

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

Town Council
Regular Session
Monday, May 21, 2007
Victory Hall
401 Valley Street
Scottsville, Virginia

Mayor
R. Stephen Phipps

Town Council
Nancy E. Gill
James P. Hogan
Jeannette E. Kerlin
Robert E. O'Halloran
John R. Snoddy
Craig N. Stratton

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor R. Stephen Phipps called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
3. ROLL CALL of Town Council – Clerk of Council Amy Moyer called the roll. All members were present, with the exception of Mr. Hogan. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Clark Draper and several observers.
4. CONSENT CALENDAR
 - 4.1. Approval of Agenda
 - 4.2. Financial Report for April 2007 [Tab 1.4]
 - 4.3. Resolution authorizing Mayor to execute 2006 TEA-21 grant agreement [Tab 4.4]
 - 4.4. Appropriation of \$15,000 for planning assistance from TJPDC
 - 4.5. Minutes – Working Session of January 8, 2007 [Tab 5.1]
 - 4.6. Minutes – Working Session of February 12, 2007 [Tab 5.2]
 - 4.7. Minutes – Special Meeting of February 20, 2007 [Tab 5.3]
 - 4.8. Minutes – Regular Session of February 20, 2007 [Tab 5.4]
 - 4.9. Minutes – Special Meeting of February 26, 2007 [Tab 5.5]
 - 4.10. Minutes – Special Meeting of March 6, 2007 [Tab 5.6]

Upon a motion by Ms. Kerlin, seconded by Mr. O'Halloran, the consent calendar was adopted by voice vote.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Phipps reported that Garden Week was a huge success, with 1,000 visitors over the two days. Mayor Phipps announced that there was an opening on the Planning Commission for a four-year term.
6. PUBLIC FORUM – No one from the public rose to speak.
7. PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO TOWN CODE SECTION 62-1 (SANITATION FEE) [Tab 3.2]

Mayor Phipps commented that the Government Services Committee had worked on the proposed amendments for several months; the proposed fee increase would also be used to fund sidewalk and parking lot cleaning and snow removal. Mr. Snoddy remarked that the

committee also considered discontinuing trash service, but residents had asked to keep the service, so the committee was forced to discuss raising the fee. Mayor Phipps then opened the public hearing.

Mr. Raymon Thacker commented that the streets and sidewalks to be cleaned are in a section that is less than one-fifth of the town, and the cost burden would be placed on people in an area without sidewalks. He stated that VDOT takes care of snow removal from streets, and property owners are required to remove snow from their sidewalks. He suggested that the fee be increased by a smaller amount, such as \$5, as people with fixed incomes would have trouble meeting these increased obligations.

Mr. Robert Spencer commented that the sanitation fee increase would create a hardship for senior citizens and lower-income persons who are already impacted by county real estate assessments and tax increases, high fuel costs, and water and sewer rate increases. He stated that this would be a 56 percent increase, and there are legal remedies for the collection problems that led to the current deficit. He suggested a pay-per-bag system as more equitable and efficient.

Ms. Brenda Hyson commented that people who supported retaining a town-organized trash service might not have understood that the fee increase would be so great. She stated that it might be better for residents to hire their own trash collectors, and snow removal is supposed to be done by the businesses, leaving only litter control and street sweeping. She asked about the \$6.50 fee; Ms. Kerlin explained that properties such as restaurants that are exempt from trash service due to volume would be assessed this litter control fee.

Ms. Karen Trunzo commented that she is retired and single with a minimum amount of trash, usually one bag per week. She asked that the council consider a better way to charge for trash service per bag, stating that this would be a tremendous increase for one bag.

There being no one else from the public who wished to speak, the public hearing was then closed.

Mayor Phipps stated that an ordinance was adopted last year to make property owners responsible for the fee, and this had eliminated some collection problems. Mr. O'Halloran commented that Charlottesville's model would be good to eliminate the fee inequity and make people think about recycling, and he felt a 55 percent increase would be too high. Members agreed to refer the sanitation fee ordinance for further committee review.

8. PUBLIC HEARING ON FISCAL YEAR 2008 BUDGET [Tab 3.3]

Mr. Draper explained that he drafted this budget based on special meetings and committee requests. The proposed budget included a third police officer and a \$25,000 contribution to the Streetscape Project. Projected revenues of \$440,000 and expenditures of \$529,000 would result in deficit of \$89,000.

Mayor Phipps opened the public hearing. No one from the public wished to speak, and the public hearing was then closed.

9. PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDMENTS TO ZONING ORDINANCE SECTIONS 3.9 AND 9.2.2 TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE CLASSIFICATION OF “ARTS AND EDUCATION CENTER” [Tab 3.4]

Mr. Draper noted that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the amendment. Mayor Phipps explained that the Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature had requested the zoning text amendment. Mayor Phipps opened the public hearing.

Mr. Raymon Thacker asked whether the zoning classification of the land would change. Mr. Stratton replied that the land would remain Village Residential.

Mr. Robert Spencer commented that it was his privilege and pleasure to give the land on which the center would exist, and Mary Hardy Roberts’ use fit his concept of how the property should be used. Mr. Spencer encouraged adoption of the proposed amendment.

There being no one else from the public who wished to speak, the public hearing was then closed.

Mr. Stratton moved to adopt the amendments to Zoning Ordinance Sections 3.9 and 9.2.2 to provide for the use classification of “Arts and Education Center”. Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion, and a roll-call vote was conducted.

Ms. Gill	<u>Abstain</u>	Ms. Kerlin	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Snoddy	<u>Yes</u>
Mr. Hogan	<u>Absent</u>	Mr. O’Halloran	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Stratton	<u>Yes</u>

By a vote of 4-0, with one abstention, the following amendments were adopted:

To be added to the definitions (section 3.9):

Arts and Education Center – Any building or group of buildings utilized solely for the purpose of arts, music, and nature education and may include facilities for galleries, performing space, artists in residence, and outdoor activities.

To be added to the Village Residential (VR) district section 9.2.2:

o. Arts and Education Center

10. REPORTS OF CHARTERED COMMITTEES AND PLANNING COMMISSION

Architectural Review Board: Ms. Gill reported that a COA was granted for the Food Lion building plans; sign requirements were under review.

Streetscape Project: Mayor Phipps reported that the Virginia Department of Forestry had agreed to provide a tree grant and planting assistance, and they planned to present a list of

recommended trees at the June meeting. Construction inspector Stephen Short gave a progress report.

Planning Commission: Ms. Kerlin reported that the Planning Commission did not meet in May.

Tourism Committee Report: Mr. O'Halloran reported that a full-page advertisement was placed in the Landmarks book. He noted several upcoming events.

Government Services Committee: Mr. Snoddy reported that the committee would continue to discuss the sanitation fee.

Public Safety Committee: Mr. Stratton reported that the committee was working with the fire department to coordinate the parade, which would follow the same route as the previous year. A levee inspection was scheduled for the second week of July. Mr. Stratton noted a recent problem from a grease plug in a sewer line.

11. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Draper reported that he planned to attend a VML meeting in Gordonsville regarding new laws passed by the General Assembly, he was working to obtain quotes to repair the air conditioner, and the office would be closed on Memorial Day.
12. ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.