A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRISTOL, VIRGINIA, CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON MAY 14, 2019 AT 6:00PM, 300 LEE STREET, BRISTOL, VIRGINIA WITH MAYOR KEVIN MUMPPOWER PRESIDING. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE VICE MAYOR KEVIN WINGARD, ANTHONY FARNUM, WILLIAM HARTLEY, AND NEAL OSBORNE. CITY MANAGER/INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY, RANDALL EADS, AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TAMRYA SPRADLIN WERE ALSO PRESENT.

Mayor Mumpower asked for a moment of silence, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Mr. Hartley said that the Memorial Day service would be held on May 27th at noon in Cumberland Square Park. City Manager Randall Eads said that a joint meeting with the School Board would be held on May 30 in the School Board office.

Michael Pollard spoke about issues with trash collection and code violation issues. Jackie Nolphin spoke about the recent forum hosted by Virginia Organizing. Casey Almaroad spoke about school safety and accessibility issues. Victor Smith spoke about adding buttercups to the city ordinance about weeds.


Mayor Mumpower opened the public hearing. City Manager Randall Eads said that the city intends to repeal personnel policies that are contained in the Code of Ordinances with policies that would still require approval of council. Mayor Mumpower closed the hearing with no public comments made.

2. Consider a Public Hearing on the Sale of City-Owned Property at TBD Elbert Street.

Mayor Mumpower opened the public hearing. City Manager Randall Eads said that the city had received offers on two lots on Elbert Street at the end of the road. Mayor Mumpower closed the hearing with no public comments made.

3. Consider a Public Hearing on an Ordinance to Amend Chapter 70 of the City Code of Ordinances, Solid Waste.

Mayor Mumpower opened the public hearing. City Manager Randall Eads said that the Council had indicated they would like to see changes to the collection ordinance to clarify sections for citizens. Michael Pollard said that he hoped any revisions to the ordinance would include fair increases for all collections. Mayor Mumpower closed the hearing.

4. Consider Proclamation on National Travel and Tourism Week.

Mayor Mumpower read the proclamation.

WHEREAS travel has a positive effect on Virginia and the nation’s economic prosperity and image abroad.

WHEREAS travel impacts business productivity and individual travelers’ well-being.

WHEREAS travel to and within the U.S. provides significant economic benefits for the nation, generating more than $2.5 trillion in economic output in 2018, with nearly $1 trillion spent directly by travelers.

WHEREAS travel is among the largest private-sector employers in the U.S., supporting 15.7 million jobs in 2018 including 8.9 million directly in the travel industry and 6.8 million in other industries.

WHEREAS traveler spending directly generated tax revenues of $171 billion for federal, state and local governments, funds used to support essential services and programs.

WHEREAS the travel and tourism industry contributed $55.4 million to the Bristol Virginia economy, generated $2.6 million in state tax revenues and $1.6 million in local tax revenues and

WHEREAS international travel to the U.S. is the nation’s number one services export, and number two overall.

WHEREAS meetings, events and incentive travel are core business functions that help companies strengthen business performance, educate employees and customers and reward business accomplishments—which in turn boosts the U.S. economy. In 2018, domestic and international business travelers spent $327.5 billion.

WHEREAS leisure travel, which accounts for more than three-quarters of all trips taken in the U.S., spurs countless benefits to travelers’ health and wellness, creativity, cultural awareness, education, happiness, productivity and relationships.

WHEREAS travel is a pillar of economic growth, creating jobs at a faster rate than other sectors.

WHEREAS welcoming visitors from near and far always has been, and always will be, the enduring ethos of the travel industry and Bristol.

WHEREAS travel matters to Bristol.

Therefore, I, Mayor Mumpower, do hereby proclaim May 5-11, 2019 as National Travel and Tourism Week in Bristol, and urge the citizens of Bristol to join me and Discover Bristol in this special observance with appropriate events and commemorations.

Mr. Osborne made a motion to approve the proclamation which was seconded by Mr. Farnum. The motion carried by the following votes:

AYE: Farnum, Hartley, Osborne, Wingard, Mumpower.

Beth Rhinehart of the Chamber of Commerce thanked City Council for their support.

5. Discussion on School Funding and Other Long-Term Alternatives.

City Manager Randall Eads said that City Council members had discussed a $200,000 appropriation to the schools to begin safety and accessibility repairs, $100,000 of which would be provided in June 2019 and the rest would be provided in July 2019. He said that the May 30 meeting would include a discussion of the long-term options to address these issues.

Mr. Farnum and Mr. Osborne agreed that this was a good first step. Mr. Wingard said he had not heard any conversation about fixing the existing buildings and that everyone needs to realize that the City is in a difficult financial position. Mr. Farnum asked about building safety vestibules at each school with the initial appropriation. Dr. Perrigan described the process for starting the work at the schools.

6. Consider First Reading of the FY 2019-2020 Budget Ordinance.

City Manager Randall Eads went over the changes that were made to the recommended budget prior to the first reading, which included an appropriation to the Birthplace of Country Music museum, an increased appropriation to Discover Bristol, and funding for the Commonwealth Attorney’s office.

Nancy Marney said she thought the City needed to put away at least $1 million each year into a reserve fund.

Mayor Mumpower asked for the pleasure of council. Mr. Osborne made a motion for first reading of the budget by caption only which was seconded by Mr. Farnum.

Mr. Wingard said he did not support taking money away from building maintenance to fund outside agencies. Mayor Mumpower said that the City was not in a place to handle an economic downturn. Mayor Mumpower asked for a roll call. Council members made the following votes:
SECTION 3: That the annual budget heretofore presented to City Council by the City Manager as the same has been amended in the various workshops of the City Council and as the same is in its final form attached hereto, is hereby adopted by City Council and incorporated in this budget ordinance by reference pursuant to Section 10.04 of the City Charter.

SECTION 4: Upon the recommendation of the City Manager and approval of the City Council, the Chief Financial Officer may thereafter transfer a balance appropriated but unused for one purpose for the current fiscal year to another purpose or object for which the appropriations for said purpose or object for the current year have proven insufficient, even though that requires transferring said funds from one department of the City to another. The City Manager may transfer funds appropriated for Contingency purposes to other departments as the City Manager deems necessary. The Chief Financial Officer may, upon authorization of the City Manager, transfer funds between line items appropriated within the same department or office to meet unexpected obligations within the same department or office.

SECTION 5: This ordinance to take effect July 1, 2019, the best interests of the City requiring it.

7. Consider Approval of Offer Received for TBD Elbert Street.

City Manager Randall Eads said that an offer had been received for $15,000 for the two lots on Elbert Way. Mr. Osborne made a motion to accept the offer. Mr. Farnum seconded the motion. Mr. Wingard asked about the tax assessment of the two lots. Mr. Wingard asked that the city look at the list prices of all city-owned property for sale. Mayor Mumpower asked for a roll call vote.

AYES: Farnum, Hartley, Osborne, Wingard, Mumpower.

8. Consider Appointment to Virginia Highlands Community College Board.

Mr. Osborne made a motion that Beth Rhinehart be reappointed to the Virginia Highlands Community College Board, which was seconded by Mr. Hartley. The motion carried by the following votes:

AYES: Farnum, Hartley, Osborne, Wingard, Mumpower.


Chief Financial Officer Tamrya Spradlin presented a financial update for the quarter ending 3/31/19.

CONSENT AGENDA

10.1 Consider Approval of Minutes
April 16, 2019 Called Meeting
April 23, 2019 Regular Meeting

10.2 Consider a supplemental appropriation of $896,855 to the FY19 Budget per the Items Listed Below.

Animal Control
Appropriate the proceeds from a donation to animal control.
Expenditure 4-001-35010-6014 Operating Supplies & Materials $50
Revenue 3-001-18040-0001 Donations & Gifts $50

VDOT Reimbursed Maintenance
Appropriate additional VDOT state funding for FY19 for eligible street and highway maintenance expenditures.
Expenditure 4-001-41020-3310 Maintenance of Building & Property $300,000
Revenue 3-001-24010-0006 Street and Highway Maintenance $300,000

Parks & Recreation – Operations
Appropriate funds received from the sale of equipment to purchase needed equipment.
May 14, 2019

Expenditure 4-001-71010-8106 Operational & Construction Equip. $6,805
Revenue 3-001-18020-0005 Sale of Equipment $6,805

Clear Creek Golf Course
Appropriate funds received from the Membership Marketing Campaign to pay for the marketing program and related expenditures.
Expenditure 4-001-71040-3145 Professional Services-Marketing $90,000
Revenue 3-001-16065-0001 Membership & Green Fees $90,000

Capital Projects Fund – Lee Highway Widening Phase 2
Appropriate additional project expenditures due to the timing of the project. These expenditures are 100% VDOT funded.
Expenditure 4-009-95755-8112 Other Improvements or Construct. $500,000
Revenue 3-009-24030-0101 VDOT Lee Hwy Widening Phase 2 $500,000

10.3 Consider budget transfers for specific items listed below:
Capital Projects – Fleet Maintenance
Approve the transfer of budgeted funds from Public Works to Fleet Maintenance in the Capital Projects fund. These funds were originally appropriated to Public Works for the purchase of the new city fuel tank. This expenditure is more accurately charged to Fleet Maintenance for the purchase of the fuel tank.
Increase 4-009-41050-8112 Other Improvements $200,000
Decrease 4-009-41010-8101 Other Equipment $200,000

10.4 Consider purchase requisitions totaling $38,308.00.
Solid Waste Disposal Fund; Professional Services $19,900
Clear Creek Golf; Professional Services $18,408

Mr. Wingard made a motion to approve the consent agenda, which was seconded by Mr. Osborne. The motion carried by the following votes:

AYES: Farnum, Hartley, Osborne, Wingard, Mumpower.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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City Clerk

Mayor