

**MINUTES OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
June 17, 2014
Gymnasium – Frederick Douglass Elementary School**

DRAFT

PRESENT: President John Willingham; Councilor Evan Clark, John Hill, Corey Sullivan, and John Tagnesi; Vice-President Milt McInturff; Mayor Elizabeth Minor; Vice-Mayor Les Veach (8)

ABSENT: Councilor Jeff Buettner (1)

President Willingham called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2.0 Public Comments: (Each person will be allowed 3 minutes to address Council with a maximum of 10 minutes allowed for everyone)

Rick Brown of 1025 Armistead Street in the Meadow Branch subdivision spoke in opposition of a four lane road due to the possibility of vehicles speeding through the neighborhood. He would like a bike path and a community that respects the neighborhood. He expressed his concerns about the safety of the current neighborhood children and any future children in the neighborhood.

George Henzel of 1539 Meadow Branch Avenue spoke in opposition of having 4 lanes on Meadow Branch due to the speeders and the safety.

Bruce Santilli of 1937 Sully Court spoke in favor of having the meetings at the schools.

3.0 Items for Discussion:

3.1 Presentation: Virginia First Cities Activities & Legislative Priorities Update

Kelly Harris-Braxton, Executive Director of Virginia First Cities, presented an update on what is happening at the state level with VFC and a review of the policy changes and programs that VFC had an impact on including at-risk funding for schools, the street maintenance payment policy, and the funding for primary extension roads.

Jim Regimbal, Financial Analyst for VFC, presented an update on the state budget that was adopted last Thursday and the impacts cities can expect.

3.2 Motion to authorize the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Winchester Public Schools regarding unused funds

Finance Director Mary Blowe presented the MOU to provide a more effective way to handle the School funds at the end of the fiscal year. She stated this will allow any unspent funds to revert back to the city. The auditor will come in and let the City know how much it is and then that amount will be given back to the Schools in the assigned Schools CIP fund through a journal entry.

Mayor Minor moved to forward the MOU to Council. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Hill then unanimously approved 8/o.*

3.3 Presentation: History of Meadow Branch Avenue

Planning Director Tim Youmans provided a background history on Meadow Branch Avenue and the plan to move forward. He stated the anticipated features for Meadow Branch Avenue remain the same including a 4 lane divided urban parkway, a low speed limit of 25 mph, a higher volume of traffic, a prohibition on truck traffic, and multiple stop signs at side streets. The alignment of the road will need to change with the new school. A public input session will be held in August.

3.4 O-2014-25: AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT SECTIONS 14-169 OF THE WINCHESTER CITY CODE PERTAINING TO ABANDONED VEHICLES

Police Chief Kevin Sanzenbacher presented the ordinance to change City Code to comply with the current State Code and allow the department to remove abandoned vehicles.

Councilor Hill asked how much time an owner would have before the car is sold. Chief Sanzenbacher stated they would have 15 days and that process would be handled by the Department of Motor Vehicles, not the police department.

Councilor Clark asked if the definition of abandoned car would include those who have parked their car on the street while on vacation. Chief Sanzenbacher stated guidelines that will include such items as being illegally licensed or receiving a complaint on a vehicle will need to be created.

Vice-President McInturff asked about vehicles parked in a yard that are not properly licensed. City Attorney Anthony Williams stated if it is on private property, it would be a zoning issue not a police issue.

Vice-President McInturff moved to forward O-2014-25 to Council. *The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Veach then unanimously approved 8/o.*

3.5 R-2014-28: Resolution – Authorization to apply for and accept the proceeds of the State Homeland Security Grant Program 2014

Emergency Management Coordinator Lynn Miller presented the request to apply for funding to purchase equipment to enhance and complement the communications project. He stated the deadline for the application is June 25, 2014.

Mayor Minor moved to forward R-2014-28 to Council. *The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Veach then unanimously approved 8/o.*

4.0 Executive Session

- 4.1** MOTION TO CONVENE IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §2.2-3711(A)(7) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING LEGAL ADVICE AND STATUS UPDATE FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY AND LEGAL CONSULTATION REGARDING THE SUBJECT OF SPECIFIC LEGAL MATTERS REQUIRING THE PROVISION OF LEGAL ADVICE BY THE CITY ATTORNEY AND MATTERS OF ACTUAL OR PROBABLE LITIGATION AND PURSUANT TO §2.2-3711(A) (7) OF THE CODE OF VIRGINIA FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF INFORMATION REGARDING THE SUBJECT OF THE EMPLOYMENT, ASSIGNMENT, APPOINTMENT, AND PERFORMANCE OF SPECIFIC PUBLIC OFFICERS APPOINTEES, AND EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF WINCHESTER INCLUDING THE APPOINTMENT OF OR PROSPECTIVE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO CERTAIN BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.

Council did not convene into Executive Session.

5.0 Monthly Reports

- 5.1** Police Department

6.0 Adjournment

Mayor Minor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. *The motion was seconded by Councilor Clark then unanimously approved 8/o.*