



TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 5, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Town Hall Conference Room

1. Closed Meeting – Bank Loan to Finance the Police Department Headquarters

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Sealock, that Town Council convene and go into Closed Meeting regarding a bank loan to finance the Police Department headquarters, for discussion of the award of a public contract involving the expenditure of public funds, and the discussion of the terms or scope of such contract, where discussion in an Open Meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of Town Council, pursuant to Section 2.2 – 3711. A. 29. of the Code of Virginia; and, Consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by Town Council regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2 – 3711. A. 8. of the Code of Virginia

There was unanimous consensus of Council to go into closed meeting.

Councilman Cockrell moved, seconded by Councilman Gillispie, that the Mayor and Council certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, as recognized by each Mayor and Council member's affirmative vote, that only such public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting by the Mayor and Council, and that the vote of each individual member of the Mayor and Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of Town Council.

Vote: Yes – Mayor Tewalt, Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, and Thompson

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Absent – N/A

ROLL CALL

OPEN SESSION

Councilman Holloway moved, seconded by Councilman Gillispe that Council authorize the Interim Town Manager to ratify the Commitment Letter from United Bank dated September 29, 2020 reflecting a loan for the Front Royal Police Department in the amount of \$8,483,001.15.

Discussion – Councilmen Holloway, Gillispie and Cockrell all thanked Interim Town Manager Tederick and Town Staff for their work on obtaining financing for the New Town of Front Royal Police Department. Councilman Holloway suggested that, considering the newly secured funding, Council meet with Legal Counsel and the Front Royal/Warren County EDA Board to “see if they could work it out.” Councilman

Mayor Initial 

Sealock apologized that the funding was not secured sooner and noted how pleased he was that the loan did not include any secondary liens, penalties or prepayment fees. Town Manager Tederick added that the interest rate would be 1.87% and would save town citizens a million dollars. Mayor Tewalt and Councilman Thompson also expressed thanks to the Interim Town Manager and town staff.

Vote: Yes – Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, and Thompson

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Absent – N/A

ROLL CALL

Mayor adjourned the Special Meeting at 7:17 P.M. and Council began their Work Session.

PRESENT: Mayor Tewalt, Vice Mayor Sealock, Councilman Cockrell, Councilman Gillispie, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Meza, Councilman Thompson, Interim Town Manager Tederick, Assistant Town Attorney Sonnett, Deputy Clerk of Council Lynn, Director of Finance Wilson, and members of the public and press.

APPROVED:


Eugene R. Tewalt, Mayor

ATTEST


Tina L. Presley Clerk of Council

Minutes Written by Mary Ellen Lynn Deputy Clerk of Council

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway approved the Special Council Meeting minutes of October 5, 2020 on October 26, 2020.

Mayor Initial 



TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION MINUTES

Tuesday, October 5, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.

Town Hall Conference Room

1. **Ordinance Amendments to Town Code 4-1 and 4-1.1 Regarding Location and Attendance at Meetings Remotely** – Interim Town Manager Tederick explained that the suggested amendments were to 'clean up' the Town Code to accommodate COVID-19. Councilman Meza expressed his appreciation for the clarification of language in the Town Code. Mayor Tewalt noted that the amendments would require a public hearing.
2. **Liaison Committee Meeting Items for October 22nd** – Mr. Tederick pointed out two items that would need to be discussed that the Liaison Committee Meeting – Septic Haul and Opioid Substance Abuse. He asked Council if there was anything else they would like to add to the Liaison Agenda – there was not.
3. **BAR Terms Expire November** – Council all agreed to reappoint Lauren Runyan to the Board of Architectural Review. Since Town Staff had not been able to confirm if Nancy LeHew would like to be considered for reappointment, Council requested the opening be advertised.
4. **Resolution re: Valley Health and Anthem** – Councilman Meza recused himself from any discussion regarding his employer, Valley Health. Interim Town Manager Tederick explained that the resolution presented to Council requested that Anthem and Valley Health find a way to work together. Mayor Tewalt suggested Council take some time to review the resolution and send any suggested changes or amendments to the Town Managers Office. He added that he would like to present the resolution to the Warren County Board of Supervisors for consideration. Interim Town Manager Tederick noted his plans to send the resolution to all surrounding school systems and towns suggesting they adopt it as well.
5. **CARES Act Round 1 and Round 2 Discussion** – Mr. Tederick provided Council with a recommendation on how to disperse the remaining CARES Act Round 1 funds. \$309,058 would be issued to those local businesses that had already applied and received funding as well as an administration fee to be given to the Chamber of Commerce.
6. **Review of FY21 Revenues & Contingencies** – Finance Director Wilson explained that revenues were in good standing. He noted that Sales Tax was up 14%. Interim Town Manager Tederick added his belief that the Town's encouragement for citizens to shop local was partially responsible for the increase in Sales Tax revenue. Mr. Wilson pointed out that the delinquent utility dollar figure was directly in line with "pre-COVID" numbers. He stated that the recommendation from Town Staff would be to release some funds from contingency, apart from merit increases and the compensation study, which they would recommend releasing in January.

Mayor Initial 

Councilman Meza asked if something other than merit increases and the compensation study could stay in contingency and requested town staff provide them with some more options. Councilman Sealock agreed. Councilman Thompson noted that town employees worked through the pandemic and that she would also like to see them receive merit increases sooner than later.

Councilman Gillispie questioned if the town was able to start looking at financing options for streets and sidewalks. Mr. Tederick confirmed that they were.

7. **Rezoning Application from Front Royal/Warren County EDA** – Planning/Community Development Director Wilson presented Council with a request from the Economic Development Authority to rezone 62.7 acres of property from an R-1 Residential District to an I-2 Industrial Employment District in order to improve the site from Tier 1 to a Tier 2 of the Virginia Business Ready Sites Program. He noted that the property is located adjacent to the Happy Creek Technology Park. Council requested staff move forward with advertisement and adding it to a regular meeting agenda.

Mayor adjourned this portion of the work session at 8:04 P.M. and Council went into closed session.

8. Closed Meeting - Personnel

Councilman Cockrell moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway, that Council convene and go into Closed Meeting with respect to the Town Manager's position, for the discussion, consideration, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment; assignments, appointment, promotion, performance, salaries, or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of the public body, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711. A. 1. of the Code of Virginia

There was unanimous consensus of Council to go into closed meeting.

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Meza, that the Mayor and Council certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, as recognized by each Mayor and Council member's affirmative vote, that only such public business matters lawfully exempted from Open Meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the Closed Meeting by the Mayor and Council, and that the vote of each individual member of the Mayor and Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of Town Council.

Vote: Yes – Mayor Tewalt, Councilmen Sealock, Cockrell, Gillispie, Holloway, Meza, and Thompson

No – N/A

Abstain – N/A

Absent – N/A

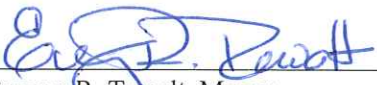
ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Tewalt, Vice Mayor Sealock, Councilman Cockrell, Councilman Gillispie, Councilman Holloway, Councilman Meza, Councilman Thompson, Interim Town Manager Tederick, Assistant Town Attorney Sonnett, Deputy Clerk of Council Lynn, Director of Finance Wilson, and members of the public and press.

Signatures on next page

Mayor Initial 

APPROVED:


Eugene R. Tewalt, Mayor

ATTEST:


Tina L. Presley Clerk of Council

Minutes Written by Mary Ellen Lynn Deputy Clerk of Council

Councilman Gillispie moved, seconded by Councilman Holloway approved the Work Session minutes of October 5, 2020 on October 26, 2020.

Mayor Initial 