

PUBLIC HEARING

1. Street Closure – Alley Between Park Avenue and Southampton Street

Emporia City Council held a public hearing on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, located at 201 South Main Street, Emporia, Virginia. Mayor Samuel W. Adams, III presided over the public hearing.

The following City Council members were present:

Councilman Woodrow Harris	Councilman James C. Saunders
Councilwoman Doris T. White	Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	Councilwoman L. Dale Temple

Others present: Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor
C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney
Brian S. Thrower, City Manger
Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk

Absent: Councilman John R. White
Steve B. Hall, Assistant City Manager

1. Street Closure – Alley Between Park Avenue and Southampton Street

Mr. Thrower reported that on December 16, 2008, City Council members authorized the City Administration to advertise a public hearing and appoint viewers concerning a request from Mr. Slate to vacate the remaining portion of an alley between Franklin and Broad Streets. He also reported that a public hearing was advertised in the local newspaper concerning the matter and that letters were mailed to adjacent property owners. He further reported that no issues or concerns had been expressed by adjacent property owners to City Administration concerning the matter.

Mayor Adams asked if anyone wished to speak concerning the matter.

With there being no comments to come before City Council, Mayor Adams declared the public hearing closed.

Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor

Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk

MINUTES
EMPORIA CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF EMPORIA MUNICIPAL BUILDING
January 20, 2009

Note to Reader: Although the printed Agenda document for this City Council meeting is not part of these Minutes, the Agenda document provides background information on the items discussed by City Council during the meeting. A copy of the Agenda document for this meeting may be obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk.

INVOCATION

Emporia City Council held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, January 20, 2009, at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building, located at 201 South Main Street, Emporia, Virginia. Mayor Samuel W. Adams, III presided over the meeting with Councilman James C. Saunders offering the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Upon roll call, the following City Council members indicated their presence:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris
Councilman James C. Saunders
Councilwoman Doris T. White
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey
Councilman Ned V. Lankford
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple

Others present: Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor
C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney
Sam C. Brown, Sheriff
Joyce E. Prince, Commissioner of the Revenue
Bernard Richardson, Chief of Police
Brian S. Thrower, City Manger
Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk

Absent: Councilman John R. White (*illness*)
Steve B. Hall, Assistant City Manager
William S. Harris (*out of town*)

MINUTES APPROVAL

The minutes of the January 6, 2009 Public Hearing & Regular Meeting were distributed to City Council members.

Councilman Lankford moved to approve the minutes as presented. Councilwoman Carey seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

APPROVAL OF BILLS

A listing of the January 20, 2009 bills had been presented to City Council members.

General Fund	\$1,009,985.56
Utility Fund	\$207,275.24

Councilman Saunders moved to approve payment of the bills as presented. Councilwoman Temple seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

FINANCIAL AND TAX REPORT

Honorable W. S. Harris, Jr., City Treasurer, provided City Council members with highlights of the City's financial position. There were no questions regarding the report.

COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE REPORT

Honorable Joyce E. Prince, Commissioner of the Revenue, provided her report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

PERMIT AND INSPECTION REPORT

Randy C. Pearce, Building/Fire Official, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

POLICE REPORT

Bernard Richardson, Chief of Police, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

CITY SHERIFF REPORT

Honorable Sam C. Brown, Sheriff, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney, had no matters to report to City Council.

FIRE REPORT

Chris Rawlings, Fire Chief, provided his report to City Council members. There were no questions regarding the report.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

C. Butler Barrett, City Attorney, had no matters to report to Council.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Adams reported the addition of Closed Session under Virginia Code § **2.2-3711 (A) (1) Personnel Matter** to the Agenda.

Councilman Saunders moved to approve the Agenda as amended. Councilwoman White seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

08-100. Comprehensive Plan Update

Mr. Thrower reported that a public hearing had been held on December 16, 2008 concerning the matter and that modifications to the plan were requested at that time. He also reported that respective modifications to the plan had been outlined separately and provided to City Council members along with the modified plan. He further reported that an ordinance had been presented to City Council members for review and approval concerning the adoption of the City of Emporia's Comprehensive Plan.

Councilman Harris moved to approve **Ordinance 09-03** adopting the City of Emporia Comprehensive Plan as amended. Councilman Lankford seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye

Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

NEW BUSINESS

09-10. Street Closure – Alley Between Park Avenue and Southampton Street

Mayor Adams reported that a public hearing had been held earlier that day concerning the matter and that, although no feedback had been obtained from the appointed viewers, Mr. Thrower could proceed to provide his recommendation to City Council members concerning the matter.

Mr. Thrower reported that no correspondence had been received from appointed viewers concerning the matter and that City Council members could proceed with approval of the request or they could table the item until correspondence was received from the appointed viewers.

It was the consensus of City Council members to delay the matter for 2 weeks.

09-11. Dewberry Preliminary Engineering Report Update

Mr. Thrower reported that City Council members were provided copies of a proposed contract between the City of Emporia and Dewberry for providing preliminary engineering report updates concerning the West Atlantic Street project. He also reported that, for a fee of \$850.00, updates would be made to the report, completed in the spring of 2008, for resubmission to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) with the grant application.

Councilman Harris moved to approve the proposed contract between the City of Emporia and Dewberry as presented. Councilman Saunders seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

09-12. Request by Mary Baird, Property Owner of The Hair Station – Driveway Gate

Mr. Thrower reported that Ms. Mary Baird, owner of The Hair Station located at 761 North Main Street, requested that the City of Emporia pay \$500.00 towards the installation of a gate in the rear of her driveway, off of Halifax Street, in an effort to eliminate through traffic on her property. He also reported that a rear driveway had been installed on Ms. Baird's property due to the construction of the new traffic signal located at Commonwealth Boulevard and 301/North Main Street. He further reported that Ms. Baird informed him that Mr. Jim Owen could provide the gate and installation, at cost, should City Council members approve to provide payment as requested.

Councilman Saunders suggested that the City of Emporia's Public Works Department and the City Administration collaborate in an effort to resolve the matter.

It was the consensus of City Council members to allow the City of Emporia's Public Works Department and the City Administration to collaborate in an effort to resolve the matter.

09-13. Crater District Area Agency on Aging Board – Appointment Request

Mr. Thrower reported that Mr. David Sadowski, Executive Director of the Crater District Area Agency on Aging, submitted a letter, dated December 10, 2008, to the City of Emporia requesting that a representative be appointed to replace Ms. Hattie Jefferson on the Crater District Area Agency on Aging Board. He also reported that Ms. Jefferson had been unable to attend monthly due to an apparent standing work conflict. He further reported that unsuccessful attempts had been made to contact Ms. Jefferson concerning the matter.

He stated that the Crater District Area Agency on Aging Board meets monthly on the last Monday of each month.

With no recommendations for appointment to be presented by City Council members at that time, it was the consensus of City Council members to delay the matter for 2 weeks.

Mayor Adams advised City Council members to contact Mr. Thrower concerning information relative to the commitment associated with serving on the Crater District Area Agency on Aging Board as well as the location of their monthly meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Adams asked if there was anyone who wished to bring a matter before City Council members adhering to the 3-minutes per person speaking limitation.

With there being no comments to come before City Council, Mayor Adams entertained a motion to enter into Closed Session.

*****CLOSED SESSION*****

Councilman Saunders moved that Closed Session be entered for the purpose of discussing Virginia Code § 2.2-3711 (A) (1) **Personnel Matter**. Councilman Lankford seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

*****REGULAR SESSION*****

Councilman Harris moved that the meeting be returned to Regular Session. Councilman Saunders seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

CERTIFICATION

Councilman Harris moved to certify the following:

1. only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed in the Closed Session to which this certification applies, and
2. only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the Closed Session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered by City Council.

Councilman Saunders seconded the motion, which passed as follows:

Councilman F. Woodrow Harris	aye
Councilman James C. Saunders	aye
Councilwoman Doris T. White	aye
Councilwoman Carolyn S. Carey	aye
Councilman Ned V. Lankford	aye
Councilwoman L. Dale Temple	aye

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before City Council, Mayor Adams adjourned the meeting.

Samuel W. Adams, III, Mayor

Jean V. Whiting, City Clerk