MINUTES OF THE MEETING
SMYRNA TOWN COUNCIL
March 16, 2015

PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing was opened at 6:45 p.m. by Mayor Joanne Masten. Council members present were Regina I. Brown and John L. Embert III. Council members Andrea C. Rodriguez, Valerie M. White, Robert C. Johnson, and Anthony H. DeFeo were absent.

Also present were Town Manager David S. Hugg III, Chief Norman E. Wood, and Recording Secretary Valerie L. Heritage.

Mayor Masten said the public hearing is a Legislative Fact Finding Hearing regarding the annexation and zoning designation for 652 North Main Street that is owned by the State of Delaware

Mayor Masten asked if there was anyone present to speak this item. Suzanne Savery came forward and explained the reason for the request.

Mayor Masten asked if there was anyone present to speak against this item. No one came forward.

Mayor Masten closed the public hearing at 6:47 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Joanne Masten at 7:00 p.m. Council members present were Andrea C. Rodriguez, Valerie M. White, Regina I. Brown, Robert C. Johnson, and John L. Embert III. Councilman Anthony H. DeFeo was excused.

Also present were Town Manager David S. Hugg III, Chief Norman E. Wood, Attorney D. Barrett Edwards, and Recording Secretary Valerie L. Heritage.

Mayor Masten asked everyone to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Masten asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO PUBLISHED AGENDA

Mr. Hugg asked to delete item 10(g).

Councilwoman Brown made the motion to accept the agenda as amended. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman White and carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilwoman White made the motion to approve the regular Council minutes of February 17, 2015, March 2, 2015 and March 10, 2015, and the executive session minutes

of March 2, 2015 as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson and carried unanimously.

REPORTS

A. Bills & financial statement – Mr. Hugg said Council was sent the bank balance report last week.

B. Presiding officer – Mayor Masten said she had nothing this at this time.

C. Town attorney – Mr. Edwards said he had nothing at this time.

D. Police chief – Chief Wood gave an update to Council and spoke about on items from his report.

E. Town manager – Mr. Hugg briefly touched on items from his report to Council.

F. Committees – Councilman Embert said the Public Safety Committee met March 12th.

Mr. Hugg said the Utility Committee met March 4th.

Councilman Johnson said the Finance Committee will meet tomorrow night.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Visitors present were Bill Evans, Cherie Dodge Biron, Suzanne Savery, Beryl Cook, Mary Lou Kaltenbaugh, Daniel Young, Jim Wolfe, Evie Coates, George Coates, Conrad Hebert, Dawn Thompson, George DeBenedictis, and Cindy A. Cogar.

Cindy Cogar came forward to speak. Ms. Cogar said thank you for correcting her bill and the snow removal, and spoke about shoveling her sidewalk and then having it covered back up when the snow plow came through.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Appointment and swearing-in of Election Board – Councilwoman made the motion to appoint the Election Board. Mayor Masten swore in Mary Lou Kaltenbaugh and Beryl Cook.

B. Presentation of findings from IT Manager re: Council going paperless – Mr. Markow gave a demonstration, but no action was taken.

C. Ratify Robin Bruner's reinstatement to the Economic Development Committee – Councilwoman Brown made the motion to ratify the reinstatement of Robin Bruner to the

Economic Development Committee. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Rodriguez and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Annexation and zoning designation, 652 North Main Street, State of Delaware:

i. **Discussion and vote on results from Legislative Fact Finding Hearing –** Councilwoman Brown made the motion to accept the results of the legislative fact finding hearing regarding 652 North Main Street. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson and carried unanimously.

ii. **Discussion and vote on resolution to annex property into the town –** Councilwoman Brown made the motion to approve the resolution to annex 652 North Main Street into the town. The motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson and carried unanimously.

iii. **Discussion and vote on ordinance setting zoning designation, I&R (Institutional and Recreational) –** Councilwoman Brown made the motion to set the zoning designation for 652 North Main Street as I&R (Institutional and Recreational). Motion was seconded by Councilwoman White and carried unanimously.

B. Certify list of candidates for April 28th election – Mr. Hugg read the list of candidates for the April 28th election. Councilwoman Brown made the motion to certify the list of candidates for the April 28th election. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson and carried unanimously.

C. Discussion and vote on appointment of Jim Wolfe to the Planning & Zoning Commission – Councilwoman Brown made the motion to appoint Jim Wolfe to the Planning & Zoning Commission. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman White and carried unanimously.

D. Discussion and possible vote on appointment of Dirk Elston to the Smyrna Slum Clearance and Redevelopment Authority – Councilwoman Brown made the motion to appoint Dirk Elston to the Smyrna Slum Clearance and Redevelopment Authority. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson. Motion carried with Mayor Masten, Councilwomen Rodriguez and Brown, and Councilmen Johnson and Embert voting for, and Councilwoman White voting against.

E. Discussion and possible vote on approval for Gardenside Planning Grant – Councilwoman Brown made the motion to approve the Gardenside Planning Grant. Motion was seconded by Councilman Johnson and carried unanimously.

F. Discussion and possible action re: job description for a senior accountant position forwarded from Personnel Committee – Councilwoman Brown made the motion to approve the job description for a senior accountant position forwarded from Personnel. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Rodriguez. Motion carried with Mayor

Masten, Councilwomen Rodriguez and Brown, and Councilman Johnson voting for, and Councilwoman White and Councilman Embert voting against.

G. Bid award of Greens Branch Pump Station Controls – This item was removed from the agenda.

OTHER COUNCIL BUSINESS

There was none.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. **Executive session to discuss a personnel matter in which the names, competencies, and abilities of individuals will be discussed -** Councilwoman White made the motion to go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter in which the names, competencies, and abilities of individuals will be discussed; and to discuss an individual citizen's qualifications to hold a job. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Brown and carried unanimously. Council went into executive session at 7:40 p.m.

Councilwoman Brown made the motion to come out of executive session. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman White and carried unanimously. Council came out of executive session at 9:26 p.m.

B. Possible discussion and vote on an individual citizen's qualifications to hold a job discussed in executive session – No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilman Johnson made the motion to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Councilman Embert. Meeting was adjourned at 9:27 p.m. by unanimous vote.

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