

WAYNESBORO, VIRGINIA

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES



Council for the City of Waynesboro, Virginia held a Regular Business Meeting on Monday, January 11, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. via “Zoom” with Council members participating remotely due to the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor’s Executive Order on social distancing:

- PRESENT: Council Members: Bobby Henderson, Mayor
 Lana Williams, Vice Mayor
 Bruce Allen, Council member
 Terry Short, Jr., Council member
 Sam Hostetter, Council member
- City Staff: Mike Hamp, City Manager
 Jim Shaw, Deputy City Manager
 Julia Bortle, Clerk of Council
 Cameron McCormick, Finance Director
- Counsel: Melisa Michelsen, Esq., Litten & Sipe LLC
- ABSENT: None

CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor opened the meeting and reviewed the process for citizens to comment via email and telephone during the public hearing and the citizen comment periods.

BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

Council member Allen moved to adopt the Business Meeting Agenda. Having been seconded and with no objections, **the Business Meeting Agenda was adopted 5:0 by voice vote and a show of hands:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Allen moved to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented. Having been seconded and with no objections, **the Consent Agenda was adopted 5:0 by voice vote and a show of hands:**

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

- a. Council Meeting Minutes: Minutes from the December 14, 2020 Regular Business Meeting.

MATTERS FROM THE MAYOR

The mayor thanked the Economic Development Department staff and volunteers for their distribution of COVID-19 relief funds to City businesses. The City Manager will make a presentation to City Council and citizens at a future meeting.

He thanked the street crews for their dedicated work during inclement weather and for following safety protocols when working in close proximity.

He addressed the emails and letters received from citizens requesting the removal of a board member because of a social media posting disparaging another citizen, and he asked staff and the City Council to examine the relative Code sections and documents to determine the criteria by which Council appoints or removes individuals from various boards and commissions. Based on that information, it is not within the legal authority to remove a board or commission member because of what a citizen member posts about other citizens on social media.

MATTERS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council member Hostetter provided his monthly COVID update. He also spoke against the events that occurred at the Capitol last week, and he hopes everyone can condemn violence and find ways to work together in political matters.

Council member Allen asked Dr. Hostetter about the chances of contracting COVID after having it. He stated that there have been cases where people have contracted it a second time. He recommended people get the vaccine when available even if they have already had COVID-19. Council member Allen stated he agrees that people have a right to a peaceful protest and he stated that he hopes those who held the violent protests around the nation are prosecuted to the highest extent of the law.

Councilman Short spoke about an organization named Braver Angels who meet to discuss national topics and he shared their contact information on his webpage.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROCLAMATION

Council member Hostetter moved to adopt a proclamation naming February 2021 as Black History Month in the City of Waynesboro, Virginia. Having been seconded and with no objections, the proclamation was adopted 5:0 by voice vote and a show of hands:

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

PROCLAMATION (121-01)

WHEREAS, Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson, distinguished African American author, editor, scholar and historian, who is known as the "Father of Black History," founded the Association for the Study of African American Life and History in September 1915, and launched Negro History Month in 1926; and

WHEREAS, since 1976 every American president has proclaimed February as Black History Month; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's celebration is ""the Black Family: Representation, Identity, and Diversity"; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme reflects changes in how people of African descent in the United States view themselves, influence social movements on racial ideologies, and encourage the aspirations of the black community.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor of Waynesboro, Virginia, on behalf of the City Council, takes great pleasure in recognizing February, 2021 as

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

and urges all citizens to join in celebrating the accomplishments of African Americans during Black History Month, and encourages the people of Waynesboro to recognize the many talents, achievements, and contributions that African Americans make to their communities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Council transmit a copy of this resolution to the curator of the African American History Museum, Waynesboro, VA for appropriate distribution.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Waynesboro to be affixed this the 11th day of January, 2021.

CARES FUNDS AND UTILITY DISCONNECTIONS - PRESENTATION

The Deputy City Manager provided a report regarding Coronavirus Relief Funds for utility customers facing economic hardship caused by the pandemic and Governor Northam's moratorium on utility disconnection. House Bill 5005 places a moratorium on Utility Disconnects, develops repayment plans for eligible customers, and provides a relief from moratorium for service providers.

Council member Allen clarified that the program does not apply to all citizens, and the Counsel clarified the difference between the moratorium and the repayment plan.

RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZATION TO RECEIVE REAL PROPERTY

Council member Allen moved to adopt a resolution authorizing the City Manager and/or the Mayor to receive real property interests on behalf of the City of Waynesboro for the calendar year 2021. Having been seconded and with no objections, the resolution was adopted 5:0 on voice vote and a show of hands:

Mayor Henderson	Aye	Council member Allen	Aye
Vice Mayor Williams	Aye	Council member Short	Aye
		Council member Hostetter	Aye

**RESOLUTION ^(R-21-01)
AUTHORIZING ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY**

WHEREAS, City Council prefer that the City Mayor and/or the City Manager have the authority to acquire real property when it is in the best interest of the City.

