

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 17, 2012

Call to Order

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on January 17, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. Mayor Kevin Allgood called the meeting to order and provided the invocation. Council members present were Mayor Kevin Allgood, Chris Clarke, Carolyn Hite, Glenn Jurczyk, Bill Nunn, and Harold Yuille. Vice-Mayor Connie Torres was absent. Staff members present were Town Manager Melinda Moran, Treasurer/Clerk Tara Murphy, Town Clerk Wendy Feild, Town Operations Director Richard Elliott, and Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 20th, 2011 meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Nunn, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

The minutes of the January 3rd, 2012 Council Workshop were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Clarke, seconded by Council member Hite, and approved by all.

Presentation of List of Vendors Paid

The list of vendors paid for December 2011 was presented to Council. Council member Nunn motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for December 2011, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Presentation of Financial Statements

Financial Statements for December 2011 were presented to Council. Council member Clarke motioned to approve the December 2011 financial statements, seconded by Council member Yuille, and approved by all.

Presentation of Town Operation Reports

The Town Operations reports were presented to Council.

Director Richard Elliott reported to Council that they have not finished picking up leaves because the machine is still broken. He stated that he has been told that the part will not be received until February. He stated that as soon as it is repaired, they will resume with picking up leaves. Director Elliott stated that he has begun working on the drainage behind the Fine Arts Center and behind the Library. He stated that, today, they dug up large boulders that required removal, and the project will continue tomorrow. Director Elliott stated that they have been working on brush to keep that cleaned up since the leaf machine is not working. Director Elliott informed Council that he will participate in the startup and testing of the sewer pump station and the sewer lines for the County industrial park on Thursday. He informed Council that there is a beaver dam on Blue Creek behind Edgewood that needs to be removed and the beavers trapped.

Presentation of Police Activity Report

The Police Activity report was presented to Council.

Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson stated that he wanted to explain something from his report last month. He stated that in the event of an investigation of an unattended death and an autopsy is performed, if the body is not claimed, the disposition of the body or remains falls back on the jurisdiction. He stated that he received a letter from the State lab regarding a body that was found in town has not been claimed. He stated that he was in contact with a family member, and she wanted to cremate the body. In order to cremate, the person's parent would have to provide written permission to allow for cremation, but a parent could not be located. Chief Wilkinson stated that Mike Lyon was willing to work with the person and the Town and can do the cremation or burial for \$1,500, but the cremation was not allowed without parental consent. Chief Wilkinson stated that if the body continues to be unclaimed, the Town will be responsible for burial and expenses and a plot would have to be provided according to State law. Chief Wilkinson stated that the only question he has is that the code references County or City, and since Clarksville is a Town, he is going to make sure Mecklenburg County is not responsible. Chief Wilkinson stated that he and Director Elliott have been working on the new building trying to determine where the leak is in the basement of the new building. He stated that the foundation may need to be sealed to help with the leak. Chief Wilkinson stated that he is working on a proposal for what they want to do with the building.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Car Fleet Maintenance Proposal

Council member Jurczyk stated that they have been looking into whether to outsource the Police Car fleet maintenance or keep it in-house. He stated the Town has an outstanding maintenance department, but the cars are more advanced and require more advanced maintenance. Council member Jurczyk stated that the Police cars are driven differently than the other vehicles and maintaining the officer's safety is a major priority. He stated that they received maintenance bids from Clarksville Tire & Service, Inc., Tollerson's Service Center, and Moore's Chevrolet, Inc. He feels that the best bid is from Clarksville Tire & Service, Inc. and recommends accepting their bid to provide maintenance on the Police Cars. He stated that the Town is not entering into a contract with them. Council member Nunn motioned to accept the recommendation to use Clarksville Tire & Service, Inc. to provide the maintenance on the Police Cars, seconded by Council member Hite. Council member Clarke questioned how long will the Town have this agreement with them, and how will the Town make sure there will be no rate increases? Council member Jurczyk stated that the Town Manager can word the agreement so that both parties have to give 30 days notice for any changes to the arrangement, and he also feels the process should be reviewed each year. The motion was approved with a vote of five in favor.

Marcus Hargrove - YMCA

Mr. Marcus Hargrove, the President and CEO of the Mecklenburg County YMCA introduced himself. He stated that they are anxious to serve more youth. Mr. Hargrove stated that since they have moved into the new facility, the membership has more than doubled, and the programs have grown. He stated that in 2012 they took over the afterschool program which will lead to the summer day camp programs. Mr. Hargrove stated that they are starting the Kids Night-Out Programs to have various dances through out the year, and they want to mature the program to have something for teens, also. He stated that they are working with Town staff to implement a Dog Park on the lot near the previous facility. He stated that they have signed a lease agreement and are happy to be in collaboration with the Town for the parking lot. Council member Jurczyk questioned the Dog Park and if the YMCA will be responsible for the liability for the park.

Town Manager Moran stated that Council had been approached previously about a Dog Park being a possible project. Mr. Hargrove stated that the Dog Park is being put together by some concerned citizen volunteers that want to add to the quality of life here in Clarksville at no cost or liability to the Town. Council member Nunn questioned what is proposed for the teen night out. Mr. Hargrove stated that they want to ask the teens what they would like to do. He stated that they want to provide a safe atmosphere for teens to get together to talk, have some punch and listen to music. He stated that it may be only on the weekends at the start of the program. Council member Jurczyk asked how the local YMCA rates to others. Mr. Hargrove stated that the Mecklenburg County YMCA is the smallest in the state.

Memorandum of Understanding – Southside Regional Library

Leigh Lambert, Director of the Southside Regional Library and Eileen Barbieri, the branch supervisor of Clarksville Area Public Library addressed Council regarding a Memorandum of Understanding for the library expansion. She stated that they are not looking at entering into a contract to lock them in, but they felt like something in writing was needed to clarify the project. She stated that the Southside Regional Library trustees had their attorney review the Memorandum of Understanding, and they feel it is a good document to try. Ms. Lambert stated that the Southside Regional Library Board of Trustees will review the document tomorrow for approval. She stated that she hopes the Town Council will approve it tonight and if so, she and Town Manager Moran can sign the document to move forward. Council member Nunn stated that he has been concerned about how the two buildings would be combined, and he sees that the Library has an architect to draft the drawings to make sure it is done properly.

Council member Hite motioned that the Town go forward with approving the Memorandum of Understanding for the library expansion, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Ms. Eileen Barbieri presented a preliminary rendering of the library expansion. She stated it shows an angled entrance, and the new building is proposed to have a lot of glass to provide a lot of light.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Hearing – Proposed Lease for Fine Arts Center

Town Manager Moran stated that the Virginia State Code requires the Town to hold a public hearing prior to entering into any lease of real property. She stated that the Council was given a final draft of the lease with the Clarksville Players for the Fine Arts Center at the Council Workshop and the public hearing has been advertised according to Code.

Mayor Allgood opened the public hearing on the lease of the Fine Arts Center to the Clarksville Players and asked for any public comment. Barry Roberts, President of the Clarksville Players stated that he would try to answer any questions. He stated that the intent of the lease is to provide for more grant opportunities. There was no public comment and Mayor Allgood closed the public hearing.

Council member Nunn motioned to accept the lease with the Clarksville Players for the Fine Arts Center, seconded by Council member Hite, and approved by all.

EDA Appointments

Charlie Simmons of the Clarksville EDA stated that it is time to reappoint members of the EDA and also to appoint a new member. He asked that Council consider reappointing Robert Buchanan, Allen Murray, Justin Eubank and Charles Jones to serve another term on the EDA. He also informed Council that Conrad Bowlin has resigned from the EDA. He stated that the EDA recommends that Council consider appointing Chris Clarke to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Bowlin. He stated this would also put a Council member back on the EDA which has not been the case in a few years.

Council member Nunn motioned to appoint Chris Clarke to fill the unexpired term of Conrad Bowlin and to reappoint Robert Buchanan, Justin Eubank, Charles Jones, and Allen Murray to serve another term on the EDA, seconded by Council member Hite, and approved by all.

Resolution of Appreciation

Mayor Allgood stated that Mr. Conrad Bowlin has served on the EDA since 2005 and read a Resolution of Appreciation for his service on the Clarksville EDA. Council member Hite motioned to adopt the Resolution of Appreciation for Conrad Bowlin's service on the Clarksville EDA, seconded by Council member Nunn, and approved by all.

Fire Department Training Facility

Johnny Shriver, Fire Chief for the Clarksville Volunteer Fire Department, addressed Council with a request to place a 24 X 60 structure on the concrete pad at the old Town Dump to develop a training facility for the Fire Department. Mr. Shriver stated that they had a training facility some years ago, but it was condemned and could not be used any longer. He stated that the structure can be placed on the pad at no cost to the Town and will be insured by the Fire Department. Mr. Shriver stated that this structure is a great opportunity for the Fire Department to be able to provide various trainings with movable walls. He stated that he talked with the SPCA to determine if they would use or need anything at the proposed location, and the SPCA indicated they would not be using anything there for any reason. Council member Jurczyk questioned how the facility will have utilities. Mr. Shriver stated that they proposed to hook the facility to the Fire Truck generator to provide power and lighting from that. Council member Hite questioned how often the facility would be used. Mr. Shriver stated that every 4th Monday of each month, the Fire Department has training, and they have had to place pallets in the bay of the building to do training, which is not adequate. He stated that the facility may not be used each month, but it will be used often. He said that the department has eager young members that want training. Mr. Shriver stated that the facility will help the department grow and help the volunteers be better trained when responding to calls. He stated that the department staff will keep the facility maintained. Council member Jurczyk questioned the time frame that the Fire Department needs an answer. Mr. Shriver stated that the people offering the structure need to know something within the next week to two weeks. Council member Clarke questioned how long the Fire Department has been planning this. Mr. Shriver stated that he began looking into the project at the beginning of the year and stated that he talked with Town Manager Moran then about placing some type of building at the proposed site, but the Fire Department could not afford \$12,000 for a metal building. Council member Jurczyk stated that he feels there should be some type of legal agreement or consultation to make sure the Town and the Fire Department is covered. Mr. Shriver stated that he feels they would be covered the same as it is now with the volunteers doing training at the Fire Department building. He stated that the Fire Department is providing the insurance coverage regardless of where it is. Council member Hite questioned the cost of the structure. Mr. Shriver stated that the cost for getting the building, delivery and setup is approximately \$6,000. He stated that this opportunity just came to the department's attention and that is why I am making the request tonight.

Council member Nunn motioned to approve the request to allow the Clarksville Vol. Fire Department to use the concrete pad at the old Town dump to place the structure for a training facility, seconded by Council member Hite. Council member Clarke questioned if the Council should be discussing the issue and not voting tonight. Council member Nunn feels the Town should support the Fire Department's request and that the insurance is adequate because they are not adding any additional liability by changing the location of the training.

The motion fell with a vote of two in favor (Council members Hite and Nunn) and three opposed (Council members Clarke, Jurczyk, and Yuille). Mayor Allgood stated that other motions can be made. Council member Clarke questioned if the Town could allow the Fire Department to store the structure at the proposed site until the insurance issues are clearer. Town Manager Moran stated that when the SPCA had their facility at the Town Dump, different activity occurred and the Town did not have any special insurance consideration as far as liability.

Council member Clarke motioned to allow the Clarksville Vol. Fire Department to place the 24 X 60 structure on the concrete pad at the old Town dump, seconded by Council member Nunn. The motion passed with a vote of 4 in favor and 1 opposed (Council member Jurczyk).

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Kevin Allgood, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk