A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BRISTOL, VIRGINIA, CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2019 AT 6:00PM, 300 LEE STREET, BRISTOL, VIRGINIA WITH MAYOR NEAL OSBORNE PRESIDING. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE VICE MAYOR BILL HARTLEY, ANTHONY FARNUM, KEVIN MUMPPOWER, AND KEVIN WINGARD. CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY, RANDALL EADS, AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TAMRYA SPARLING WERE ALSO PRESENT.

Mayor Osborne asked for a moment of silence, followed by the pledge of allegiance. Vice-Mayor Hartley congratulated the Bristol Pirates for their season. Mr. Mumpower thanked city staff for their work to increase the credit rating. Mayor Osborne mentioned the book called “It’s Bristol, Baby” that will be given to all children born in the city limits.

Mayor Osborne reviewed the guidelines for public comment. Nancy Marney encouraged council to say no. Jackie Nophiln spoke about school improvements.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Joint Proclamation with Bristol, TN to Proclaim September 15-21, 2019 as Child Passenger Safety Week and September 22, 2019 as Buckle Up for Life Day

Mayor Osborne read the proclamation:

WHEREAS, children are our future and it is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to keep America’s children safe; and WHEREAS, car seats are required by law for children traveling in motor vehicles; and WHEREAS, research analyzed by Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center shows that in the U.S., only 1 in 4 child car seats are properly installed; and WHEREAS, research shows when installed and used correctly, child safety seats decrease the risk of a fatal injury by 71 percent among infants, 54 percent among toddlers and 45 percent among children ages 4 to 8; and WHEREAS, parents and guardians must make sure that children, age 12 and under, always ride in the back seat, buckled up in properly installed child safety seats, and a rear facing child seat should never be placed in the front seat of a motor vehicle equipped with a passenger air bag; and WHEREAS, Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee encourage parents and caregivers to implement best practices for traveling safely with children; and WHEREAS, the Cities of Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee are committed to working closely with our partners and safety advocates, such as Buckle Up for Life to help make the kind of choices that will keep children alive and safe; and WHEREAS, children riding in the right seat for their age and size can be accomplished by a car seat inspection that ensures the safety of a child while traveling.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Neal Osborne and Margaret Fierabend the mayors of Bristol, Virginia and Tennessee do hereby proclaim the week of September 15-21, 2019 as Child Passenger Safety Week and the day of September 22, 2019 as Buckle Up for Life Day. We encourage all citizens to help reduce injuries and the tragic loss of life by buckling up themselves and their children – every trip, every time.

Mayor Osborne recognized people in attendance for the proclamation. Vice-Mayor Hartley made a motion to adopt the proclamation which was seconded by Mr. Farnum. The motion carried by the following votes:

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

2. Joint Public Hearing for Zoning Map Amendment Application #01-2019 - Long Crescent Road

Mayor Osborne opened the public hearing. Michael Pollard opened the public hearing for the Planning Commission. City Planner Sally Morgan reviewed the request from Long Crescent, LLC to rezone the above parcel from R1 to B3. Mr. Wingard disclosed that members of his family were also members of Long Crescent, LLC and that he had abstained from all conversations on the matter.

Linda Walden, Loretta Trayer, Roy Andes, Carolyn Alder, Jeff Wilson, Ken Sauls, Frankie Smith, Danny Wallace, Chris Horner, Logan Limburg, Dan Waterman, Pam Kerr, Becky Evenden, Catherine Thompson, Jon Wygal, Richard Robinson, Larry Kirksey, Candy Snodgrass,
September 10, 2019

Julie Thomas, Paul Thomas, Terry Kirksey, Diane Hager, Rachel Kaylor, Ms. Jeff Hodges, and Archer Parsons spoke against the rezoning. Katherine Evans, Meredith Massie, Linda Robey, Windy Ashley, Cody Calloway, and Todd Pruett signed up to speak but did not.

City Manager Randall Eads said that the Planning Commission would meet on September 16th to review the proposal. Mayor Osborne closed the public hearing. Michael Pollard closed the public hearing.

Mayor Osborne called for a ten minute recess.

3. Public Hearing Regarding the FY 18-19 CDBG Consolidated Annual Performance & Evaluation

Mayor Osborne opened the public hearing. City Manager Randall Eads said the public hearing was a requirement of the CDBG program. The public hearing was closed with no public comments made.

4. Presentation of Highlands Community Services performance contract.

Kathy Johnson, Chief Financial Officer of Highlands Community Services, presented information about the performance contract that defines the services provided to the citizens of Bristol, Virginia.

5. Initial Presentation and Review of Revised Zoning Ordinance

City Planner Sally Morgan said that the Planning Commission has worked on a revised zoning ordinance over the last two years to conform with the comprehensive plan which will require approval from council.

Nancy Marney spoke about using caution when revising the zoning ordinance.

Council discussed the revised zoning ordinance at length and expressed interest in a work session or joint session with the Planning Commission.

6. Approval of Performance Agreements

City Manager Randall Eads said that two performance agreements were presented for approval for two new Pizza Hut locations in the city. They would require a minimum capital investment of $2 million dollars and would receive a portion of the meals tax revenue as a rebate over the term of the grant.

Michael Pollard asked about the IDA vote which was 2-2 on the agreement and the declining percentage split used in the agreement. Ric Watts said he did not understand incentivizing a business that is already present in the market.

Mr. Farnum made a motion to approve the performance agreements which was seconded by Vice-Mayor Hartley. Mr. Wingard said he thought the city should slow down on incentives going forward. Vice-Mayor Hartley said he thought the percentage split structure would help the city when needed in the future. Mr. Mumpower said the city needs to get out of the business of providing incentives. Mayor Osborne said he supports a revision to the incentive policy in the future. Mayor Osborne asked for a roll call vote on the motion made by Mr. Farnum.

AYES: Farnum, Wingard, Hartley, Osborne.

NO: Mumpower.

7. Discussion of financing options for property acquisition.

City Manager Randall Eads asked for direction on the purchase of the old VEC building. Mr. Mumpower and Mr. Wingard said they did not support financing the building if the city has cash available. Vice-Mayor Hartley said the city would need cash on hand for moving expenses. City Manager Randall Eads said he thought there was a consensus of council to finance the building.

CONSENT AGENDA

Street Closure- First Baptist Church Fall Festival on Sunday September 29, 2019
September 10, 2019

Supplemental Appropriation of $793,327
Purchase Requisitions totaling $124,492.55

Vice-Mayor Hartley made a motion to approve the consent agenda which was seconded by Mr. Farnum. The motion carried by the following votes:

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

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

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City Clerk

Mayor