

MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
March 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, March 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 Rev. Nathaniel Dupree 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
Tom Delbridge, Water Treatment Plant Supt.
Linwood Pope, Public Utilities Director

Mayor Person welcomed Morris White and the 4-H members to the Council meeting.

Mayor Person reported that tonight's meeting would be Steve Hall, Assistant City Manager, last meeting and wished him well on his new journey.

MINUTES APPROVAL

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the minutes from the Tuesday, February 19, 2013, 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 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

Mayor Person reported the additions of **Closed Session – Virginia Code § 2.2 3711 A) (1) a personnel matter involving the salary or other compensation of a specific employee.**

Councilwoman Temple moved to approve the amended agenda 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 Deborah D. Lynch	aye
Councilwoman Carol Mercer	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13-09. Boards and Commission – Various Term Expirations

Mr. Thrower stated that on February 28, 2013 the 5-year term of Mr. Doug Jessee, Jr. and Mr. R. W. Little, Jr. on the City's Board of Zoning Appeals will expire. He also stated that Mr. Jessee stated that he does wish to be considered for reappointment and Mr. Little stated that he does not wish to be considered for reappointment. He further stated that all nominations for the City's Board of Zoning Appeals must be provided to Greensville County Circuit Court for consideration and official appointment.

Councilman Harris moved to nominate Doug Jessee, Jr. for consideration to serve another five year term on the City Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Harris moved to nominate Vincent Lankford for consideration to serve a five year term on the City Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilwoman Temple moved to nominate Danny Allen for consideration to serve a five year term on the City Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilwoman White moved to nominate Danny Moore and Ella Seaborne for consideration to serve a five year term on the City Board of Zoning Appeals.

Councilman Harris moved to nominate Doug Jessee, Jr., Vincent Lankford, Danny Allen, Danny Moore and Ella Seaborne name for submission to the Greenville County Circuit Court for consideration and official approval to serve a five year term on the Board of Zoning Appeals, 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

NEW BUSINESS

13-10. City Council Meeting Time Change – Request by Council Member Ewing

Councilman Ewing requested that the City Council meeting time be changed from 7:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Councilman Ewing made a motion to authorize conducting a public hearing at Council March 19, 2013 meeting, seconded by Councilman Harris, 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.

Morris White, Unit Coordinator Extension Agent, addressed Council by stating that March is National Women’s History month and presented Ms. Gladys Robinson with a certificate and a fifty year pin commemoration of her long history of volunteer works for 4-H. He also recognized Mayor Person as being the first woman elected to the office of Mayor of the City of Emporia.

Jessie O’Neary, 1912 Sunnyside Road, addressed Council with concerns about the smell of the wastewater that is being dumped in this area from Brunswick County.

Marva Dunn, 103 Beech Tree Lane, addressed Council stating that she has worked with Steve Hall, City Assistant Manager, since he has started here. She also stated that he has been very instrumental in helping with the Redevelopment and Housing Authority. She further stated congratulated him on his new venture and wished him good luck.

Steven Hall, 2601 O Street, addressed Council thanking them for providing him with the opportunity of almost five years to be a public servant for the City of Emporia. He also stated that he has gained a ton of experiences in almost every realm of local government that he can imagine. He further stated that he will always look back on Emporia with a fondness and extreme gratitude for the opportunities that was afforded to him. He stated that for the new Council members we haven't had a chance to do much work, but he assured them that there are a ton of positive things going on in the City of Emporia.

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) (1) **a personnel matter involving the salary or other compensation of a specific employee and (A) (29) Concerning contracts for water supply where Public discussion of the terms or scope of the contracts would affect our bargaining position or negotiating strategy**, 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

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.

Mary L. Person, Mayor

Tessie S. Wilkins, City Clerk