

**MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
March 18, 2014**

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, March 18, 2014 at 6:30 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 Deacon Cornell Hines offering the invocation.

Mayor Person presented a resolution to Phyllis Epps in memory of Larry Epps for his service to the City of Emporia.

ROLL CALL

The following City Council members were present:

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

Others present:

Mary L. Person, Mayor
C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney
Brian S. Thrower, City Manager
Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk
W. S. Harris, Jr., Treasurer
Joyce E. Prince, Commissioner of the Revenue
Don Wyatt, Chief of Police
Ken Ryals, Emergency Service Coordinator

Absent:

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, February 18, 2014, Public Hearing and City Council Regular meeting minutes as presented, seconded by Councilwoman Mercer, which passed as follows:

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A listing of the March 18, 2014 bills was presented to City Council members.

General Fund	\$	998,164.86
Utility Fund	\$	72,939.62

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the March 18, 2014 bills as presented, seconded by Councilwoman White, which passed as follows:

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

FINANCIAL AND TAX REPORTS

Honorable W. S. Harris, Jr., City Treasurer provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding his 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 her report.

PERMIT AND INSPECTION REPORT

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

POLICE REPORT

Don Wyatt, Chief of Police provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions concerning his report.

CITY SHERIFF REPORT

Sam C. Brown, Sheriff provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions concerning his report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

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

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Person reported the addition of Close Session item per the request of Councilman Ewing - Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code § 2.2 3711 (A) (7) Consultation with legal counsel pertaining to the regulation of through truck traffic.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14-07. Industrial Development Authority – Request for Appointments

Mayor Person stated that this item be carried over to the April 1, 2014, Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

14-12. Emporia Redevelopment and Housing Authority – Term Expirations

Mayor Person stated the on March 1, 2014 Ms. Veronica Leach and Mr. Edward Lankford's four-year term on the City of Emporia's Redevelopment and Housing Authority will expire. She also stated that they both have indicated that they do wish to be considered for reappointment.

Councilwoman Temple made a motion to reappoint Veronica Leach and Edward Lankford to serve another four-year term on the City of Emporia Redevelopment and Housing Authority Board, seconded by Councilwoman Carey, which passed as follows:

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

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

14-13. Southside Virginia Education Center Board of Directors – Unexpired Term (Alton F. Owen, Jr.)

Mayor Person reported that Alton F. Owen, Jr., has submitted his letter of resignation from the Southside Virginia Education Center Board of Directors effective February 6, 2014. She stated that his unexpired four-year term on the Southside Education Center Board of Directors has an expiration date of July 1, 2015. She also stated that as result City Council will need to make a nomination to fill the vacant seat.

Mayor Person stated that this item be carried over to the April 1, 2014, Council meeting.

14-14. Planning Commission – Unexpired Term (Nancy B. Squire)

Mayor Person stated that Nancy Squire has submitted her letter of resignation from the Planning Commission effective February 4, 2014. She also stated that her unexpired four-year term on the Planning Commission has an expiration date of January 6, 2017. She further stated that as a result City Council will need to make a nomination to fill the vacant seat.

Councilwoman White nominated Clifton Threat to fill the unexpired four-year term on the Planning Commission with the expiration date of January 6, 2017.

Councilwoman White made a motion to appoint Clifton Threat to fill the unexpired four-year term on the Planning Commission with the expiration date of January 6, 2017, seconded by Councilwoman Mercer, which passed as follows:

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

14-15. Airport Commission – Unexpired Term (Nancy B. Squire)

Mayor Person stated that Nancy Squire has submitted her letter of resignation from the Airport Commission effective February 4, 2014. She also stated that her unexpired four-year term on the Airport Commission has an expiration date of February 28, 2016. She further stated that as a result City Council will need to make a nomination to fill the vacant seat.

Councilman Harris nominated Councilwoman Dale Temple to fill the unexpired four-year term on the Airport Commission.

Councilwoman White nominated Clifton Threat to fill the unexpired four-year term on the Airport Commission.

Councilman Harris made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Dale Temple to fill the unexpired four-year term on the Airport Commission with the expiration date of February 28, 2016, seconded by Councilwoman Mercer, which passed as follows:

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

14-16. Recreation Advisory Commission – Term Expirations

Mayor Person stated the on April 1, 2014, Edward V. Lankford, IV, Rick Franklin, Deborah Lynch, Clifton Threat and Doris White’s one-year term on the Recreation Advisory Commission will expire. She also stated that Mr. Lankford, Mr. Threat, Mrs. Lynch and Ms. White had indicated that they do wish to be considered for reappointment. She further stated that Mr. Franklin had stated that he does not wish to be considered for reappointment.

Councilman Harris made a motion to reappointment Edward Lankford, Clifton Threat, Deborah Lynch and Doris White to serve a one-year term on the Recreation Advisory Commission, seconded by Councilwoman Carey, which passed as follows:

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

Councilwoman Carey nominated Councilwoman Mercer to serve a one-year term on the Recreation Advisory Commission.

Councilwoman Carey made a motion to appoint Councilwoman Carol Mercer to serve a one-year term on the Recreation Advisory Commission, seconded by Councilwoman Carey, which passed as follows:

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

14-17. Virginia Department of Fire Programs Grant Funds – Appropriation Ordinance

Mr. Thrower reported that the City of Emporia has been awarded a grant from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs in the amount of \$43,350.00 for renovation/repair of the burn building as a prop to assist in training. He stated that in order for the City to utilize this award for the renovation/repair work, Council would need to appropriate these funds in the current operating budget.

Councilwoman Temple made a motion to approve **Ordinance No. 14-04** to appropriate the sum of \$43,350.00 in Grant Funds from the Virginia Department of Fire Programs for Renovation of the Burn Building, seconded by Councilman Ewing, which passed as follows:

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

Linwood Matthews, 766 Courtland Road, addressed Council stating that he was glad to see the construction of the boat landing for Meherrin River.

With there being no further 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 or industry where no previous announcement has been made and (A) (7) Consultation with legal counsel pertaining to the regulation of through truck traffic**, seconded by Councilwoman Mercer, which passed as follows:

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

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

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

CERTIFICATION

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Mary L. Person, Mayor

Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk