



Roll Call by Clerk of Council

PRESENT: Mayor Lori A. Cockrell
Vice Mayor R. Wayne Sealock
Councilman Joshua L. Ingram
Councilwoman Amber F. Morris
Councilman H. Bruce Rappaport
Councilwoman Melissa DeDomenico-Payne
Councilman Glenn E. Wood

OTHERS PRESENT: Town Manager Joseph E. Waltz
Town Attorney George M. Sonnett, Jr.
Clerk of Council Tina L. Presley
Various members of the staff and public

Consent Agenda Items for February 26th

A. Request for the Waiver of Fees for the Revolutionary War Solders Memorial Project on the Warren County Courthouse Grounds by the Warren County VA250 Revolutionary War Commemoration Committee and Resolution of Support – County Director of Planning Matt Wendling advised that he had been working with private citizens on ideas for a project to commemorate the 250th of the Revolutionary War. He explained the project needed to go before the Town's Board of Architectural Review (BAR) due to the brick sidewalk installation which was located in the Town's historical district. The BAR, he noted, approved the project but required a concrete foundation versus a gravel foundation. He requested that the Council waive the \$200.00 fees associated with the project and to consider approval of a Resolution of Support. Mr. Wendling noted that Lesile Bowery County Tourism Manager was applying for a grant to assist with the project's costs. It was confirmed that the bricks would be the same type of brick already in place in the area. It was agreed to add to the Consent Agenda for February 26th.

B. Purchase of a Utility Compactor (Asphalt Roller) – Purchasing Manager Michelle Campbell advised that this purchase would replace a 1987 roller. It was agreed to add to the Consent Agenda for February 26th.

C. Purchase of a Wheel Loader & FY24 Budget Reallocation – Ms. Campbell advised that this purchase would replace a 2002 John Deere that had 7200 hours on it, noting it came in under what was budgeted. It was agreed to add to the Consent Agenda for February 26th.

New Business

~~A. Proposed Ordinance Amendment to Revise the Personal Property & Real Estate Tax Due Dates~~
Removed from the Agenda and will be placed on the February 12th Work Session

B. Joint Transportation Committee – Since this item came from the January 2024 Liaison Committee Meeting, Mayor Cockrell gave a brief update. Town Attorney George Sonnett stated the reasons why the formation of a subcommittee under the Liaison Committee did not work. Councilwoman Morris gave an overview of the subcommittee's meetings held in 2023. Mayor Cockrell noted the chairman of the Board of Supervisors (BOS) was appointed every January and felt that was a good time for Council to select members to serve on the Joint Transportation Committee. Councilmembers Morris and Ingram suggested that they stay on the committee, if that was the desire of Council, since they attended the previous subcommittee meetings and spent time building relationships with other entities. They agreed to bring back information from the meetings to Council. It was noted that minutes of the meetings were not



mandatory, but a good idea. Mr. Sonnett stressed the importance of delegating the purpose of the committee and reporting back to the governing bodies. Mayor Cockrell advised that the BOS was approving the establishment of the committee along with their appointees, time and place on February 6, 2024. Mr. Sonnett suggested mirroring their motion if possible. There was further discussion on when the members of the committee would report to Council and whether the minutes would be sufficient. It was agreed to add to the February 26th agenda to establish the committee and appoint the committee members.

Old Business

A. Out of Town Utility Connection Application from the Catholic Diocese of Arlington and Warren County Board of Supervisors – Town Manager Joe Waltz advised that this item was a follow up discussion from their January work session. He noted that since Council was not going to proceed with a boundary adjustment a Town Code amendment was necessary to give the church out of Town water and sewer. Since Mr. Wendling was still in attendance, he was asked about the sidewalk installation. Mr. Wendling advised that the County's legal attorney cautioned about what the County asked for from churches referencing the Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act of 2000 (RLUIPA). There was discussion about asking for a Deed of Dedication from the church setting aside land for a sidewalk when connectivity for one came into play. It was noted that there was no guarantee that if the Town provided the water the church would dedicate the land. Mr. Waltz advised that currently there was enough land for a sidewalk but not for both a bike lane and a sidewalk on Criser Road. There was much discussion about whether the Town should be cautious about RLUIPA or was that specific to counties and were the first 3,000 gallons of water being free for all churches whether located in Town or County. After further discussion it was suggested to move to the next work session to get questions clarified.

CLOSED MEETING

Councilman Ingram moved seconded by Councilwoman DeDomenico-Payne that Town Council convene a closed meeting, pursuant to Sections 2.2-3711 and 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia, for the following purposes:

- 1) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(3) of the Code of Virginia, for discussion or consideration of the acquisition of real property for a public purpose, or of the disposition of publicly held real property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, more specifically, "McKay Springs"; and
- 2) pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(8) of the Code of Virginia, for consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, more specifically, a memorandum of understanding between the Town and the Front Royal EDA

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Sealock, Ingram, Morris, Rappaport, DeDomenico-Payne, Wood

No – N/A

Absent – N/A

Abstain – N/A

ROLL CALL

Council moved seconded by Councilwoman Morris that Council certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, as recognized by each 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



Town Council Work Session Minutes of 2/5/24 - Page | 3

The following minutes are a summary of items on the agenda. This meeting may be viewed in its entirety by accessing the video of the same date online via the Town's website at www.frontroyalva.com for a limited time.

the Closed Meeting by Council, and that the vote of each individual member of Council be taken by roll call and recorded and included in the minutes of the meeting of Town Council.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Sealock, Ingram, Morris, Rappaport, DeDomenico-Payne, Wood

No – N/A

Absent – N/A

Abstain – N/A

ROLL CALL

Adjourned approximately 9:08pm.

Approved by Town Council

Date: 2/26/24