

The regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Front Royal, Virginia was held on October 9, 2012, in the Warren County Government Center's Board Meeting Room. Mayor Darr and Private Austin Dowdney of the Young Marines led Council and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and a Moment of Silence. The roll was called at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Timothy W. Darr
Vice Mayor N. Shae Parker
Councilman Daryl L. Funk
Councilman Thomas H. Sayre
Councilman Eugene R. Tewalt
Town Manager Steven M. Burke, P.E.
Town Attorney Douglas W. Napier
Clerk of Council Jennifer E. Berry, CMC

ABSENT: Councilman Bret W. Hrbek
Councilman Hollis L. Tharpe

(The above listed members represent the full body of Council as authorized in the Town Charter.)

RECEIPT OF PETITIONS OR CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no receipts of petitions or correspondence from the public.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR, COUNCIL & STAFF

Mr. Burke:

- Noted that Town tax notices were sent out recently and they were due on December 5th;
- Reminded Council that the Annual Festival of Leaves event would be held downtown this coming Saturday, with the parade beginning at 10 a.m. that morning; and
- Noted that paving work would take place throughout the area and asked the citizenry to be on alert for signage to direct them during said road work.

Janice Hart, Crime Prevention Specialist of the Police Department, presented a report to Council detailing some of the following:

- Neighborhood Watch Meetings had been held (6 qty.);
- National Night Out was held August 7th;
- Chief Furr's Retirement Dinner was well attended;
- The Town's Open House was held on September 15th;
- Board Meetings were attended, including: TRIAD, Warren Coalition, the Virginia Police Chief's Foundation Board, VINE and the Royal Plaza Merchant's Association;
- The Police Department was presented with the HEAT Wave Award for First Place in education in the region by the VA State Police;
- Various programs continued, including: fingerprinting, VIPS crossing guard volunteering, Tradefest, parade control efforts, and child safety seat checks;
- Basic Crime Prevention course and others taught at the Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy; and

- Training included the Crime Clinic in Norfolk, VML Driver Training, and the DCJS Instructor re-certification.

Mayor Darr noted that the VIPS Program should be commended for their extended efforts and hours giving back to the community.

Vice Mayor Parker asked that the Town Council and the County consent to locating someone in archaeology to locate and preserve artifacts at the McKay homestead, as it was one of the oldest homes in the Valley. He noted that they owed it to the community to preserve what was in place at the site.

Councilman Sayre asked about the intersection of Commerce and South Street, noting that some motorists have experienced difficulty negotiating the turn. Mr. Burke stated that with the approval of the street line painting and markings bid located on the agenda, a portion of said work would include a guideline to direct vehicles turning. He clarified that the traffic turn would be similar to the turn from 14th Street going right onto Shenandoah Avenue.

Councilman Sayre read the following into the record:

To clarify and state my support for moving the town elections to November during the odd years is because it gives people a chance to focus on all the issues at the different levels of the state & local government that are affecting them. There is more cohesiveness & continuity of the local & state issues.

Can you image having a town election competing with a very tight presidential election?

I am also voting to decrease my term of office by six months; otherwise anyone voting for the presidential years will increase their term by six months.

Vice Mayor Parker asked about the Main Street signalization. Mr. Burke noted that intermittent lane closure for conduit installation has taken place and they are working with Warren County to determine that the easements are sufficient. He added that they do not anticipate any change to the flow of traffic with turning, and there should be no concerns with traffic once the signals are installed.

Mr. Burke noted that at the Administration Building, the renovations are continuing with networking, work in the server room and the elevator installation. He noted that the roofing contractor will be returning to complete punch list items, and with the award of the floor and wall coverings approval the contractor could then begin as well. Mr. Burke added that Staff was looking to complete bids for building locks and a security system installation as well.

Councilman Sayre stated that Council attended the Virginia Municipal League Conference recently and it was educational and fun. He noted that VML does well with their conferences.

Mayor Darr noted that the Council met with the EDA and the Council also had a joint meeting with the Town Planning Commission. He thanked the Councilmen that were able to attend, adding that they were very positive meetings.

Private Austin Dowdney of the Young Marines spoke to Council about the Young Marines program and Red Ribbon Week. He explained that Kiki Camarena, a Drug Enforcement Special Agent, was fighting against America’s drug problem when he was kidnapped, tortured and murdered by a drug lord from Mexico. Private Dowdney noted that Red Ribbon Week was created in Agent Camarena’s memory to assist in the community’s drug-free efforts, especially for children.

Mayor Darr read and presented the Red Ribbon Week proclamation to Private Dowdney on behalf of the Town of Front Royal Town Council.

Mayor Darr asked if there were any proposals for additions or deletions to the agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

- A. COUNCIL APPROVAL: Proclamation for *Juvenile Diabetes Walk Day*
- B. COUNCIL APPROVAL: Bid for Street Line Painting & Markings for FY ‘13
- C. COUNCIL APPROVAL: Bid for Carpet/Tile Installation & Painting of Administration Building (Main Street)
- D. COUNCIL APPROVAL: Bid for Intersection Improvements to the Intersection of 8th Street and Warren Avenue

Councilman Tewalt moved, seconded by Councilman Sayre, that Council approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Vote: Yes – Funk, Parker, Tewalt and Sayre
 No – N/A
 Abstain – N/A
 Absent – Hrbek and Tharpe
 (Mayor Darr did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
 (By Roll Call)

CLOSED MEETING: 1) Consultation with Legal Counsel & 2) Investment of Public Funds

Vice Mayor Parker moved, seconded by Councilman Tewalt, that Council convene and go into Closed Meeting for 1) the purpose of consultation with legal counsel employed or retained by a public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(7) of the Code of Virginia and 2) the purpose of discussion r consideration of the investment of public funds where competition or bargaining is involved, where if made public initially, the financial interest of the governmental unit would be adversely affected, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)(6) of the Code of Virginia.

Vote: Yes – Funk, Parker, Tewalt and Sayre
 No – N/A
 Abstain – N/A
 Absent – Hrbek and Tharpe
 (Mayor Darr did not vote as there was no tie to require his vote)
 (By Roll Call)

Vice Mayor Parker moved, seconded by Councilman Tewalt, that Council certify 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 during 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 – Darr, Funk, Parker, Tewalt and Sayre
No – N/A
Abstain – N/A
Absent – Hrbek and Tharpe
(By Roll Call)

There being no further business, the Mayor declared the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

APPROVED:

Jennifer E. Berry
Clerk of Council