

**MINUTES**  
**EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING**  
**February 5, 2013**

*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, February 5, 2013 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, located at 201 South Main Street, Emporia, Virginia. Mayor Mary L. Person presided over the meeting with Carolyn S. Carey, Council Member offering the invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

The following City Council members were present:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris  
Councilman James E. Ewing, III  
Councilwoman Doris T. White  
Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch  
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple  
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey  
Councilwoman Carol Mercer

Others present: Mary L. Person, Mayor  
C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney  
Brian S. Thrower, City Manger  
Steven B. Hall, Assistant City Manager  
Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk  
Don Wyatt, Chief of Police  
Royal Jones, Public Works Director  
Sheila Cutrell, Finance Director  
Ken Ryals, Emergency Service Coordinator

**MINUTES APPROVAL**

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, January 15, 2013, City Council Public Hearing and Regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Lynch, which passed as follows:

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Councilman F. Woodrow Harris  | aye |
| Councilman James E. Ewing     | aye |
| Councilwoman Doris T. White   | aye |
| Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch | aye |

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Councilwoman Carol Mercer     | aye |
| Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey | aye |
| Councilwoman L. Dale Temple   | aye |

## **AGENDA APPROVAL**

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

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Councilman F. Woodrow Harris  | aye |
| Councilman James E. Ewing     | aye |
| Councilwoman Doris T. White   | aye |
| Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch | aye |
| Councilwoman Carol Mercer     | aye |
| Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey | aye |
| Councilwoman L. Dale Temple   | aye |

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### ***13-03. Black History Month – Proclamation***

Mayor Person presented Debra Brown with a proclamation for Black History Month.

*Whereas*, February is recognized nationally as Black History Month and Dr. Carter B. Woodson, a distinguished African American author, editor, publisher and historian, is acclaimed “Father of Black History Month”. Dr. Woodson believed that African Americans should know their past in order to participate in the affairs of the country; and

*Whereas*, Black History Month acknowledges both past and present African and African-American icons whose courage, sacrifices, and relentless efforts have sought to improve the quality of life for all in the name of justice, honor and freedom; and

*Whereas*, such noted African-American icons as Ida B. Wells, the renowned writer, teacher, women’s suffragist and anti-lynching crusader; and Rosa Parks, whose famous decision to remain in her seat symbolized the spirit of the Civil Rights Movement, have made imperative contributions to our society; and notable local African Americans as Joseph C. Bond, a mortician, was the first African American to serve on Emporia City Council and a founder of the local NAACP branch; Dr. Willie Joyner, a physician and entrepreneur, owned a medical building, a movie theatre, and rental properties; Dr. Joseph Macklin, a pharmacist, was the first African American druggist to manage his own business; Charles Harris, a mechanic, was the first African American to own and operate a service station; Edward Westwood Wyatt, an advocate for improved school conditions for African Americans and a zealous educator, legacy lives on as the first African American High School (E.W. Wyatt High School) was named in his honor; Charlie Stephen Thomas, a businessman and a founder of the local NAACP branch, operated a grocery store across from Greenville County Training School to provide snacks for the students, since there were no cafeterias at that time; Etta Reavis, a homemaker, provided hot meals and shelter for local teachers at R.R. Moton Elementary School; Elizabeth R. Allison, Reverend and Mrs. Willie Curley, Sr., Annie Green, and Helen Kindred provided shelter and meals for the teachers on the North side of town; George C. Williams, a local farmer, purchased a bus to transport students and teachers to school that resided in the county; and

*Whereas*, the Honorable Mary L. Person was elected as the first African American female to serve on Emporia City Council, made history again when she was elected on November 6, 2012, as the first African American and first female to serve as Mayor for the City of Emporia; and

*Whereas*, it is essential to learn from the many lessons of history from world renowned leaders as well as the contributions of local African Americans to continue the pursuit of our Founding Fathers' vision of liberty, justice and equality for all; and

*Now, Therefore, I*, Mary L. Person, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Emporia, Virginia do hereby proclaim February 2013 as Black History Month in the City of Emporia.

Done this 5<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 2013.

No action taken by Council.

**13-04. Donated Funds – Appropriation Ordinance**

Mr. Thrower stated that the City's Police Department had received a donation in the amount of \$300.00 from a local business. He also stated that the Police Department will use those funds to purchase supplies. He further stated that in order for the Police Department to utilize those funds for this purpose, Council must appropriate them into the FY13 operating budget.

He recommended that Council approve the ordinance.

Councilman Harris made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 13-02 appropriating the sum of \$300.00 in Donated Funds, seconded by Councilwoman Mercer, which passed as follows:

|                               |     |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Councilman F. Woodrow Harris  | aye |
| Councilman James E. Ewing     | aye |
| Councilwoman Doris T. White   | aye |
| Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch | aye |
| Councilwoman Carol Mercer     | aye |
| Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey | aye |
| Councilwoman L. Dale Temple   | aye |

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

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

**\*\*\*CLOSED SESSION\*\*\***

Councilwoman Temple moved that Closed Session be entered for the purpose of discussing Virginia Code Sections § 2.2 3711 (A) (5) Discussion concerning a prospective business involving water sales and (A) (7) Legal matters pertaining o Shared Services/Social Services with Greensville County and the Proposed I-95 Tolls seconded by Councilwoman Carey, which passed as follows:

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Councilman F. Woodrow Harris | aye |
| Councilman James E. Ewing    | aye |

Councilwoman Doris T. White            aye  
Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch        aye  
Councilwoman Carol Mercer            aye  
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey        aye  
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple          aye

**\*\*\*Regular Session\*\*\***

Councilwoman Lynch moved that the meeting be returned to Regular Session. Councilwoman Temple seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris        aye  
Councilman James E. Ewing            aye  
Councilwoman Doris T. White          aye  
Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch        aye  
Councilwoman Carol Mercer            aye  
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey        aye  
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple          aye

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**CERTIFICATION**

Councilwoman Lynch moved to certify the following:

1. only public business matters are 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.

Councilwoman Temple seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris        aye  
Councilman James E. Ewing            aye  
Councilwoman Doris T. White          aye  
Councilwoman Deborah D. Lynch        aye  
Councilwoman Carol Mercer            aye  
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey        aye  
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple          aye

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Mary L. Person, Mayor

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Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk