase and financing of this vehicle, 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

10-107. VPI Extension Office – Introduction of Extension Program Support Specialist

Mayor Adams reported that Morris White of the VPI Extension Office has requested to be put on tonight's agenda to introduce the new Extension Program Support Specialist, Lloyd Harrison.

Mr. Morris White stated that he wanted to formally introduce to Council, Lloyd Buck Harrison the new Extension Program Support Specialist.

10-108. Greenville County School System Bonuses – Request by Council Member Harris

Councilman Harris stated that his concern with the Greenville County School System bonus plan was related to the Governor's budget memo released on December 17, 2010. Widely reported in the press has been a recommendation to have state employees contribute 5% of their pay into their retirement accounts. The state would increase state salaries by 3% to offset a portion of this. He stated that there was another recommendation to allow localities and school systems to enact a similar 5% contribution of salary by teachers and school employees to their pension plans if a similar 3% pay increase was enacted at the same time.

He also stated however, that there was no guarantee that the state would provide their share of that increase. His concern was that using these funds for a one time bonus when the cost of the 3% salary increase is looming on the horizon seems shortsighted and noted that funds for the teacher salary increase were not included in the Governor's budget recommendation. There will

likely be more changes in the General Assembly session and it is unclear what the final product will be. He also asked where the bonus was for the taxpayers and noted that teachers will end up with two percent net reductions in pay with the locality having to make up the three percent salary increase to offset the 5% retirement account contributions. This is another shift of costs from the state to the localities. He further stated that he would prefer that the funds being used for bonuses be applied to offset that coming expenditure in FY 12 or used now for costs that could be paid to free up money out of the coming budget. He also would have appreciated the city being consulted on this plan before it was implemented.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Mary Newsome, 115 Anchuca Ct, addressed Council with concerns about requesting a deer crossing sign for that area as deer are always crossing the street day and night, and about the street light being out at the corner of Arrowhead Ct and River Rd since the Tuesday before Thanksgivings.

Mayor Adams stated that the City will call Mecklenburg again concerning the street light being out. He also stated that the City will also check on the deer crossing sign.

Mayor Adams read and presented a resolution of appreciation to Edward V. Lankford, IV. He stated that Mr. Lankford, IV had done an excellent job for the City of Emporia

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

*****CLOSED SESSION*****

Councilman Lankford moved that Closed Session be entered for the purpose of discussing Virginia Code Sections **2.2 3711 (A) (1) Personnel matters regarding performance and assignment of the City Manager and performance of the City Clerk, and (A) (7) legal matter requiring the advice of counsel**, 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

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

Councilman Lankford moved that the meeting be returned to Regular Session. 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

CERTIFICATION

Councilman Harris 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 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 Harris made the motion to approve amendments to the City Manager’s employment contract with City; 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

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

