

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
IN REGULAR SESSION
April 14, 2009**

A regular session of the Winchester Common Council was held on Tuesday, April 14, 2009 in the Council Chambers, Rouss City Hall. President Jeffrey Buettner called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: President Jeff Buettner; Vice-Mayor Michael Butler; Councilor Evan Clark, John Hill, Milt McInturff, Les Veach and John Willingham; Vice-President Art Major; Mayor Elizabeth Minor (9)

ABSENT: None (0)

INVOCATION – In the absence of Chaplain Lewis, President Buettner led the citizens and councilors in a moment of silence.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Mayor Minor led the citizens and councilors in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 3, 2009 Special Meeting, February 28, 2009 Special Meeting, March 7, 2009 Special Meeting, and March 10, 2009 Regular Meeting

Mayor Minor moved to approve the minutes as presented. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Hill then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

REPORT OF PRESIDENT

- Public Hearing: AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.824 ACRES OF LAND AT 135 AND 137 LINDEN DRIVE (Map Numbers 149-2-A-3 and 4) FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LR) DISTRICT TO RESIDENTIAL OFFICE (RO-1) DISTRICT. The Comprehensive Plan calls for expansion of the RO-1 District on Linden Drive. RO-1 zoning yields up to 3.5 units per acre. RZ-09-02.

No citizens came forward to address Council concerning this issue and the President declared the public hearing closed at 7:02 p.m.

- Public Hearing: Request of Richard Bell on behalf of Adams-Nelson Management for a modification of conditions for existing conditional use permits for private community center use and office use greater than 2,000 square feet per floor at 403 South Loudoun Street (Map Number 193-1-H-1) zoned Residential Business (RB-1) District with Historic Winchester (HW) District overlay. CU-09-02

Margaret Riley of 6 West Cecil Street has owned her property for 11 and ½ years. Although she has not had cars towed, someone has parked in front of her driveway entrance every week. Several years ago when the event center first came up, she asked for permit parking through email but the request was not received because she was given the wrong email address. On March 17th, she came to the public hearing where Richard Bell said he would make sure the sandwich sign points to the parking lot between Cecil and Clifford. She took pictures less than two weeks ago of the sign placed right in front of the church with the arrow going down Cecil Street. The last time someone parked in front of her driveway, the lady got mad at her. She is asking for permit parking only on Cecil Street and on the block of Loudoun where the church is.

Charles Pine of 707 Kennedy Drive stated he has quite a bit of property in the area on Cecil Street. There is a real problem in that area. They bought a lot of land there to provide parking. That building was designed and built as a church. For certain services such as Easter, the citizens attending the Catholic Church would use all of the parking in the area including his lots. After the church moved, the new property owner put in a community center with events on Saturday and Sunday which was fine. Now you are changing the zoning to allow events at any time. Saturdays and Sundays are fine but unless people provide their own parking, you should not be changing the zoning. You are affecting people who have invested a lot of money and time in buying property that took years to do. It is not right for you to change the zoning on something that was built as a church. The church only has a little bit of parking in the back which is ridiculous for the amount of cars anyway. The church used our lots on the Saturdays and Sundays for events and that was fine. He does care about changing the zoning to where they can have events anytime. The owners knew they did not have a lot of parking when they purchased the building. He understands the application has to be reviewed every year by Council and that is fine but he does not think it should be changed because it will make it a real bad situation.

With no further citizens to speak, President Buettner closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

- Public Hearing: Request of Richard Oram and Debra Johnson on behalf of the Union Jack Pub & Restaurant for a conditional use permit for nightclub use at 101 North Loudoun Street (Map Number 193-1-B-10) zoned Central Business, B-1 District with Historic Winchester, HW District overlay. CU-09-01

No citizens came forward to address Council concerning this issue and the President declared the public hearing closed at 7:10 p.m.

- Public Hearing: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,750,000, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS.

No citizens came forward to address Council concerning this issue and the President declared the public hearing closed at 7:10 p.m.

- Public Hearing: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 27-10 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE BY CHANGING THE TAX RATE ON REAL PROPERTY FROM SIXTY-EIGHT CENTS (\$0.68) FOR EVERY ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) OF THE ASSESSED VALUE THEREFORE TO SEVENTY-SEVEN (\$0.77) FOR EVERY ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) OF THE ASSESSED VALUE THEREFORE.

No citizens came forward to address Council concerning this issue and the President declared the public hearing closed at 7:11 p.m.

President Buettner stated a miscommunication occurred at the Community Safety and Public Services Committee meeting regarding a public hearing. He asked if there were any citizens who would like the opportunity to speak to Council regarding the proposed sidewalk and street designs.

Nancy Murphy of 621 South Loudoun Street stated she and her husband own 7 properties in the historic district. She understands the need to level the sidewalks but sees no reason why the historic elements, level sidewalks and mature trees can't all coexist. The historic district is a unique and viable asset to Winchester and should be maintained as such with every effort made to preserve the

historic streetscape including the curbs, sidewalks, trees and houses. The historic district is a visual symphony to her. The varying textures and unique architectural features create a rhythm of building materials which include wood, stone, wavy glass, metal and bricks. It is the variation that makes the beautiful streetscape. The houses are not massed produced and she doesn't think Council should decide the sidewalks should all be identical. A concrete sidewalk throughout the historic district would be like a loud, monotone horn blowing through the symphony. The beauty of the streetscape would be lost. She is fine with the city's plan for the commercial locations that have a high volume of foot traffic but would ask Council to only require leveling in the residential neighborhoods. Please allow the historic bricks and limestone curbs to stay if the homeowner so chooses. The city plan is to remove all old bricks and curbs and store them in City Yards. There is no historical value to Winchester with these items in City Yards. The plan also calls for work to be done on the house side of the water meters. She shudders to think of a backhoe working up to her stone foundation. Please allow home owners to choose to take care of their own utilities from the meter to the house. As for the matter of bricks versus concrete, she understands the initial cost of concrete is less but when you consider the longevity of brick and the ease of repair, the brick option is less expensive in the long run. The houses in the historic district have been there 150-200 years, the bricks for 100 years and the mature trees for 60 years. The life expectancy of concrete is only 15-30 years. Please do not make decisions based on cost and time schedules. This is our only historic district you are discussing. As for the trees, the historic district has a lovely canopy of sycamores and maples. She asked at the tree forum how much ground surface area is required for a mature sycamore. She did not receive a specific answer but was told they would leave a larger tree well when able. In her research, she found out a tree requires 4 square feet of surface area for every inch of diameter expected at maturity. That is a 12x12 foot area for a 36 inch diameter tree. The city's proposed plan is to have either 4 inches of concrete with a brick strip or full brick with 4 inches of concrete underneath. This will not allow for water drainage to the trees except for a 2 inch weep hole every 5 feet. It is actually in the City Code, §30-24.1, that states it is unlawful to place stone or cement which shall impede the free entrance of water to the roots of any tree. She understands the trees belong to the city but she would still like to see them preserved along with the old brick sidewalks because they are vital to the historic streetscape. In conclusion, bricks, new or old, placed on properly prepared gravel and sand can be level and allow the trees to thrive and maintain the look of the historic district. On a side note, if the city does not install the center medians, the money saved there could be spent on the historic district.

Cheryl Crowell of 710 South Washington Street stated she would like to thank Frank Wright, President of Preservation of Historic Winchester, for his editorial in the Winchester Star today praising the services of the Board of Architectural Review. His comments directly translate to the Winchester Tree Commission, another talented group of citizens that are able to bring a trained set of eyes and a wide variety of expertise to benefit the urban tree canopy in Winchester. The reason this is important is that Winchester will need to rely on its tree canopy to serve its citizens in the years ahead. Trees are no longer just nice plants lining the streets, they have become necessary infrastructure that provide measurable services and benefits to the citizens that live and work in our urban environment. Our green infrastructure provides temperature moderation, air filtration, particulate removal, storm water attenuation, and other ecosystem services that equates in value to traditional infrastructure such as roads, buildings, and utilities. Unlike utilities, however, the longer trees grow in place, the more they appreciate in value and the greater are the services that they provide. It is for this reason that we should strive to do all that we can to promote the health and vigor of our street trees, both the beautiful old giants and those newly planted. Street trees grow in a challenging environment and there is no more challenging environment than the cement sidewalks and clay soil in downtown Winchester. Specifically, I am asking the city to adopt a more environmentally friendly approach to urban design as we begin the infrastructure improvement project to minimize damage to the root systems of existing trees and to engineer the soil in the root zones of trees that will be planted this year on Cameron, Piccadilly, and Braddock Streets to give the

trees the conditions they need to grow with vigor. Trees need more than good soil to live, however. Current proposed sidewalk replacement specifications are inappropriate in that they violate city Code. Section 30-24 states, “*It shall be unlawful for any person to place or maintain in a street or public place or grounds, any stone, cement or other substance with shall impede the free entrance of water and air to the roots of any tree.*” A new cement sidewalk that sits on top of the tree roots is contrary to both the letter and spirit of that law, even with a narrow brick insert running along the edge of the road. Insufficient infiltration will occur within that small band of bricks set tightly together to change the drainage characteristics of the proposed impervious sidewalk. There is a better solution. The Public Services Director stated at the Public Services Committee Meeting that the part of the contract dealing with sidewalk replacement allowed a number of options to be considered, and at least one is being presented for your vote this evening. She urged Council to consider another option, a 21st century solution, that uses pervious materials set on a crushed rock foundation to allow air, water and nutrients to infiltrate into the root zone while using the same or a slightly modified sidewalk design as each situation requires. A new sidewalk can be pervious, attractive, and cost effective and I urge you to allow Winchester’s sidewalk specifications to change to meet both the needs of the trees for a good place to grow and the needs of my fellow citizens for a safe and healthy urban environment.

Stacy Iden, Volunteer Services Resource Center Coordinator with Our Health Incorporated, stated the center has the privilege of affiliating with over 20 non-profit health and human service organizations to facilitate and coordinate volunteer services at the community level. They are here tonight to recognize the efforts of over 2,100 citizens in our community that dedicate their time and talents as volunteers. National Volunteer Week 2009 with the theme “Celebrating People in Action” honors those who dedicate themselves who take action to improve their communities. It is also about inspiring, recognizing and encouraging people to seek out imaginative ways to engage their communities to put themselves at the center of social change. To celebrate National Volunteer Week in Winchester, the non-profit organizations have partnered with 30 Old Town Winchester retailers and restaurants and are distributing Volunteer Discount Cards for a 15% discount during Volunteer Week. The local non-profit organizations wish to publically thank the participating businesses for supporting our volunteers. Thank you to the City of Winchester for recognizing our volunteers through a resolution designating National Volunteer Week; thank you to our community volunteers for their ongoing gift of time and talent; and thank you to the Old Town businesses for the support of local volunteerism.

Mayor Minor read the resolution honoring National Volunteer Week.

With no further citizens to speak, President Buettner closed the public hearings at 7:27 p.m.

6. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

6-1 FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Chairman Major presented the following:

- First Reading, by title: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTION 27-10 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE BY CHANGING THE TAX RATE ON REAL PROPERTY FROM SIXTY-EIGHT CENTS (\$0.68) FOR EVERY ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) OF THE ASSESSED VALUE THEREFORE TO SEVENTY-SEVEN (\$0.77) FOR EVERY ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) OF THE ASSESSED VALUE THEREFORE.
- Motion to approve a resolution in support of the submission of the 2009 Annual Action Plan for Housing and Community Development.

The motion was seconded by Mayor Minor than approved 6/3 with President Buettner, Chairman Major and Councilor Willingham voting in the negative.

- Motion to direct the Clerk of Council to prepare a Certificate of Appreciation for Vince DiBenedetto, Randy Kremer, Ken Reaves and Erica Truban as members of the Budget Committee.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

- Announce the term expiration of Jerry Partlow as a member of the Winchester Regional Airport Authority and direct the Clerk to advertise the vacancy. Mr. Partlow is not eligible for re-appointment.

6-2 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Chairman Butler presented the following:

- Second Reading, by title, for adoption: AN ORDINANCE TO REZONE 0.824 ACRES OF LAND AT 135 AND 137 LINDEN DRIVE (Map Numbers 149-2-A-3 and 4) FROM LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL (LR) DISTRICT TO RESIDENTIAL OFFICE (RO-1) DISTRICT. The Comprehensive Plan calls for expansion of the RO-1 District on Linden Drive. RO-1 zoning yields up to 3.5 units per acre. RZ-09-02

The motion was adopted by the affirmative roll-call vote of a majority of all members of the Common Council, the ayes and nays being recorded as shown below:

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Vice-Mayor Butler | Aye |
| Councilor Clark | Aye |
| Councilor Hill | Aye |
| Vice-President Major | Aye |
| Councilor McInturff | Aye |
| Mayor Minor | Aye |
| Councilor Veach | Aye |
| Councilor Willingham | Aye |
| President Buettner | Aye |

- Motion to approve the request of Richard Bell on behalf of Adams-Nelson Management for a modification of conditions for existing conditional use permits for private community center use and office use greater than 2,000 square feet per floor at 403 South Loudoun Street (Map Number 193-1-H-1) zoned Residential Business (RB-1) District with Historic Winchester (HW) District overlay. CU-09-02

Vice-President Art Major seconded the motion presented by Chairman Butler.

Councilor Willingham stated he will be abstaining from this vote.

President Buettner stated based on the citizen comments received earlier, he moved to strike the review portion of the modifications. *The motion was seconded by Vice-President Major then approved 8/0 with Councilor Willingham abstaining.*

The motion as amended was approved 8/0 with Councilor Willingham abstaining.

- Motion to approve the request of Richard Oram and Debra Johnson on behalf of the Union Jack Pub & Restaurant for a conditional use permit for nightclub use at 101 North Loudoun Street (Map Number 193-1-B-10) zoned Central Business, B-1 District with Historic Winchester, HW District overlay. CU-09-01

Vice-President Major moved to approve the conditional use permit. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham.*

President Buettner stated he will be abstaining from this vote.

The motion was then approved 8/0 with President Buettner abstaining.

- Announce the term expirations of Rhoda Kriz and Kim Dodd as members of the Winchester-Frederick County Tourism Board and direct the Clerk to advertise the vacancies. Ms. Dodd is eligible for re-appointment. Ms. Kriz is not eligible.

6-3 PUBLIC SERVICES

Chairman Veach presented the following:

- Second Reading, by title, for adoption: ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM REVENUE BONDS OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER, VIRGINIA, IN A PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,750,000, TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY’S WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS.

The motion was adopted by the affirmative roll-call vote of a majority of all members of the Common Council, the ayes and nays being recorded as shown below:

| <u>MEMBER</u> | <u>VOTE</u> |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Vice-Mayor Butler | Aye |
| Councilor Clark | Aye |
| Councilor Hill | Aye |
| Vice-President Major | Aye |
| Councilor McInturff | Aye |
| Mayor Minor | Aye |
| Councilor Veach | Aye |
| Councilor Willingham | Aye |
| President Buettner | Aye |

- First Reading, by title: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT SECTIONS 29-11 AND 29-13 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE PERTAINING TO AN INCREASE IN WATER AND SEWER RATES.
- Motion to approve a resolution providing for the issuance, sale and award of a Taxable Water and Sewer System Revenue Bond, Series 2009, of the City of Winchester, Virginia, in a principal amount not to exceed \$13,750,000, heretofore authorized and providing for the form, details and payment thereof.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Public Services Department to remove the traffic signal located at the intersection of Cork/Washington and convert to all-way stop.

Councilor Willingham moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Public Services Department to remove the traffic signal located at the intersection of Cork/Stewart and convert to all-way stop.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham.*

Mayor Minor stated she is still opposed to removing this traffic signal due to the volume of traffic and number of people crossing the street. It is an accident waiting to happen. She feels a left turn signal on Cork Street would help with the traffic.

The motion passed 8/1 with Mayor Minor voting in the negative.

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Public Services Department to remove the traffic signal located at the intersection of Washington/Piccadilly and convert to all-way stop.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham.*

Vice-Mayor Butler stated there seems to be a lot of traffic going in many different ways at this intersection. He does not have a good feeling about converting it to an all way stop. This is an entrance into the city where people could get confused and it needs to stay a traffic light.

Councilor McInturff stated he agrees with Mr. Butler about the amount of traffic there now even though it may change with the two way traffic. If approved, he would like to staff to look at the intersection on a regular basis and report back to Council.

President Buettner stated he thinks the 4 way stop will be more efficient.

Mayor Minor stated the intersection has a lot of traffic where people are not sure where they are headed.

Chairman Veach directed Public Utilities Director Perry Eisenach to report back to Council in six months.

The motion passed 6/3 with Mayor Minor, Vice-Mayor Butler, and Councilor McInturff voting in the negative.

- Motion to approve a resolution authorizing the Public Services Department to remove the traffic signal located at the intersection of Boscawen/Kent and convert to all-way stop.

Councilor Clark moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the replacement design for existing brick sidewalks on Cameron, Braddock and Piccadilly Streets with a combination brick/concrete sidewalk and give property owners the option to pay the difference if they want an all-brick sidewalk.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the design for existing brick sidewalks. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark.*

Councilor Willingham asked about the cost difference for pervious concrete. Mr. Eisenach stated it would depend on the material used and the quantity. Staff would like to use some of the materials in a test area before doing a whole project to see if the city would be happy with the product.

Chairman Veach asked if Mr. Eisenach had a response regarding the flow to the trees. Mr. Eisenach stated the brick will be laid on a gravel base. Staff fully plans to work with the City Arborist and the Tree Commission when doing the project to make the tree beds as large as possible for each location.

Chairman Veach asked about the removal of trees. Mr. Eisenach stated some will be removed but approximately 100-150 trees will be planted which is far more than the number removed.

Vice-President Major asked City Attorney Anthony Williams if there was any possibility of violating our own ordinance. Mr. Williams stated the legislation is not applicable to the city because they are city owned trees. While the city is not legally bound, the citizens could hold us to the same standard we hold them to.

Councilor Willingham asked that more pervious materials be used in future bids.

The motion was then unanimously approved by voice-vote.

- Motion to approve the replacement design for existing sidewalks in front of City/Public owned facilities with a combination brick/concrete sidewalk.

Councilor Willingham moved to approve the design for existing sidewalks in front of City/Public owned facilities. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the replacement design for intersections in the core downtown area with all brick sidewalks at each corner.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the design for intersections in the core downtown area. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the replacement design for existing concrete sidewalks in the Historic District with a combination brick/concrete sidewalk and give property owners the option to pay the difference if they want an all-brick sidewalk.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the design for existing concrete sidewalks in the Historic District. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the replacement design for existing limestone curbs as recommended per sub-committee.

Mr. Eisenach stated the sub-committee walked the entire area to view the limestone curbs last Thursday. In an effort to recognize the historical significance, the recommendation is to pull the curb up and save as much of it as possible to use in a future project designated by Council.

Councilor McInturff stated the amount of curb that could be saved is unknown based on the amount that is visible and what is not visible. Colony Realty made a request to keep as much of it as possible.

Chairman Veach asked if the representative from the Preservation of Historic Winchester or the Board of Architectural Review have a recommendation on where to use it in the future. Mr. Eisenach stated they did not.

Mayor Minor asked if the curbs will break up easily when removed. Mr. Eisenach stated it is inevitable that some will break because of age. Caution will be used in the removal process but all of it will not be able to be reused

Mayor Minor stated there might be less than there is currently and recommended keeping the limestone where it is since the curbs are a part of history. She expressed her concern that there would not be enough to put anywhere else if the curbs are removed.

Vice-President Major asked if any area of the curb is unsafe and needs to come up. Mr. Eisenach stated some areas are jagged and uneven which could be a safety issue for people getting out of vehicles.

Vice-President Major stated his two options would be to ask the property owners if they want to keep it or not or to leave the curbs in place.

Councilor Willingham questioned the downside of leaving the curb in place. Mr. Eisenach stated some of the curb is in bad shape and has cracked off. Also, there are areas where limestone curb is next to a piece of concrete.

Mayor Minor stated it is okay that it is not perfect. It gives it character.

President Buettner stated he wants to keep the curb in place but staff will need to make a determination if it is unsafe.

Mayor Minor moved to keep the limestone curb in place except where dangerous. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the installation of center medians at select locations on Cameron Street that do not limit access to large parking areas.

Vice-Mayor Butler expressed his concern over the logistics of the turns and Fire and Rescue operations but he likes the aesthetics.

President Buettner stated he keeps weighing the concerns from Fire and Rescue with the safer traffic flow.

Councilor Willingham suggested installing four medians instead of the proposed eight.

President Buettner recommended keeping the medians in squattier areas instead of near multiple story buildings.

Councilor Willingham moved to install four medians. *The motion was seconded by Mayor Minor.* Vice-President Major asked how the project would look with 4 medians. Mr. Eisenach stated more medians could be installed at a later date but it will not be as cost effective as when the streets are torn up. He would recommend installing the medians in front of BB&T, City Hall, past the high rise and big parking lot, and a small one on the other side of Cork Street.

Councilor Willingham's motion to install 4 medians passed 7/2 with President Buettner and Vice-Mayor Butler voting in the negative.

- Motion to approve the modification design for the intersection of North Loudoun/North Cameron with a partial raised median and guardrail that would restrict northbound traffic on North Loudoun through the intersection.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the modification design for the intersection of North Loudoun and Cameron Street. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

6-4 COMMUNITY SAFETY AND SERVICES

Chairman Minor presented the following:

- Motion to approve resolution honoring National Volunteer Week.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Vice-President Major then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve a resolution honoring Emergency Medical Services Week.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to approve the resolution. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to approve the reclassification request of Senior Codes Compliance Inspector to Senior Codes Compliance Inspector/Police Officer III.

Mr. Godfrey stated when the reclassification was recommended, the intent was to keep the position at the same pay grade. In order to keep it at a pay grade of 18, the reclassification would be for a Senior Codes Compliance Inspector/Police Officer II instead of a Police Officer III.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to amend the reclassification to a Police Officer II. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark.*

Vice-President Major expressed his concern that the reclassification has not been thought all the way through and stated he will not be supporting the motion.

Councilor McInturff agreed with Mr. Major and recommended taking more time to look at the proposal further.

President Buettner moved to table the reclassification proposal. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to reappoint Larry Omps as a member of the Juvenile Detention Commission to a four year term ending December 31, 2012.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to approve the reappointment of Mr. Omps. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to appoint Richard Ridgell as a member of the Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals to a five year term ending June 30, 2013.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the appointment of Mr. Ridgell. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Willingham then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Announce the term expirations of Frank Loy, Sammy Payton, Delbert Sibert, Jr., and Charles Worthington, Jr. as members of the Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals and direct the Clerk to advertise the vacancies. Mr. Loy, Mr. Payton, Mr. Sibert, and Mr. Worthington are eligible for re-appointment.
- Announce the term expiration of Perry McAlister as a member of the Lord Fairfax Emergency Medical Services Council and direct the Clerk to advertise the vacancy. Ms. McAlister is eligible for re-appointment.

6-5 HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

Chairman Willingham presented the following:

- Motion to appoint Brooke Herndon as a member of the Northwestern Community Services Board to a three year ending December 31, 2011.

Vice-Mayor Butler moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Herndon. *The motion was seconded by Vice-President Major then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to appoint Betty Curtis as a member of the Social Services Advisory Board to an unexpired four year term ending March 31, 2011.

Councilor Evan Clark moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Curtis. *The motion was seconded by Councilor McInturff then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Motion to direct the Clerk of Council to prepare a Certificate of Appreciation for the service of Dr. Glenn Burdick as a member of the Lord Fairfax Community College Board.

Vice-President Major moved to approve the preparation of the certificates. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

- Announce the term expirations of Velma Whitmire, Melvin Thomas, and Randolph Bryant as members of the Winchester School Board and direct the Clerk to advertise the vacancies. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Bryant are eligible for re-appointment. Ms. Whitmire is not eligible.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- Report of the Mayor.

Mayor Minor stated this week is dedicated as honoring National Public Safety Telecommunications. In the City's 9-1-1 center, 15 professional staff are trained to answer your emergency. 24 hours a day, 365

days a year, this dedicated team dispatches police or fire and rescue personnel to aid you in your most vulnerable time. A highly stressful career, we honor our staff and thank them for the great work they do. She asked all of Council to stop by the Emergency Communications Center and thank the employees for all of the work they do.

Mayor Minor announced April is National Child Abuse Prevention month. She said every child is precious and deserves to grow up in a healthy, safe, nurturing environment free from the threats, dangers, and harmful effects of child abuse and neglect. Child abuse and neglect impacts our entire society and can cause traumatic psychological, emotional and physical harm which can lead to poor outcomes, detrimental behaviors and mental and physical illness for children and adults.

Mayor Minor stated the Blue Ribbon Campaign began over 17 years ago as a result of the efforts of one Virginia grandmother whose grandson was killed by his mother's abusive boyfriend. You can help reduce child abuse and neglect in Winchester by promoting the benefits that children receive from loving, supportive and encouraging homes. She encouraged all citizens to recognize that prevention starts with each of us. Wear a blue ribbon to bring attention to preventing child abuse. You can find a link to the official Blue Ribbon Campaign by visiting the City's website for more information.

Mayor Minor stated the Downtown Utility Infrastructure Improvements project that will replace the existing water, sewer, and storm infrastructure and the sidewalks on Braddock, Cameron, and Piccadilly in the downtown area has begun. However, the major excavation work will not begin until the Monday *after* the Apple Blossom Festival. You may have noticed some initial work that includes installing new connection valves and saw cutting existing asphalt. The asphalt will not be removed yet. The excavation work will begin May 4.

Again, she assured the citizens that there will be no work performed during the Apple Blossom Festival.

Mayor Minor stated the Doo Dah Day and Shenandoah Apple Blossom Festival events are annual rites of spring for our community. She asked everyone to enjoy the festivities and have a safe and Happy Bloom!

- Vice-President Art Major made a motion to convene into executive session for discussion of personnel matters and legal consultation. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved by voice-vote.*

Upon returning at 9:11 p.m., each member certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act were discussed during the closed meeting, and that only those public business matters identified in the motion which convened the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered during the closed meeting.

A roll call vote was taken, the ayes and nays being recorded as shown below:

| MEMBER | VOTE |
|----------------------|------|
| Vice-Mayor Butler | Aye |
| Councilor Clark | Aye |
| Councilor Hill | Aye |
| Vice-President Major | Aye |
| Councilor McInturff | Aye |
| Mayor Minor | Aye |
| Councilor Veach | Aye |
| Councilor Willingham | Aye |

President Buettner

Aye

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, President Buettner adjourned the meeting at 9:11 p.m.