

Mayor & Council of Federalsburg
Workshop Meeting
Monday June 17, 2024
6:00PM

The Mayor & Council of Federalsburg held their regular monthly meeting on June 17, 2024 at 6:00 PM, in the Mayor & Council meeting room located at Town Hall. Those in attendance were Mayor Abner, Councilmembers Hammond, Sewell, James and Williamson, Town Manager Kristy Marshall, Town Attorney Carly Landolfi and members of the public were also present in the meeting room, as well as on Zoom.

Call to Order

Mayor Abner called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

A motion was made by Councilmember James, seconded by Councilmember Sewell to and unanimously passed by a zero of five to zero to amend the agenda to add a request for a letter of support from Zion Church for grant funding that they have applied for from an outside agency.

Public Hearing-Ordinance No. 2024-03 Adopting a General Fund Budget and Enterprise Budget for FY 2024-2025

After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Councilmember James, seconded by Councilmember Hammond and passed by a vote of four to one (James - Yay, Williamson - Nay, Sewell - Yay, Hammond - Yay, Abner - Yay) to amend the proposed Ordinance No. 2024-03 Adopting a General Fund Budget and Enterprise Budget for FY 2024-2025 by amending the tax rate of \$.94 cents per \$100, to \$.89 cents per \$100 of assessed real property value.

A motion was made by Councilmember Williamson and seconded by Councilmember James to adopt by a vote of four to one (James - Yay, Sewell - Yay, Williamson - Nay, Hammond - Yay, Abner - Yay) the amended Ordinance No. 2024-03 Adopting a General Fund Budget and Enterprise Budget for FY 2024-2025 establishing a tax rate of \$.89 cents per \$100 of assessed real property value and a tax rate of \$1.65 per \$100 on all commercial or business property and all railroad and utility property; adopting service and administrative fee for semiannual billings as adopted by Caroline County; establishing a quarterly waste collection fee in the amount of \$53.94 for commercial properties which receive waste collection service and for all residential properties

located within the corporate town boundaries; and establishing a \$10.00 per item charge for extra waste collection items.

Discussion - Lead Line Inventory Proposals

Attorney Lyndsey Ryan informed the Mayor and Council that the EPA and MDE are requiring the town to provide a lead line inventory that will be due in October 2024. An RFP was advertised and proposals were given by the following engineering firms: Rauch Engineering, GMB, Arrow and Engineering Design Technologies.

After a lengthy discussion, the Mayor and Council would like to invite the firms to the next Mayor and Council meeting on July 1st to discuss their proposals for the lead line inventory.

Discussion - Public Comment Policy

Attorney Lyndsey Ryan provided a copy of the Town of Greensboro's Public Comment Policy to the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg as a sample to use for discussion purposes in drafting their own policy.

Councilmember James thought that 3 minutes was a good amount of time for a resident to voice their comment. She believes everyone should be heard with no limits on people asking or commenting on the same topic.

Councilmember Sewell questioned if Greensboro allows the public to comment and ask questions.

Based on a lengthy discussion Attorney Lyndsey Ryan will amend the current policy and present it to the Mayor and Council for a motion to be made.

Discussion - Unity Day Committee

After a lengthy discussion about the formation of the Unity Day Committee, the following items were established; a list of committees that need to be formed will be shared online so the public may sign up with their name, address, committee they would like to participate in, and ideas for the Unity Day Celebration.

Applications and information will be distributed throughout the town at various businesses, Town Hall and will be posted on Facebook starting on June 18,2024. The application deadline will be July 15, 2024.

Discussion - Zion Church request for Letter of Support

Zion United Methodist Church has applied for grant funding from the African American Heritage Fund, and is requesting a letter of support for this grant. Councilmember James made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Sewell and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero approving the letter of support for Zion United Methodist Church from the Mayor and Council of Federalsburg.

Public Comment

Mr. David Morean, representing the FVFC, reported that 6 food trucks will be coming to the fire department on Wednesday, July 26, 2024. The next chicken barbeque will be on July 13th, 2024 from 10:00 am until sold out. The car show will be held on Saturday, June 29, 2024.

Mr. Morean reported that a statement was made at the last Mayor and Council meeting where a couple of Council Members took credit for getting the Law Enforcement Unity Tour to come to town. Mr. Morean stated that in fact, he himself had done the leg work to get the Unity Tour to come to Federalsburg.

Approval of the Previous Month's Minutes

Councilmember James made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Williamson and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero, approving the minutes from the June 3, 2024 Mayor and Council Regular meeting.

Mayor & Council Action Items

Councilmember Williamson: Reported the following:

- Commended the Parks and Recreation Committee for the Movie Night. He stated that it was very well attended.
- Asked about updates about the Brooklyn Road Project. Attorney Lyndsey Ryan stated that the RFP was ready and bids will be accepted in the near future.

Councilmember James: Reported the Following:

- Voiced her concern about one of the smoke shops being fined several times for selling to underaged minors and as a town how long do we allow this to continue.
- Would like the Mayor and Council to discuss the type of businesses and repetitive businesses being allowed to come into town.

- Would like the Mayor and Council to discuss the three town lots that a gentleman would like to purchase
- Voiced her concern if Chambers Dam broke and flooded that the current Emergency Plan is not valid and would like it corrected
- Asked about an update about a new ethics committee to be formed

Councilmember Sewell: Reported the following:

- Movie Night was a success.
- 5K run at the Marina Saturday June 22, 2024.
- Commended Parks & Rec. for the movie night

Council Member Hammond: Reported the following:

- Asked for clarification about the FVFC filling pools and where is the water they are using coming from

Mayor Abner: Reported the following:

- Parks & Rec did a great job with Movie Night
- Thanked the three churches and the Lions Club for their help at the Movie Night.
- Would like Public Works to wear the Bicentennial Neon Shirts to Public Events.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Councilmember James made a motion seconded by Councilmember Hammond and unanimously passed by a vote of five to zero to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sandra Smith, Town Clerk