

*The "New River" City*

**10 Robertson St.**

**January 9, 2022**

**Radford, Virginia**

**Meeting Number 8 of Radford City Council, F.Y. 2021-2022**

The regular meeting of the Radford City Council was convened at 7:00 p.m. on December 12, 2022 in the Radford City Council Chambers, located at 10 Robertson Street Radford, VA. The Mayor of the City, Raymond David Horton, was present and presiding. Other members of City Council present were, Ms. Jessie Foster (remotely), Mr. Seth Gillespie, Mr. Bobby Davis, and Ms. Kellie Artrip.

Others present were as follows:

Mr. David Ridpath, City Manager

Ms. Jenni Goodman, City Clerk

Mr. Mike Bedsaul, City Attorney

**SUBJECT: REMOTE PARTICPATION for Ms. Foster**

**ACTION:** Ms. Foster stated she was in Aruba for a friend's birthday, Ms. Artrip made a motion to allow her to participate remotely, Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

**MINTUES APPROVAL:** Ms. Foster made a motion to approve the minutes for the November 14, 2022, Mayor Horton seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Ms. Foster, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

ABSTAIN: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Artrip

**MINTUES APPROVAL:** Ms. Artrip made a motion to approve the minutes for the December 12, 2022, Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

ABSTAIN: Mr. Gillespie

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

Mr. Gary Harris spoke to Council about the condition of the roads and need to pave Radford's streets.

Mr. Fleisher asked Council if they were aware of the COGEN proposal by Radford University.

Ms. Claudia Vanarsdale expressed her concerns with the condition of the trails as paths through Bisset Park, as well the fact many shade trees have been cut down recently.

Mr. William Ratcliffe, stated today is National Law Enforcement Officers day and that this is a special day for these individuals and their families.

**COUNCIL RESPONSE:**

Mayor Horton expressed his gratitude for our law enforcement personnel, and that the city is upgrading and repairing Bisset Park in sections and that Council is aware of the power discussion at Radford University.

Ms. Artrip stated that Council is committed to making sure the park is beautiful, the roads are repairable and the power plant discussion is on their radar. She also expressed her gratitude for the police department.

Ms. Foster thanked the community for bringing concerns to Council and for stepping up and showing up to express their concerns.

Mr. Gillespie echoed the rest of Council's Comments and thanks for bringing the issues to their attention so they can be addresses. The COGEN plant is an important issue for the City and the police department deserves more than day.

Mr. Davis echoed the above comments and thanked the community for coming out to allow Council the opportunity to get to know them and their concerns, he also thanked the police department and said he prays for them.

**Public Hearing:**

**SUBJECT: K&J Properties**

**SUMMARY:** K & J Properties had requested the vacation of three excess public right-of-ways to expand their property at 1925 Second Street to support the development of six townhomes. The right-of-ways include 12' of Second Street between Custis Street and Ingles Street, 15' of Custis Street between West Main Street and Second Street, as well as 5' of the alleyway between Custis Street and Ingles Street. The Application fees have been paid. K&J Properties has amended their application and removed the portion of the vacation that includes the 5' of alleyway.

City Council scheduled a public hearing for January 9, 2023 at its meeting on December 8, 2023. The hearing has been advertised as required. Following the public hearing, the next step in the process is to appoint a 3-member Board of Viewers to look at the request to vacate an area of right-of-way approximately .087 acres and make a recommendation on the vacation's impact to public convenience.

Mayor Horton Opened the public hearing at 7:21 p.m.

KJ Ford property developer outlines the project and the desire to develop and cleanup this property to add value to the city and community as a whole.

Mayor Horton Closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

\*Public Hearing was advertised as required.

**ACTION:** Ms. Artrip made a motion that Council appoint Jennifer Bondurant, Bart Castleberry, Bill Filcher to the Board of Viewers, Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**SUBJECT: Ordinance 1780**

**SUMMARY:** Jeffery Stump is proposing to construct 30 townhomes adjacent to Lovely Mount Drive. The 10.63 acres of property is zoned R-3 (Single Family Residential) and requires rezoning to R-4 (Multi-Family Residential) to permit the development. Balzer and Associates will serve as the agent and engineer for the project. The units are planned for subdivision and sale.

A Joint Public Hearing was held on November 14, 2022 pertaining to the request. Public concerns reflected the density of the development, stormwater runoff, parking sufficiency, traffic volume, roadway conditions and site ingress/egress. No action was taken following the public hearing pending a recommendation from the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission met on December 19, 2022 and recommended the approval of the rezoning request by Jeffery Stump to City Council. The vote was 6 affirmative votes with 1 abstention.

City staff, our consulting Engineer, as well as the project Engineer have reviewed and evaluated the concerns from the public hearing. No items appear to be significant and will be further addressed in the site plan process, if the rezoning is approved.

The City Attorney has prepared Ordinance #1780 for City Council consideration. To meet the requirements of public notice, a public hearing is required by City Council and can be accommodated on February 13, 2023.

**ACTION:** Mr. Gillespie made a motion to schedule a public hearing for February 13, 2023 Mr. Davis seconded that motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**SUBJECT: Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

**SUMMARY:** An appointment by City Council to the Beautification Commission is needed.

**ACTION:** Ms. Artrip made a motion to appoint Matthew Alberts to the Beautification Commission, Mr. Davis seconded the motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SUBJECT: Radford Transit**

**SUMMARY:** The Virginia Statewide Public Transportation Agency Plan (PTASP) for Small Public Transportation Providers is a comprehensive plan outlining the Safety Management Systems programs at fifteen small transit agencies throughout the Commonwealth.

The Federal Transit Administration requires that agencies receiving federal funding, develop a PTASP. The Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is the state agency responsible for developing the state-sponsored PTASP for small transit agencies. DRPT was primarily responsible for gathering input from each of the participating small transit agencies during the development, review, and update of the PTASP.

The PTASP is organized to provide general information on each agency, including its overall structure and services, the agency Safety Management Policy, Safety Risk Management program, Safety Assurance program and Safety Promotion program. Each section of the plan accurately portrays the current services and programs in place at Radford Transit.

City Council approved the plan at its meeting on April 20, 2020. The plan needs new ratification due to the change in our transit contract from NRVCS to RTW Management that occurred in July, 2022.

**ACTION:** Mr. Gillespie made a motion to approve the plan as presented, Ms. Artrip seconded that motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**SUBJECT: Appropriation Ordinance 1763.15-1763.20**

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.15 – Fire and EMS Department:**

The Fire and EMS Department plan to purchase equipment needed for “Mass Casualty Incidents” and in-house training. Equipment includes airway mannequins, supplies, traffic vests, communication pagers, storage bags, scoop stretcher and training arm. The cost of the equipment is \$30,000 and will come from the restricted “Four-4-Life” account designated for Emergency Medical Services operations.

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.16 – Radford Public Library:**

The Radford Public Library has received a grant from the Dorothy Louise Kyler Foundation in the amount of \$3,000. The funds will be used to expand the “Wonderbooks” collection in the Children’s and Young Adult’s section of the Library. No matching funds are required.

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.17 – Radford Public Library:**

The Radford Public Library received a \$3,000 private donation to enhance the Children’s and/or Teen area. The funds will be used to improve visual and audio equipment.

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.18 – Police Department:**

The City of Radford collects a fee to support the E-Ticket traffic costs per the Virginia Code. The revenue can only be used for specific purposes such as funding software, hardware and related equipment costs in the implementation of the electronic summons system. The Police Department has requested an Appropriation of \$19,697 to purchase new Mobile Data Terminals used for the E-ticketing system

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.19 – Police Department:**

The City of Radford has purchased 3 flock cameras that are installed throughout the City. The system is used to read license plates to identify stolen vehicles and stolen license plates. The

Virginia State Police has reimbursed the City an amount up to \$10,000 through its “Help Eliminate Auto Theft” (HEAT) program which assists local law enforcement agencies in the enforcement, prevention and education efforts related to motor vehicle theft.

**SUMMARY: Appropriation Ordinance #1763.20 – Litter Grant:**

The City of Radford has received a grant in the amount of \$8,850 from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality for F.Y. 2023. The funds will be used to support litter prevention and recycling efforts, as well as promotion of environmentally friendly activities and education. No matching funds are required. This is a considerable increase over our previous years funding of \$5,000 - \$6,000.

**ACTION:** Ms. Artrip made a motion to approve Appropriation Ordinance 1763.15-1763.20 as presented, Mr. Davis seconded that motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**DISPENSE:** Mr. Gillespie made a motion to dispense with the second readings, Mr. Davis seconded that motion.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton  
NAYES: NONE-0

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS:**

Mr. Ridpath spoke about National Law Enforcement Day and thanked our Police Department for all they do, he also welcomed the entire new council and stated staff looks forward to working with the group.

**COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Ms. Artrip asked Mr. Ridpath about the City’s ability to pave in house.

Mr. Gillespie thanked the community for coming out to the meeting and opportunity to serve he is looking forward to serving Radford. He also recognized the police department for National Law Enforcement Officer day.

Mr. Davis thanked the community for coming out and speaking to Council, we are here to serve you, so let us know what we can do.

Ms. Foster welcomed the new members and said we have lots of work ahead of us and I am excited to get started.

Mayor Horton seconded the comments made from his fellow council members and challenged the Council to join him for the Polar Plunge on February 25. He spoke about his excitement for Radford’s future.

Mr. Gillespie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m. seconded by Mr. Davis.

**VOTE:**

AYES: Mr. Davis, Mr. Gillespie, Ms. Foster, Ms. Artrip, Mayor Horton

NAYES: NONE-0

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Goodman, City Clerk