

The second regular April Meeting of City Council was held on April 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Woodrow Wilson School, 1005 North Main Street, Danville, Virginia. The following Council Members were present: L. G. "Larry" Campbell Jr., John B. Gilstrap, Alonzo L. Jones, Vice Mayor T. David Luther, Gary P. Miller, Albert K. "Buddy" Rawley Jr., Mayor Sherman M. Saunders, Fred O. Shanks III, and Adam J. Tomer (9).

Staff Members present were: City Manager Joseph C. King, Deputy City Manager David A. Parrish, City Attorney W. Clarke Whitfield Jr. and City Clerk Susan M. DeMasi.

Other Staff Members present were: Finance Director Barbara Dameron, Budget Director Cynthia Thomasson, Director of Public Works Ric Drazenovich, Chief of Police Philip A. Broadfoot, Fire Chief David Eagle, Director of Community Development Earl Reynolds, Management Analyst Amanda Paez and Public Works Administration Division Director Barry Doebert.

Mayor Saunders presided.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Member John Gilstrap offered the Invocation and Keaira Gunter, a student at Woodrow Wilson School led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Saunders read a Proclamation Designating Woodrow Wilson Magnet School for Classical Arts as an Inspirational Shining Star in the Danville Public Schools Constellation and presented the Proclamation to Jocelyn R. Fitzgerald, Principal of Woodrow Wilson School. Ms. Fitzgerald welcomed Mayor Saunders and asked that the teachers, parents, staff and students stand and be recognized.

David A. Parrish, Assistant City Manager gave an introduction and explanation of the Safe & Sound Neighborhoods Program. He then introduced Chief of Police Philip A. Broadfoot who discussed how the Police Department has been working within the focus area. Chief Broadfoot reviewed the arrests that have been made and the impact in the neighborhood. Chief Broadfoot also noted they were very pleased with how the program is going and will continue using the Street Crimes Unit through the end of October. They will then evaluate, and possibly move into another targeted area.

Ric Drazenovic, Director of Public Works discussed how Public Works reallocated resources slightly and focused on the target area with code enforcement. They removed 45 abandoned vehicles, 145 inoperable vehicles, 23 hazardous trees and cleaned up 102 illegal accumulation areas. Sanitary and sewer crews cleaned sanitary sewers, storm drains and culverts throughout the area. Litter crews at one location cleaned up 2 ½ tons of trash, 1000 lbs. scrap metal and 200 tires. Public works has also repaired curb and gutters, performed tree trimming and road resurfacing throughout the area.

Earl Reynolds, Director of Community Development, noted they had partnered with the Redevelopment and Housing Authority and mailed out 122 notices to rental property owners in the Safe and Sound Neighborhood, informing them that the Housing Authority had additional project based Housing Choice Vouchers available, hoping these owners would join the program. Community Development has performed home rehabs and emergency repairs and has a waiting list for additional repair work. They are continuing to work with

citizens in the White Rock neighborhood and have a public hearing at White Rock Baptist Church on Wednesday to review and discuss the proposed 2011-12 Community Block Grant Program.

COMMUNICATION FROM VISITORS

Mayor Saunders extended a welcome to all visitors and thanked the citizens for welcoming Council to their community.

Mayor Saunders recognized Maxine Jackson, 700 Cherry Lane. Ms. Jackson questioned whether there were plans for updating homes located on East Thomas, Cherry Street and Plum. She also questioned if there are organizations or funding for seniors who wanted to update their property but cannot afford to do so. She mentioned that citizens are interested in additional lighting on Cherry Street.

Mayor Saunders recognized Sharon McClearn, 121 Colonial Court, #2C, asked Council what can be done or what the community can do to help the people in the area affected by high utility bills.

Mayor Saunders recognized Mr. Floyd Suthphin, who thanked the City for their efforts to keep the community safe. He noted the City had a very serious drug problem and the City needed to help the addicts in order to help the community.

Mayor Saunders recognized Ms. Connie Anderson who stated she wrote a letter to the editor which she read to Council. Ms. Anderson expressed her concern for people who do not have housing, jobs and cannot afford high utility bills. Ms. Anderson noted that everyone needs to get involved to help these people.

Mayor Saunders recognized Pastor Alfonso Tate, who thanked council members for coming to the neighborhood. Pastor Tate stated he was working at Campbell Street Park and would like to have some type of program during the summer for the youth. He noted he already had some funding and wanted some direction.

MINUTES

Upon Motion by Council Member Miller and second by Council Member Campbell, Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting and the Work Session held on April 5, 2011; and minutes for the Special Joint Work Session with the Danville Airport Commission held on April 12, 2011 were approved as presented. Draft copies had been distributed prior to the Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC HEARING – AUTHORIZING LEASE AGREEMENT LAKES MEDIA – THIRD AVENUE RADIO TOWER

Mayor Saunders opened the floor for a Public Hearing to consider Authorizing a Lease Agreement with Lakes Media, LLC for the Placement of Telecommunication Antennas and Equipment on the Third Avenue Radio Tower. Notice of the Public Hearing was published in the Danville Register and Bee on April 5 and April 12, 2011.

No one present desired to be heard and the Public Hearing was closed.

STATEMENT OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

I, **Fred O. Shanks III**, do hereby state that I have a conflict of interest regarding the resolution approving and authorizing the execution of a Lease Agreement with Lakes Media, LLC for the Placement of Telecommunication Antennas and Equipment on the Third Avenue Radio Tower listed as agenda item VIII (A). Therefore, pursuant to the State and Local Government Conflict of Interest Act, Virginia Code Section 2.2-3112, I must abstain from voting on this agenda item.

Witness my signature this the 19th day of April, 2011.

s/Fred O. Shanks III

Vice Mayor Luther **moved** adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-04.05

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH LAKES MEDIA, LLC, FOR THE PLACEMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATION ANTENNAS AND EQUIPMENT ON THE CITY'S THIRD AVENUE RADIO TOWER.

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Jones.

The Resolution was carried by the following vote:

VOTE: 8-1
AYE: Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller,
Rawley, Saunders, and Tomer (8)
NAY: Shanks (1)

BUDGET AMENDMENT – FY 2011 – VIRGINIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Tomer and **second** by Council Member Shanks, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-04.01

An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Appropriation Ordinance by Increasing Revenue from Virginia Economic Development Program (VEDP) in the Amount of \$500,000 for Engineering on the Mega Park and Appropriating Same.

was presented by its **First Reading**, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

BUDGET AMENDMENT – FY 2011 –VIRGINIA WIRELESS E-911 SERVICES BOARD

Upon **Motion** by Council Member Jones and **second** by Council Member Gilstrap, an Ordinance entitled:

ORDINANCE NO. 2011-04.02

An Ordinance Amending the Fiscal Year 2011 Budget Appropriation Ordinance to Increase Revenues for a Grant from the Virginia Wireless E-911 Services Board for the Purchase of a VoIP Phone System for the Emergency Services Department.

was presented by its **First Reading**, as required by City Charter, to lie over before final adoption.

CONSIDERATION - APPROVAL OF EMPLOYMENT SEVERANCE BENEFITS

Council Member Campbell **moved** adoption of a Resolution entitled:

RESOLUTION NO. 2011-04.06

RESOLUTION APPROVING EMPLOYMENT SEVERANCE BENEFITS

The Motion was **seconded** by Council Member Miller.

The Resolution was carried by the following vote:

VOTE:	9-0
AYE:	Campbell, Gilstrap, Jones, Luther, Miller, Rawley, Saunders, Shanks and Tomer (9)
NAY:	None (0)

COMMUNICATIONS

City Manager Joe King noted how happy they were to be here and appreciates the help of staff to set up for the meeting. A special thanks to Mark Aaron for the special effort it takes to put this together and David Parrish for coordinating this meeting.

City Attorney noted it took a long time to finally come home – he attended Kindergarten at Woodrow Wilson, and his teacher was Mrs. Travis who is now Diane Mimms who works with his children at First Tee.

ROLL CALL

Council Members all thanked Ms. Fitzgerald and her staff and students for their hospitality and for hosting the City Council this evening. They also thanked Superintendent Sue Davis and her staff and for the presentation on the school budget this evening.

Council Member Shanks thanked all the members of the community who came tonight. The City is facing some challenging times, and it was great to see the numbers of people who showed up. Mr. Shanks noted that May 15, 16, and 17 is Festival in the Park and also wants to encourage everyone to take every opportunity to communicate their concerns to each member of council regarding the budget.

Mr. Tomer noted that Woodrow is a success story and we should all be proud of it. He had the opportunity to meet with citizens at the Westover Library Branch and read a letter to council from a young girl regarding the closing of the Westover branch. Mr. Tomer noted he would not vote for a budget that includes closing the Westover library.

Council Member Campbell thanked the citizens of Danville for their participation at tonight's meeting and asked that they continue to be involved in the political aspects of our community.

Council Member Gilstrap thanked the City employees for the outstanding job on Safe and Sound Neighborhoods and the difference it has made in the area. Mr. Gilstrap noted that May 7th is Art on Main, and Festival in the Park the following weekend.

Council Member Jones recognized the students wearing leadership badges and commented to Ms. Fitzgerald and the entire staff that the school looks fantastic. Mr. Jones also recognized Pastors Tate, Howerton, Coles and Bridgeforth and thanked them for their involvement in the community.

Vice Mayor Luther noted the last time he was on this stage was 55 years ago to get his diploma; and also thanked the students for greeting them tonight.

Council Member Miller thanked the citizens for coming out tonight and noted that they need citizen input about the budget. Dr. Miller also asked that prayers and thoughts go out for the people of Virginia, who had a terrible week with the bad weather.

Council Member Rawley thanked the students for welcoming Council and the gentleman who showed him around. Mr. Rawley noted he played basketball when this was a gym 48 years ago; Robert E. Lee and Woodrow Wilson had some tough games in here.

Mayor Saunders thanked Ms. Fitzgerald and her staff, students and school board for having Council at Woodrow tonight. This is the first time in 15 years Council has had a meeting offsite, and they look forward to doing it again. Mayor Saunders noted that he was very pleased to bring you your government, and appreciates comments and questions and they will be responded to. Thanks to all City employees for their hard work. Also, a reminder that tonight's meeting can be seen on River City TV tomorrow night.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK