

TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE

Town Council
Regular Session
Tuesday, February 19, 2013
Victory Hall
401 Valley Street
Scottsville, Virginia

Mayor
Jesse B. Grove III

Town Council
Shannon W. Adcock
Nancy E. Gill
R. Daniel Gritsko
Elizabeth M. Knotts
Robert E. O'Halloran
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. Mr. Adcock, Ms. Gill, Mr. Gritsko, Ms. Knotts, Mr. O'Halloran, and Mr. Smith were present. Also in attendance was Town Administrator George Goodwin.
4. CONSENT CALENDAR
 - 4.1. Approval of Agenda
 - 4.2. Financial Report for January 2013

Upon a motion by Mr. Gritsko, seconded by Mr. O'Halloran, the consent calendar was approved.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Grove reported that he received an email from a visitor who was concerned about maintenance of the veterans memorial. The grounds have not been maintained properly during construction of the farmers' market restrooms. He referred the matter to the town administrator. Mayor Grove said there was a similar expression of concern about lighting on the flags at the police department and veterans memorial. The lights were out temporarily and will be fixed shortly. The fire department did a controlled burn of growth along Mink Creek near the pump house. Streetscape Phase II is virtually complete, with a few odds and ends left. The town has arranged for VDOT to put cross bars on the crosswalks so as to make them more visible. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the completion of Phase II is planned.
6. PUBLIC FORUM – Jackie Aikins, of Albevanna Spring Road, spoke in support of establishing a recycling center in southern Albemarle.
7. POSSIBLE TOWN COUNCIL POSITION CONCERNING SUPERVISOR DUMLER

Mayor Grove commented that this Town Council is not authorized to do anything about whether Chris Dumler continues as supervisor or not, and one could even say that it is really none of their business, but council members asked to have this on the agenda to hear what

Scottsville residents are thinking before taking any final action. Mayor Grove opened the floor for public comment.

Emily Hedburg, of Charlottesville, stated that as a voter in this district she is ashamed of what happened. She asked for the people of Scottsville to voice how they feel at this conduct and remove Mr. Dumler from the board.

Earl Smith, of Keene, stated that he researched the statutes and they do have a law about recalling the vote. He is gathering signatures for a petition to let the court decide.

Jackie Aikins concurred with Ms. Hedburg's comments. She commented that it is a sad state of affairs when they have someone arrogant enough to be charged with a crime like that, plead guilty to a lesser crime, and believe that he is going to continue to serve their county as if nothing happened. Ms. Aikins said that sends a wrong moral lesson, and he should be removed immediately.

Mayor Grove asked for a show of hands of all who agree with the position expressed.

Lewis Cable, of West River Road, remarked that no one in this room knows what Chris Dumler did or did not do. Mr. Cable said that pleadings are part of this justice system, and there are a huge number of people sitting in prison not because they should be there but because they pleaded down because they had no choice. Mr. Cable spoke positively of Mr. Dumler's accomplishments while in office.

Dolores Rogers, of James River Road, encouraged council members to focus on matters within their purview rather than waste resources on this, noting the number of empty storefronts in town and the negative publicity.

Doris Payne commented that voters elected Mr. Dumler as a man of integrity, honor, and moral code. He went through the legal process and chose to plead guilty, and that is the cloud that hangs over them until he resigns or is removed.

Bebe Williams remarked that those promoting removal say it is not political but "Democrat" is all over the key words on their website.

Luana Hicks, of Valley Street, encouraged Mr. Dumler to resign and take this cloud away from Scottsville.

Mr. Gritsko thanked the audience for coming out tonight and giving their viewpoints.

Ms. Knotts moved to adopt a resolution requesting that the General Assembly study the provisions concerning the removal of public officials from office to see whether it should include certain misdemeanor convictions. Ms. Gill seconded the motion.

Mayor Grove explained that the grounds specified in this section are what the court would consider if the petition is filed, and there is considerable thought that those grounds are too narrow, because they do not appear to apply to this situation.

Mr. Smith read aloud from the state code section. Mr. Smith commented that the wording “certain misdemeanor convictions” is too vague when there are six classes of misdemeanors. Mayor Grove said they are asking legislators to look at this very issue, but the sense of the motion is not to urge action regarding one class of misdemeanor and not others. Mr. Smith proposed changing “include certain misdemeanor convictions” to “be expanded to cover misdemeanor convictions.” Ms. Knotts and Ms. Gill agreed to this amendment.

A roll call vote was conducted.

Mr. Adcock	<u>Yes</u>	Ms. Gill	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Knotts	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. O’Halloran	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>Yes</u>

By a vote of 6-0, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF SCOTTSVILLE, VIRGINIA

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Scottsville, Virginia, that the Town’s representatives in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia are hereby requested to study Va. Code §24.2-233 and its provisions concerning the removal of public officials from office to see whether it should be expanded to cover misdemeanor convictions.

8. APPROPRIATION OF \$2,355 FOR REPAIRS TO FLOOD CONTROL PUMPS

Mayor Grove stated that this was not something they can avoid. During the last pumping incident, they learned the pumps were malfunctioning and needed repair, and quotations were obtained.

Mr. Gritsko moved to appropriate \$2,355 for repairs to the flood control pumps. Ms. Knotts seconded the motion, and a roll call vote was conducted.

Mr. Adcock	<u>Yes</u>	Ms. Gill	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Gritsko	<u>Yes</u>
Ms. Knotts	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. O’Halloran	<u>Yes</u>	Mr. Smith	<u>Yes</u>

The motion passed 6-0.

9. POLICE CAR PURCHASE

Mayor Grove stated that as discussed in the work session, they are nearing the time when they will need to purchase a new police car due to age. They do not yet have a proposal for what car or cost. They believe there will be sufficient funds for the purchase by April, so this is advisory at this point.

Ms. Knotts asked if it is correct that police cars have to be under 100,000 miles for insurance purposes. Mr. Goodwin replied that he contacted the town's insurance carrier, VML, and it is the practice of most localities to retire the vehicles at approximately 100,000 miles. Mr. Goodwin noted that operating older vehicles may pose liability issues.

Mr. O'Halloran asked how long it takes to get to 100,000 miles. Police Chief Robert Layman replied five to six years. Chief Layman said that the standards set for police vehicles guarantee as much safety as can be built into a vehicle for high speeds, and he has to make a proposal to the governing body to keep them within the standards.

Mr. Smith agreed this should be pursued. Mayor Grove said they should have a proposal for the next work session.

10. APPROVAL OF TJPDC PROPOSAL FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ASSISTANCE

Mayor Grove requested that this be referred to the Planning Commission to advise whether this assistance is needed before an appropriation is made. The proposed cost is \$7,500.

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

Enhancement Projects Oversight Committee: Mayor Grove reported that the committee will meet Wednesday to discuss recommendations to VDOT on secondary road paving.

Planning Commission: Mr. Smith reported that the commission did not meet this month. The Comprehensive Plan must be updated every five years.

Architectural Review Board: Mr. O'Halloran reported that the board discussed several topics in an advisory capacity but took no action.

Town Maintenance Committee: Ms. Knotts reported that the town has hired a new maintenance person. Volunteers are invited to the annual cleanup day on March 23. The committee is looking into options for a dog park and mowing equipment.

Tourism Committee: Mr. Gritsko reported that Lydia Wilson designed a new town website. The committee is working on establishing tours and awaits news from Department of Conservation and Recreation on the grant for the Van Clief Nature Area.

Government Services Committee: Ms. Gill reported that Kathy Ralston from the Albemarle Department of Social Services met with town officials about identifying needs in the community.

Public Safety Committee: Mr. Adcock reported that the committee did not meet due to the special meeting date for the work session.

12. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mr. Goodwin reported that the addition of a new maintenance employee, David Becker, has been helpful. They have also had the benefit of several community service members. They did a controlled burn by the pump station to keep kudzu from clogging the pumps. Plantings are scheduled for the police department, in front of the drugstore, and other locations as soon as the weather gives a break. The farmers' market restrooms should be completed to coincide with the Streetscape completion. The first version of the "you are here" map is available for review.
13. ADJOURNMENT – Upon a motion by Mr. O'Halloran, seconded by Mr. Gritsko, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.