The Appomattox Town Council held a Regular Council meeting on Monday, January 8, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Municipal Building, 210 Linden Street, Appomattox, Virginia with Mayor Conner, presiding.

Members present: Jane T. Allen, James J. Boyce, Sr., Claudia G. Puckette, Mary Lou G. Spiggle, and Timothy W. Garrett.

Absent: Nathan A. Simpson

Others: Carlton Duck, Alive Media; Kim Ray, Treasurer; R. Terry McGhee, Town Manager; Roxanne W. Casto, Clerk of Council; Jeff Elder, Director of Public Works; Christy Torrence, Office Manager and Charles Conrad

Mayor Conner called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Reverend Duck led the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Mayor Conner welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Scheduled Public Appearances:

None

Adoption of the Consent Agenda:

On a motion by Mr. Garrett, seconded by Ms. Spiggle, the Town Council voted to adopt the consent agenda as presented for January 8, 2024. All members present voting aye.

Motion carried 5-0.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

On a motion by Mr. Boyce, seconded by Mr. Garrett, the Council voted to write off FY 2024 uncollected balances, specifically $2591.42 for 2018 Personal Property taxes and $1,158.58 for 2020 Utility bills.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Allen – yes, Boyce – yes, Spiggle – yes, Garrett – yes, Puckette – yes. Motion carried 5-0.

On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Mrs. Puckette, the Council voted to reappoint Kenny Gobble to the Town of Appomattox Economic Development Authority for a four-year term beginning January 1, 2024. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

A discussion was held regarding the vacancies on the Town of Appomattox Economic Development Authority. Mr. McDearmon resigned effective immediately and Mr. Simpson does not want to serve after his term expires. Mr. McGhee will post the vacancies on the Town website.

On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Mr. Garrett, the Council voted to reappoint Steve Conner as a Town Representative on the Joint Board of Zoning Appeals for five (5) year term ending December 31, 2028. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Standing Committee Reports:

ARPA: None

Finance and Planning Committee: None

Physical Development Committee: None

Citizen Comment:

None

Town Manager’s Report:

In addition to his email sent on January 5, 2024, Mr. McGhee mentioned the following:

* The new website has been up since last week.
* There will be a public recognition ceremony on Friday, January 12 at 4:00 pm, celebrating Roxanne Casto’s retirement after 30 years of service to the Town.
* An update was given on the waterline project—it is moving along at 80-100 ft per day. The Cawthorne St issue with the road closure sign and the garbage truck will be addressed.
* Positive feedback was received regarding the Christmas luncheon.
* Jeff Elder is back to work.
* Nathan Harbin will be at the January workshop meeting.
* Suggests using Dominion 7 Architects for Town Hall renovations.

Closed Session:

On a motion by Mr. Boyce, seconded by Mrs. Puckette, Council voted to convene in Closed Session, pursuant to Section 2.2-3711(A)1, for the purpose of assignment, appointment, promotion, and performance or resignation of specific public officers, appointees, or employees of any public body, specifically being Appointee A and Employee B pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1).

ROLL CALL VOTE: Allen – yes, Boyce – yes, Spiggle – yes, Garrett – yes, Puckette – yes. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting was re-opened to the public.

Council Member Spiggle made the following motion:

To the best of each member’s knowledge, the only subjects just discussed or considered in the preceding closed meeting were those: (i) lawfully exempted from the FOIA Act’s open-meeting requirements and (ii) properly identified in the motion that convened the closed meeting, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3712(D).

The motion was seconded by Council Member Puckette and Council by the following recorded vote adopted the motion:

ROLL CALL VOTE: Allen – yes, Boyce – yes, Spiggle – yes, Garrett – yes, Puckette – yes. Motion carried 5-0.

On a motion by Ms. Spiggle, seconded by Ms. Puckette, the Council voted to appoint Christy Torrence as Interim Town Clerk beginning January 13, 2024. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Council Comments:

Mr. Boyce: Happy New Year and looking forward to 2024. Mrs. Casto has been a big blessing.

Ms. Allen: Happy New Year!

Mr. Garrett: Thank you to Mrs. Casto for putting up with the Council.

Ms. Spiggle: Thanked Mrs. Casto for doing more than her job description. It has been a wonderful situation.

Ms. Puckette: Thank you to Mrs. Casto.

N. Simpson: absent

Mayor Conner: Thanked Mrs. Casto for all of her assistance.

Adjournment:

On a motion by Mr. Garrett, seconded by Mr. Boyce, the Council voted to adjourn at 7:40 pm. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

Christy Torrence Richard C. Conner

Interim Clerk Mayor