

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

Town Council
Regular Session
Tuesday, February 16, 2016
Victory Hall
401 Valley Street
Scottsville, Virginia

Mayor
Jesse B. Grove III

Town Council
Nancy E. Gill
R. Daniel Gritsko
Jeannette E. Kerlin
Elizabeth M. Knotts
Randall J. Nolt
Ronald L. Smith

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
3. ROLL CALL of Town Council – Town Clerk Amy Moyer called the roll. Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Kerlin, Ms. Knotts, Mr. Nolt, and Mr. Smith were present. Town Administrator George Goodwin was also in attendance.
4. CONSENT CALENDAR
 - 4.1. Approval of Agenda
 - 4.2. Financial Report for January 2016
 - 4.3. Minutes – Working Session of December 14, 2015

Upon a motion by Ms. Kerlin, seconded by Mr. Gritsko, the consent calendar was approved.

5. PUBLIC FORUM – No one from the public wished to speak.
6. MAYOR’S REPORT – Mayor Grove gave an update on legal matters. The town has filed suit for enforcement action with respect to 135 Warren Street. The town has attempted to achieve service on the owners of the Doll House on East Main; the certified letter was not picked up, and they are attempting personal service, after which Mayor Grove will instruct the town attorney to commence enforcement action. Mayor Grove reported that he made the compromise offer to the delinquent taxpayer, as discussed in the work session, and there has been no response. Council members agreed to send an additional notice and wait 24 hours before proceeding. Mayor Grove reported that he attended the wonderful Focus talk, and he looks forward to the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts bringing its mobile facility to Scottsville. Mayor Grove noted the upcoming town election on May 3. The candidate filing deadline is March 1. Mayor Grove encouraged residents to vote, as the lack of turnout is discouraging.
7. SCAN LEASE RENEWAL

Mayor Grove stated that in 2011, the Town Council made a lease agreement with the Scottsville Center for Arts and Nature to lease the downstairs Victory Hall Theatre portion of this building for five years. He said that at that time, they set a rental rate of \$600 per month, certainly below market, but they had in mind what SCAN could afford to pay. Because there were needed capital improvements, primarily the HVAC system, they agreed with SCAN

that if SCAN would make those capital improvements, estimated at \$18,000, SCAN would be allowed to recapture that by a \$300 reduction in rent over the five-year course of the lease. As it turned out, those capital improvements cost \$20,000. Mayor Grove said that SCAN wishes to renew the lease but is not in a position to renew for five years at this time, so SCAN has proposed a one-year renewal at \$300 per month for the first seven months to recover the full \$20,000 spent on capital improvements, and \$600 for the ensuing five months, and then rent to be negotiated for another five-year extension if desired. Mayor Grove asked council members for their views on the proposal and whether they would ratify the lease if he negotiates to these terms.

Mr. Gritsko commented that they have had a favorable relationship with SCAN over the years that has been beneficial to SCAN and the town, SCAN has deep roots here, and he sees no reason not to renew the lease. Ms. Knotts stated that it is hard to be unbiased in this situation, but looking at the theatre now as opposed to three or four years ago, the improvements that SCAN has done are really nice and the acts and groups they bring are only getting better. Mr. Gritsko remarked that it does raise the issue of how to encourage landlords to use buildings rather than having them stagnant. Mayor Grove asked if Mr. Gritsko is saying to set an example. Mr. Gritsko replied yes. Ms. Knotts and Ms. Kerlin agreed.

Mayor Grove stated that he will proceed with negotiations and bring the proposed lease to Town Council for ratification.

8. RESOLUTION OF INTENT TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE SECTION 17.0
(FLOOD HAZARD OVERLAY DISTRICT)

Mayor Grove explained this is a technical amendment required by updates to the FEMA flood maps, as the map references must be updated in the ordinance.

Mr. Gritsko moved to adopt the resolution of intent to amend Zoning Ordinance Section 17.0 (Flood Hazard Overlay District). Ms. Kerlin seconded the motion. Ms. Knotts asked if this makes flood insurance rates go up. Mayor Grove replied no, but if they do not pass this amendment, the flood insurance for people in the flood zones in Scottsville would be withdrawn; this enables the flood insurance to continue.

The following resolution was adopted by a unanimous voice vote:

RESOLUTION OF INTENT

WHEREAS, Zoning Ordinance Section 17.0 establishes the Flood Hazard Overlay District; and

WHEREAS, in order to prevent the loss of life and property, the creation of health and safety hazards, the disruption of commerce and governmental services, the extraordinary and unnecessary expenditure of public funds for flood protection and relief, and the impairment of the tax base, the Town regulates the uses, activities, and development within districts subject to flooding; and

WHEREAS, Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations (44 CFR) establishes requirements for local flood plain management regulations and requires that local flood plain management ordinances be revised and updated accordingly when flood insurance rate maps (FIRMs) are updated; and

WHEREAS, the FIRM in a portion of the Town of Scottsville was recently updated, to be effective May 16, 2016.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT for purposes of public necessity, convenience, general welfare, good zoning practices, and continuing participation in the National Flood Insurance Program, the Town Council hereby adopts a resolution of intent to consider amending Zoning Ordinance Section 17.0, Flood Hazard Overlay District (FH), and to consider amending any other sections of the Zoning Ordinance deemed to be appropriate to achieve the purposes described herein; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Planning Commission shall hold a public hearing on the zoning text amendment proposed pursuant to this resolution of intent, and make its recommendations to the Town Council at the earliest possible date.

9. REPORTS OF CHARTERED COMMITTEES, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

Planning Commission: Mr. Smith reported that the Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed storage facility and voted to recommend denial of the special use permit application. Mr. Smith said that prior to this meeting, the applicant withdrew his application.

Architectural Review Board: Mayor Grove reported that the ARB considered the proposal for repairs to the telephone exchange building where the brick wall collapsed; the owner will come back with further information. The ARB heard from Patrick Tocci regarding his building on East Main where work began without benefit of a COA; Mr. Tocci belatedly presented an application and agreement was reached on the conditions that should attach to that work.

Public Safety Committee: Mr. Nolt reported that the committee is developing regulations for archery hunting within the town limits. He said that Chief Layman reports that everything went fine with the snow last month and New Year's Eve was uneventful.

Beautification and Maintenance Committee: Ms. Knotts reported that a subcommittee was created for the planters, and they hope to begin small plantings by March. The next project is collaborating with the Methodist Church and Mike Pickwood on the creek bank. They will remove the Bradford pear trees and do some plantings, hopefully with help from the James River Association. Clearing will begin March 12.

Ms. Knotts expressed concern about the hole on the road in front of the Scottsville School Apartments. Mr. Goodwin replied that VDOT is aware of this and has placed barrels in the interim, and they are also trying to get a crosswalk put in there.

Ms. Knotts announced the trash cleanup on April 2, with volunteers to meet at the farmers' market that morning. She thanked Kit Decker for his tireless volunteer trash pickup.

Government Services Committee: Ms. Kerlin reported that the committee reviewed its mission statement and plans to review job descriptions, update the policies and procedures manual, and review the mowing contracts. Ms. Knotts noted that she has invited Albemarle Social Services to come to a committee meeting.

Tourism and Economic Development Committee: Mr. Gritsko complimented the cleanup efforts of volunteers and expressed his hope that they can educate people not to litter in the first place. He plans to attend the upcoming Beautification and Maintenance Committee meeting to discuss the long-term maintenance of the Van Clief Nature Area. There was a VCNA workday on February 6, with an emphasis on the Mink Creek Trail. They will continue to work on the Mink Creek Trail and design culverts or bridges. The committee is also working on park signage. Mr. Gritsko announced an economic development subcommittee meeting on March 23. He would like to explore a Friends of Scottsville fundraising effort for park improvements.

Ms. Knotts suggested contacting the Ballyshannon Fund about funding for educational signage.

Arts and Culture Committee: Ms. Gill announced a committee meeting on February 25 at 11:00 a.m. She gave an overview of upcoming events including the Dante's Inferno exhibit and reading on March 19, the Health and Wellness Expo on March 26, Scottsville Second Saturdays beginning on April 9, the Piedmont Virginia Fiddle and Banjo Association fundraiser on May 14, and a fashion show on May 15.

10. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Goodwin stated that Rick Randolph is promoting a Social Services office either here or in Esmont. He asked Ms. Knotts to work with Tom England ahead of the meeting on the Mink Creek plantings, as Mr. England owns to Church Street. He planned to visit Dr. Charles Hurt again next week to get the easement signed. Mr. Goodwin said there is a conversation about the chili cook-off moving to town if the permit for Hatton Ferry is not approved. An insurance inspection was done at the pump station, and the dam safety inspection is planned before the end of March. Mr. Goodwin reported that Walter Neighbors continues to work on pricing for the packet boat.

Ms. Knotts asked the Public Safety Committee to check whether the town police officers have crisis intervention certification.

11. ADJOURNMENT – Upon a motion by Mr. Kerlin, seconded by Mr. Gritsko, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.