

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

**Town Council
Working Session**
Monday, April 14, 2014
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
Robert E. O'Halloran
Ronald L. Smith

MINUTES

Mayor Grove called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith were present. Ms. Gill arrived at 7:05 p.m. Ms. Kerlin and Mr. O'Halloran were absent. Also in attendance were Town Administrator George Goodwin, Town Attorney James Bowling, and Town Clerk Amy Moyer. The items discussed were as follows:

Police Chief's report: Chief Robert Layman asked for a progress report on the storage building. Mr. Goodwin related that the contractor has been very busy, but they can get someone else if they cannot wait any longer.

Chief Layman reported that it was a very busy weekend in town; the bars were all busy and kept Officer Morris occupied, and at one point three Albemarle County officers responded when the town officer was on an arrest call. Fluvanna County officers also responded to a call on Main Street in Fluvanna. Chief Layman related that he is continually receiving noise complaints regarding the music at the brewery, and he is trying to address the complaints in a reasonable manner that is fair to businesses and residents. He continues to look into contract overtime for additional coverage, and ACPD has been giving the town more attention and keeping someone closer. Ms. Gill noted the recent meeting with Lieutenant Jenkins and owners of businesses serving alcoholic beverages, and she asked if any of the businesses agreed to help pay for an additional officer. Chief Layman replied that only one committed. Internal security helps inside the restaurants/bars, but it becomes a police problem once people leave. Mr. Bowling commented that rigorous enforcement of DUI and DIP ordinances may curtail the program, but it is difficult when the town does not have the manpower.

Mayor Grove remarked that citizens are also concerned about noise from loud moving vehicles, radios, mufflers, etc., to which the noise provisions in the zoning ordinance do not apply. He asked about a criminal ordinance that the police can enforce. Chief Layman felt that the motor vehicle laws would take precedence. Ms. Gill asked about Jake brakes. Chief Layman said there are zones in towns that prohibit the use of Jake brakes. Mr. Bowling commented that this can fall under a noise ordinance, noting the two approaches – decibel meter or standard distance.

Ms. Knotts asked about progress in hiring a new officer. Chief Layman replied that the ad has run once, and he has received one résumé so far.

Chief Layman reported that the cost of repairs to the Dodge Charger exceeds the value of the car, so it will be advertised for sale.

Audience Comments: Peter Pitsiokos thanked David Becker and Mr. Goodwin for help with traffic and associated issues while installing the new tanks at James River Brewing. He related that ABC approved the brewery's application for sidewalk service. He has retained an engineer to help with sound abatement to deal with concerns regarding the music in the beer garden, and some of the measures will require ARB approval. He commented that they are also more sensitive to floodplain issues.

Harold Pillar invited all to attend the Hatton Ferry opening on April 19. He asked the town to pursue a feasibility study on expanding natural gas service.

Chamber of Commerce report: Mr. Smith reported that the Jammin' on the James committee is tweaking the final aspects of concert plans for the season.

Enhancement Projects Oversight Committee report: The committee did not meet for lack of business.

Architectural Review Board report: Mayor Grove referred members to the ARB minutes.

Planning Commission report: The commission did not meet for lack of business.

Treasurer's report: Mr. Goodwin reported that finances are in relatively good shape to finish the year, and a preliminary budget has been drafted for next year.

Mayor's report: Mayor Grove reported he continues to work on VCNA access issues, including the land swap with Joan Anderson and the possible donation of a strip of land behind Doug's Maytag for a low water crossing. He has been involved with the issue of the footbridges built by the brewery in the floodplain. The zoning administrator issued an order that the bridges be removed, and this is appealable to the BZA. Mayor Grove reported on his work with the farmers' market and the budget. He noted the emergency radio repeater was still not operational.

Government Services Committee report: Ms. Gill reported that the committee gave guidance on a BPOL tax issue. Mayor Grove said that this committee will go into abeyance for the time being, and he has volunteered to look into recodification.

Tourism Committee report: Mr. Gritsko reported on his attendance at regional tourism meetings. The new brochure will be finished soon. The Scottsville Sunrise Photo Contest is underway. The committee plans to work on a walking tour and audio tour in concern with the Scottsville Museum. A VCNA work day is planned for April 26.

Town Maintenance Committee: Ms. Knotts thanked Mr. Goodwin and Mr. Becker for the brush cleanup. The committee plans a town walkthrough at its next meeting. Half of the farmers' market spaces are paid in full, and some paid advertising is planned. Ms. Knotts is coordination volunteers for Jammin' on the James.

Town Administrator's report: Mr. Goodwin reported that he is not comfortable advertising the Dodge Charger for sale to the public as it may pose a safety issue. He is considering giving it as a donation or by discounted sale to another agency for parts or training. Mr. Goodwin is actively looking for a replacement car for Chief Layman. All of the required paperwork for the levee certification has been turned into FEMA, with no feedback so far.

Town Attorney's report: Mr. Bowling thanked Mr. Goodwin and Ms. Moyer for their help with the Flood Hazard Overlay District Ordinance revisions, also the help of state floodplain officials. The ordinance was approved just ahead of the deadline. Mr. Bowling has been researching in response to an inquiry regarding a vacated portion of Holman Street, where the vacation ordinance did not address how the land was to be divided between the adjoining properties.

FY 2015 Budget: Mayor Grove gave an overview of the highlights of the draft budget, particularly noting revenue instabilities that may result with business losses, increases to health insurance and retirement, and the schedule of capital improvements. Authorization to advertise the budget was placed on the regular session agenda.

Banking resolution for Arts and Culture Committee: The resolution was placed on the regular session agenda.

Closed session: Ms. Gill moved that this council now meet in closed session for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to potential litigation with Albemarle Properties, LLC, over right to use extension of Jefferson Street to access Mink Creek Reservoir (Van Clief Nature Area), as permitted by Code of Virginia Section 2.2-3711(A)(7). Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved, with Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith voting in favor and none against.

Upon returning to open session, Ms. Gill moved to adopt a resolution certifying the closed session. Mr. Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by roll call vote, with Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Knotts, and Mr. Smith voting in favor and none against. The following resolution was adopted:

WHEREAS, this council convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712(D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the council that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the council hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies; and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting to which this certification applies.

Upon a motion by Ms. Gill, seconded by Mr. Smith, the meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.