



SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, 7:00 P.M.

The regular monthly meeting of the South Hill Town Council was held on Monday, September 14, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the South Hill Town Hall located at 211 South Mecklenburg Avenue, South Hill, Virginia 23970. To practice physical distancing, public seating was limited to 15 and attending staff was reduced. Attendees were asked to wear a mask/facial covering. The public was encouraged to view the Town Council meeting livestream via YouTube.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Honorable Mayor Dean Marion called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. INVOCATION

Mayor Marion rendered the invocation.

3. ROLL CALL

Mayor Marion called upon Anna Cratch to call the roll, which was as follows:

A. Council Members

Lillie Feggins-Boone
W.M. "Mike" Moody
G. Ben Taylor

Gavin L. Honeycutt
Shep Moss
Joseph E. Taylor, Jr.

Delores B. Luster
C. Leroy Sasser

B. Staff in Attendance

Kim Callis, Town Manager
Sheila Cutrell, Dir. of Finance and Admin.
David Hash, Code Compliance Official

Anna Cratch, Town Clerk
C.J. Dean, Dir. of Municipal Services
Brent Morris, Business Devt. Manager

Captain Shane Johnson attended in Chief Bowen's stead.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 10, 2020

A motion was made by Councilman Moody, second by Councilwoman Luster, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on August 10, 2020 as submitted by Anna Cratch. Motion carried unanimously.

5. SERVICE AWARDS

Mayor Marion recognized Town Manager Kim Callis for 20 years of service, effective September 14.

6. SCOTT BURNETTE, CEO, VCU HEALTH COMMUNITY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL – HEALTH CARE FACILITIES

Scott Burnette, CEO of VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital, informed Council he was speaking because some concerns were expressed to him about the future of the old CMH facility.

Mr. Burnette began by talking about what has happened since the new facility was opened in 2017.

	<u>Starting in 2017</u>	<u>End of June 2020</u>
FTEs (22.5% growth)	671	821
Wages & Contract Salaries Paid (48% increase)	\$42,600,000	\$63,400,000
Average Annual Employee Compensation (12.6% increase)	\$59,000	\$66,000

With the addition of the 150 full-time employees at \$66,000, \$9,900,000 more in salaries is being contributed to this community. Thirty-one physicians have been hired, and two new specialty clinics have opened; two more are under development. Three new nonclinical service lines are currently being reviewed and under development that will add another \$4,000,000 worth of construction to the hospital hopefully this fiscal year. A \$2,000,000 expansion was just completed which consolidates their clinics and adds another clinic to their facility. Over \$100,000,000 has been spent on facilities and equipment.

Mr. Burnette commented he understands there are some concerns he hasn't lived up to a promise he made years ago when the new hospital was being built that they would not leave a derelict/abandoned building in the middle of Town. He reported they have been assessing multiple options for using that facility, but at the same time they have been trying to grow service lines, employment, and other projects in the community. They were looking at it as a potential site for a new nursing home which is in the planning stages. Because of the cost of demolishing the old hospital, and the phasing that would have to be done to build a new nursing home and expand other services there, that potential use for that site was ruled out in March about the time COVID hit. VCU Health System has also been assessing other options with that property including turning it into an educational facility. VCU Health System is a \$4,000,000,000 corporation, so they have had multiple priorities to deal with. Because of the financial impact of COVID, all projects they have been working on came to a halt. They did not lay off any employees like many other hospitals did in the region and had to reassess some of their financial obligations. They are still a very strong organization.

The old CMH building is currently set up for COVID. When COVID struck, the VCU Health Community was told they needed to be prepared to treat anywhere from 54 to 550 COVID patients at one time as inpatients in their facility. Mr. Burnette reported he had three weeks to be ready. In a three-week period, they converted that hospital back to a fully functional facility because they did not abandon that building and have been maintaining it and the grounds. The interiors had to have some renovations and can now take on 130 inpatients if needed. It will remain that way until such time as COVID has been conquered. It has been a major burden on their institution. On an average day, 25% of their inpatients have COVID, and 10 to 15% of their ER patients come with COVID symptoms. It is a long way from being gone from this community. Between the adaptation of the new hospital and the old hospital, they have the capability to take up to 225 patients. Staffing will be a challenge if they have to go that high, but they are prepared to try and do whatever they can.

As he committed from the very beginning, Mr. Burnette stated if they cannot come up with any other thing to do with that facility and if no other individuals want to buy it, they will demolish the facility and return that property to residential use, which is where it was when it was first built. In reference to hearing suggestions that the Town needs to set up a committee to determine what to do with the hospital, Mr. Burnette stated that is not the Town's purview; that is private property owned by VCU Health System. They have the very best interest of this Town at heart and will do something with the property. Until the nursing home is moved, that facility will have to be maintained. The old administration building (Pavilion) has been converted to dorm space for students. Students are attending from the VCU medical, pharmacy, laboratory, and physical therapy schools. Nursing students will begin rotations here in January. The goal is to recruit these healthcare professionals to our rural communities. Mr. Burnette stated that after COVID is cured, he will be happy to listen to any suggestions from the Town.

Councilman Honeycutt shared that the use of the old hospital facility was one of the main questions he received while campaigning. In answer to a question from Councilman Honeycutt, Mr. Burnette stated the facility has not been used to house any COVID patients. Councilman Honeycutt commented the vacancy of the Hundley Center which is being moved closer to the new hospital has been another question. Councilman Honeycutt reported we have had some issues with looting, loitering, and drugs at the end of Watkins Street. He mentioned he doesn't want to give anyone an opportunity to house bad things in his neighborhood and those of his constituents. Mr. Burnette stated he made the promise years ago that he wouldn't abandon the old facility and he doesn't go back on his word. Right now, the nursing home needs to continue to be maintained, and the old laundry is being used to launder reusable gowns and masks, which they could not initially get (Mr. Burnette thanked Virginia Quilting for making them.) Mr. Burnette reported they have discussed the drug issue with the Town and have approved whatever needs to be done at the end of Watkins Street.

Council members thanked Mr. Burnette for taking the time to speak and answer their questions.

7. CITIZENS TO ADDRESS COUNCIL (Comments are limited to three minutes.)

A. Paul Duffer – Dilapidated Properties

Paul Duffer reported the Town has already taken him to court one time, and he is scheduled to go again soon. In answer to a question from Mr. Duffer, David Hash commented the Town has not taken anyone else to court for dilapidated property. Mr. Duffer mentioned he thinks it's odd with 34 properties on the list, he is the only chicken taken to the slaughter barn. He stated Mrs. Bracey had no right to point out he has too much property in South Hill and needs to sell it. He reported he works all the time. He said Chief Bowen has seen him hanging from the roof of the Wise house scraping and painting windows because you can't find any help; Tony Hayes is quite capable but he has got bigger jobs to do. Mr. Duffer asked if anyone knows what a dilapidated property is, and who the brainchild is behind it, who, if he had a job, would be too tired to come up with stupid things. Mr. Duffer mentioned the Town hired a man to work two days a week; he's working three days a week hunting cracks and crevices that need painting and caulking. He went on to say we have a Building Inspector and Chief of Police who are great; they come and talk to you. When the judge read off dilapidated properties, Mr. Duffer said to himself she has the wrong monkey in front of her or I am going to be locked up for a while because it covered everything under the sun that could be wrong with a property. Mr. Duffer shared he talked with a Council member, pointed out some things, and would love to talk to whoever came up with this idiot idea and the way it is being received and carried out.

Mentioning the intent to keep Citizen comments to three minutes, Mayor Marion asked what Mr. Duffer would like for Council to do. Mayor Marion commented it is a policy adopted by the

Town. The policy is supported and enforced by the Town Manager and the Code Compliance Official. Mayor Marion asked if a copy of the policy had been explained or presented to Mr. Duffer. Mr. Duffer commented the only thing explained to him was what the judge said, and he wasn't able to comprehend everything she covered. Mr. Duffer continued that the judge, the Assistant Commonwealth Attorney, Building Inspector and his assistant knew things weren't right and they gave him more time. Mr. Duffer commented he is being taken back to court while some folks (he mentioned the Crowders) were notified long ago and haven't been taken to court. Mr. Duffer stated Mayor Marion knows the Town kept a building closed that he bought eight years ago. He has since opened it, and it has been very successful, even with COVID. He said he has survived submarine duty, pancreatic cancer, and doesn't scare easily. In answer to a question from Councilman Honeycutt, Mr. Duffer commented he is not aware of receiving a copy of the policy. He went on to say the Town has been sued before, and he has enough money to sue them again.

Kim Callis reported Council asked staff to look at properties that do not meet the requirements of the Virginia Uniform Statewide Building Code. Mr. Hash has a copy of the lengthy book containing the code in his office; it is also available online. Mr. Callis stated our charge by this Council was to enforce that code, and that is why we have a part-time person in the Code Compliance Department.

Mr. Duffer invited Council to go by the front of 211 E. Atlantic Street (the old house of Coach Wise who meant the world to him) and look at all the houses through there. Mr. Duffer betted his looks better than any other houses up to Memory Makers. Two of the houses were on the list and now they are off. Owing the property next to Mr. Duffer, Councilman Moss commented no one wants the property fixed more than he does. Councilman Moss reported that over the last four or five months, no one has worked on their property more in all different weather conditions than Mr. Duffer. He also keeps the grass cut on a weekly basis. Councilman Moss looked at Mr. Duffer's neighboring properties on the stoplight side, took some photos, and spoke to the Town Manager. Councilman Moss mentioned whatever is on the list cannot be anywhere close to those properties. He stated he wants Mr. Duffer's property fixed but if he is being singled out or if he is the only one going to court, we have a problem.

Councilman Moss asked how this is going to be resolved. Mayor Marion doublechecked that the pictures will be provided to the Town Manager. Mayor Marion asked Mr. Duffer to get with Mr. Hash to review the definition, statute, and expectation. Councilman Moss asked if we are going to continue his case. Councilman Ben Taylor commented it is up to the court. Councilman Moss mentioned we could drop it. Councilman Ben Taylor commented we can't because the Town has a policy. Councilman Ben Taylor stated Mr. Duffer's main issue is why he is the only one being singled out. There are other ones on the list that are just as serious, and that needs to be looked into. The other issue with all of these properties is blight including falling porches, chipping paint, and tall grass. Councilman Ben Taylor commented he receives more calls regarding dilapidated property than any other subject. It is an issue; the law is the law; let the judge make these decisions. Councilman Honeycutt reported we have had issues with the same properties and should not have waited 20 years to do something about it. Councilman Moss added there is a cluster of them on E. Atlantic Street that will hopefully be addressed.

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Sheila Cutrell – Appropriation of Funds

Sheila Cutrell informed Council a Public Hearing has been called to hear comments regarding the appropriation of additional funds for FY20-21 to include CARES Act Funding and funding for certain projects and expenses.

Appropriations:

Various Departments	
COVID-19 Expenses	\$ 761,658.00
Police Department	
Capital Outlay, Account 10-1-0120-7009 – In-car Video System	\$ 4,000.00
Street Maintenance	
Street Maintenance, Account 10-1-0126-5407 – Pavement Striping	\$ 14,106.00
Water Distribution System	
Capital Outlay, Account 30-1-6000-7009 – Northside Water Infrastructure	\$ 500,000.00
Sewer Collection	
Capital Outlay, Account 30-1-6050-7009 – Sewer Rehab. Slip Line	\$ 51,920.00
Capital Outlay, Account 30-1-6050-7009 – Sewer Line Repairs	\$ 52,000.00
Wastewater Treatment Plant	
Capital Outlay, Account 30-1-7000-7009 – Replace Rotors	\$ 357,544.00
Total	\$1,741,228.00

Ms. Cutrell opened the Public Hearing. No one commented regarding the request.

Ms. Cutrell closed the Public Hearing. **A motion was made by Councilman Ben Taylor, second by Councilman Moody**, to appropriate additional funds in the amount of \$1,741,228.00 into the FY20-21 budget. Motion carried unanimously.

B. David Hash – Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Allowing a Data Center by Right in Districts I-G and I-P

David Hash informed Council a Public Hearing has been called for comments regarding the proposed amendment to Section 94.1-76, the Table of Permitted Uses, Table 4.1 to allow a “Data Center – a group of networked computer servers typically used by organizations for the remote storage, processing, or distribution of data” by Right in General Industrial District I-G and Industrial Park District I-P. An amendment was also proposed to add the definition of Data Center to Section 99.1-3, Definitions of Specific Words and Terms. The South Hill Planning Commission recommends Council adopt the proposed amendments.

Mr. Hash opened the Public Hearing. No one commented regarding the proposed amendments.

Mr. Hash closed the Public Hearing. **A motion was made by Councilman Honeycutt, second by Councilwoman Luster**, to adopt the proposed amendment to Section 94.1-76, Table of Permitted Uses, Table 4.1 allowing Data Centers by Right in General Industrial District I-G and Industrial Park District I-P. A **roll-call vote** was requested and voiced as follows:

Councilwoman Lillie Feggins-Boone-Aye	Councilman Gavin Honeycutt-Aye
Councilwoman Delores Luster-Aye	Councilman Mike Moody-Aye
Councilman Shep Moss-Aye	Councilman Leroy Sasser-Aye
Councilman Ben Taylor-Aye	Councilman Joseph Taylor-Aye.

A motion was made by Councilman Moody, second by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, to adopt the proposed amendment to Section 99.1-3, Definitions of Specific Words and Terms adding the definition of a Data Center. A **roll-call vote** was requested and voiced as follows:

Councilwoman Lillie Feggins-Boone-Aye
Councilwoman Delores Luster-Aye
Councilman Shep Moss-Aye
Councilman Ben Taylor-Aye

Councilman Gavin Honeycutt-Aye
Councilman Mike Moody-Aye
Councilman Leroy Sasser-Aye
Councilman Joseph Taylor-Aye.

9. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Kim Callis submitted the following report for August 2020:

A. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Plan

Kim Callis informed Council FEMA requires localities to develop and maintain a plan that examines the risk and impact of natural disasters and establishes strategies to mitigate, or lessen, human and property impacts. To ensure FEMA mitigation grant fund eligibility, the mitigation plan must be updated every five years.

Southside Planning District Commission and Town staff have worked together to develop the 2020 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Mr. Callis presented Council with a summary listing activities designed to prevent or minimize the effects of various hazards. Council was asked to adopt a resolution to ensure the Town will be eligible for hazard mitigation funding.

A motion was made by Councilman Joseph Taylor, second by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, to adopt the 2020 Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan resolution. A **roll-call vote** was requested and voiced as follows:

Councilwoman Lillie Feggins-Boone-Aye
Councilwoman Delores Luster-Aye
Councilman Shep Moss-Aye
Councilman Ben Taylor-Aye

Councilman Gavin Honeycutt-Aye
Councilman Mike Moody-Aye
Councilman Leroy Sasser-Aye
Councilman Joseph Taylor-Aye.

B. Proposed Amendment to the Noise Ordinance

Mr. Callis reminded Council that at the July regular meeting, after hearing from a citizen about a recurring noise problem with neighbors, Council directed that the Noise Ordinance be reviewed and requested information about the frequency of complaints. As “noise” complaints fall under the category of “disturbances” the number of specific noise complaints is difficult to identify.

The Police Committee, Town Manager, and Police Chief examined ordinances from several localities. As we have had very few recurring noise complaints over the years and our police have been able to effectively address noise complaints, the Police Committee and staff recommend simply updating the existing ordinance with clearer, more current language.

Mr. Callis presented Council with a draft of the amended ordinance, which has been reviewed by the Town Attorney.

Councilman Honeycutt asked how this will be judged so it is fair to everyone. Mr. Callis commented the Police Department will be the ones to cite parties that violate the noise ordinance. It is a very challenging ordinance to enforce. We looked at decibel levels. The challenge with that is if you have a decibel meter and you get a call, by the time you get there, the noise has generally dissipated and you can't get a measurement. The other thing is people call when the noise is loud and when the police show up, the noise goes down. To charge people, it almost has to be heard by the police, or the affected party has to ask that Police cite them, and then that party has to show up in court and testify. At the end of the

day, it relies on the testimony of either the police or the person that wants the charge made in court. Normally speaking, when the police ask that the noise be kept down, it takes care of the issue. There are only rare occasions when that hasn't happened, and one is the lady who spoke in July. Councilman Honeycutt commented we are opening ourselves up to a big can of worms by not having something to judge this by. Occurrences normally happen at night and the ordinance needs to be fair and transparent.

With the limited complaints we've had concerning the noise, Councilwoman Feggins-Boone stated she doesn't think the ordinance needs amending. She commented it should be judged on a case-by-case basis. She also mentioned placing a time limit on when music can be played in a house is an invasion of privacy. She shared that the same person that complained at Council also attended another party at the same residence she was complaining about.

Councilman Moss expressed concerns about some of the language. As there is no definitive line, he asked who is going to judge loud and excessive noise. He commented it would go a long way in supporting our wonderful Police Department if we put the decibel restriction on it with different time tiers. If you have a decibel meter and a time, it will make a much more valid case. Councilman Moss reported he has decibel levels he has to meet at a lot of the venues he plays at as a disk jockey/entertainer. The venue owners will come up and look at the decibel meters to protect themselves. Councilman Moss felt the Police Department would want to have a measurement as they would with a radar gun or breathalyzer test. He commented there is a lot of loose language.

Councilman Joseph Taylor concurred we need to make every regulation we have as objective as possible. He stated the problem with the decibel meter is we should expect an attorney to attack both the calibration of the meter and the operator to see if they are certified. The decibel meter will not make this any more objective in terms of stopping people from making offensive noise (too loud of a volume) in public. Councilman Joseph Taylor commented the specificity of this language is more preferable to the shorter, outdated version we had previously. The previous violation provision made this a Class 1 misdemeanor punishable for up to 12 months in jail.

Mr. Callis commented some localities have included decibel levels in their ordinance. In twenty years with the Town, Mr. Callis only recalled two complaints, the one in July and one prior about a dog barking. We are trying to be effective at keeping the peace without incurring lots of costs (\$500 to several thousand per unit) for something that may or may not work. You have to have an objective standard in court, but it probably will not resolve the issue.

Councilwoman Luster reported the Police Committee made it as simple and uncomplicated as they could, and she feels the timeframes are very reasonable.

Alpheus Jones complained about noise in his shop from boom boxes. Captain Shane Johnson commented the decibel members could be used with a house, but it is hard to have a decibel meter out and ready to measure when a car zooms by. When an officer turns on the lights, the music is turned down. Captain Johnson mentioned they normally issue warnings with house complaints and use the three-strike method.

An initial motion made by Councilman Moody with a second by Councilwoman Luster was rescinded. As the majority of Council favored tabling the Public Hearing, Mayor Marion commented this is a work in process. He asked officers to give their feedback to the Chief along with the Town Manager and for Council to provide feedback to the Police Committee for further discussion.

C. Proposed Amendment to the Brush, Grass, Leaves Ordinance

Mr. Callis reported Town staff has reviewed a continuing challenge with street/stormwater facility maintenance. Placing brush, grass, leaves, and debris in the street right of way creates numerous problems. During periods of heavy rain, these items block storm drainage facilities, which leads to street flooding and hazardous driving conditions and presents a safety issue for our employees who must clear the blockages, often in the midst of storms. Even in dry weather, placing these items in the street can be very dangerous to motorists, especially those on motorcycles and bicycles.

We recommend amending our ordinance so that it is clearer and stronger and better enables staff to address these issues. Mr. Callis presented Council with a draft of the proposed amendment, which has been reviewed by the Town Attorney.

Regarding Section 66-70, Councilman Joseph Taylor inquired if Council has approved a charge for grass clippings placed for collection in amounts greater than six cubic yards and if it is based on hours spent cleaning up or volume. Mr. Callis stated it is a variable charge depending on how long it takes to clean up the mess. Public Works determines the charge.

Regarding a question from Councilman Honeycutt about how we will get this information out to the public, Mr. Callis stated a Public Hearing will be held next month. It will be on YouTube, advertised in the newspaper, and inserted in our water bills with photos. Mayor Marion suggested placing a stamped decal over the drain stating what is not allowed. Mr. Callis mentioned nothing should go in a storm drain or drainageway, either natural or manmade. Councilman Honeycutt added nothing should go in the curb and gutter either.

A motion was made by Councilman Honeycutt, second by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, to hold a Public Hearing at the October 13, 2020 Council meeting to receive comments on the proposed amendments to Chapter 66 of the Code of the Town of South Hill. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Whittles Mill Dam Resolution

Mr. Callis informed Council staff has been working with the AquaLaw firm to develop a strategy to contest efforts by environmental agencies to remove the Whittles Mill Dam. Our legal advisors concur that letters from the community to the leadership of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the Virginia Department of Natural Resources are critical in educating decision makers about the importance of preserving the dam.

We have reached out to many parties asking for help to this end, including our federal and state legislators, boards of supervisors, local government administrators, and citizens. Mr. Callis presented Council with a resolution indicating their support for preserving the dam. While environmental groups generally take a very narrow view of issues like this, we hope that continued dialogue with FERC in the coming weeks and months will persuade them to take a balanced approach and consider the many reasons why preserving the dam makes sense.

Councilman Ben Taylor stated it is fair to say this is now a political issue.

Councilman Moss mentioned a constituent asked him since our exemption was filed back on April 20, why was the public delayed notification until August 19. Mr. Callis stated there was no need to notify the public because the process is that we file the request for exemption with FERC, and then we wait for a response. When they ask for comments, if there are none we do not need to respond at that time. In this case, there were comments from environmental agencies; hence creating the need for us to respond. We asked for an extension and they extended it to October 2. Everyone is encouraged to respond by September 30. Councilman Moss commented it says the preferred method of communication is email

and the docket number should be included. Mr. Callis stated 7630-005 should be included. As it shows they took the time, our law firm advises a letter is more effective than an email. Councilman Honeycutt commented an electronic communication is quicker. In response to a question from Councilman Moss if this will fall under the guidelines of Section 106, Mr. Callis stated he doesn't know; it could. We are just trying to say, "Leave our dam alone" and let them know how important it is to the public.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, second by Councilman Moody, to adopt the Whittles Mill Dam Preservation Resolution. A **roll-call vote** was requested and voiced as follows:

Councilwoman Lillie Feggins-Boone-Aye	Councilman Gavin Honeycutt-Aye
Councilwoman Delores Luster-Aye	Councilman Mike Moody-Aye
Councilman Shep Moss-Aye	Councilman Leroy Sasser-Aye
Councilman Ben Taylor-Aye	Councilman Joseph Taylor-Aye.

E. Facilities Reservation Calendar

Mr. Callis presented Council with a calendar of activities and reservations at Centennial Park, Parker Park, the South Hill Exchange, and other Town facilities. The calendar changes frequently as new reservations are made. He reported there was a ball tournament at Parker Park this weekend.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

F. Miscellaneous Items

Mr. Callis reported he cannot emphasize enough how much time we spend in dealing with COVID-19 related matters. Human Resources Manager Carol Hutchinson has conducted several COVID-19 training sessions with all employees to emphasize the importance of various measures to keep our workforce safe. COVID-19 information is constantly changing with frequent updates on new requirements and safety measures. At the Governor's directive, we have established a policy as recommended by VRSA that addresses COVID-19.

A motion was made by Councilman Honeycutt, second by Councilwoman Feggins-Boone, to approve the Town's COVID-19 and Infectious Disease Prevention Plan policy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

The Town will be partnering with the South Hill Chamber of Commerce on a robocall system to inform the public of emergencies and other important matters.

Supervisory staff are working diligently to identify qualifying expenditures to effectively utilize available CARES Act funds of approximately \$760,000. The deadline for final submission is October 15. If the government feels something doesn't count, the money would have to be paid back.

The Town Attorney and Town staff will be meeting with representatives of the Veterans Memorial Park, Inc. (VMP) to discuss the status of the memorial park wall repairs. The board of the Industrial Development Authority of South Hill (IDA) feels it bears no responsibility for the repairs as the IDA's role since this project was initiated by the American Legion in the 1990s was simply to facilitate the transfer of property to the VMP. Unfortunately, when the railroad right of way was deeded from the Town to the IDA, the transfer from the IDA to the VMP did not take place. VMP raised the money, hired the contractors to build the memorial, did all of the improvements, and had the work done. A deed has

been drafted. Jimmy Butts, CJ Dean, and Mr. Callis met with the VMP; they were given the deed; and we hope it will be in the VMP name soon.

It did not appear either of the organizations have the funds to repair the wall. They are talking about it amongst themselves. We explained to them the Town will have the responsibility of handling the electrical work. The cost of relocating the electrical service panel (born by the Town) to the Centennial amphitheater wall is estimated at \$30,000. The estimated cost of the wall repairs will likely exceed \$110,000 (\$60,000 for wall reinforcement and \$50,000 for brickwork). The supporting wall has to be reinforced. What goes on the outside of the wall doesn't have to be brick. Mr. Callis expects VMP will come to the Town asking for some help, and he expects them to do some fundraising on their own. We are not having any events there until the wall is repaired and secure.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

10. FINANCE REPORT

A. Monthly Financial Report

Sheila Cutrell presented the financial report for month ended August 31, 2020 as follows:

General Fund	-	\$ 6,832,925.08	Total Investment Accounts	-	\$16,033,785.83
Water and Sewer Fund	-	1,321,255.46	Total Police Dept. Savings	-	\$ 27,637.45
Cemetery Fund	-	<u>10,003.01</u>	Total Taxes Due Thru 08/31/20	-	\$ 236,717.16
Total in Checking	-	\$ 8,164,183.55	(Real Estate and Personal Property, all years)		

A motion was made by Councilman Moody, second by Councilman Honeycutt, to approve the financial report for month ended August 31, 2020 as submitted by Sheila Cutrell. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Maturity of CD

Ms. Cutrell reported the Town's Certificate of Deposit with Touchstone Bank matured on August 14, 2020. Due to the interest rates offered by the local banks and the downward trend of interest rates at the Virginia Investment Pool, the Town Manager and Ms. Cutrell thought it best to deposit the funds from this Certificate of Deposit into our checking account. We will continue to monitor the rates with the Virginia Investment Pool and look at investing those funds at a later date.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

C. CARES Act Funding

Ms. Cutrell presented Council with a list of items already purchased and items being considered for purchase to effectively utilize available CARES Act funding. The items are supposed to be purchased and paid for by December 30. The list has to be sent to Mecklenburg County for review by the CARES Act Committee by October 15.

This agenda item was for informational purposes only; therefore, no Council action was taken.

11. REPORTS TO APPROVE AS PRESENTED

For efficiency, the following reports were grouped to approve as presented.

A. Police Report

For the police report for August, there were 160 activity incidents, 46 reportable criminal offenses, 539 calls for service, and \$4,181 property recovered. Other miscellaneous included 11 court hours, 48 training hours, 14 warrants issued, and 2 inoperative vehicles tagged.

The following administrative news was shared:

- § Donna Burch attended the mandatory Law Enforcement Grants Distribution Virtual Workshop. Grant funding will be received for highway safety for 2020-2021.
- § Captain Shane Johnson and Corporal Tony Solomon instructed ASP at the training academy.
- § Officer Russ Inge graduated from Basic School and is now receiving his field training.
- § Sergeant Mike Watters, Corporal Tony Solomon, and Officer Brandon Campbell completed four hours each Intoxilyzer Recertification in Blackstone.
- § Lieutenant Scott Zincone and Corporal Tony Solomon attended a two-day Data-Driven Approach to Crime and Traffic Safety workshop in Roanoke.

B. Municipal Services Report

i. Project Updates

C.J. Dean submitted the municipal services report for August 2020 as follows:

- § The Town received an abundance of rainfall in August. The rainfall event on the evening of August 31, 2020, exceeded five inches within an hour. This event exceeded the capacity of much of the existing stormwater piping in Town. B & B had already been working on several stormwater issues, but several more areas of concern have been added to their work study scope.
- § Town crews spent a lot of time setting up Parker Park for the fireworks event that took place September 4.
- § Public Works crews continue to replace old small water lines with new larger water lines. The new waterline on Graymont Street and Bracey Lane is complete other than repaving of the street surfaces.
- § The Town continues to work with the South Hill IDA, VFW, and American Legion about reworking the wall. Safety and stabilization are of utmost concern as planning continues how to move forward. The Town has received the cost estimates for total project budget costs.
- § All of the paperwork for the streetlight conversion to LED lights has been submitted to Dominion Virginia Power. Dominion has ordered the materials, and the conversion should begin on September 14, 2020, by the schedule submitted to the Town by Dominion. The total conversion should be completed by December 31, 2020.
- § All crews have been instructed to talk with the Town's Code Compliance Department about projects prior to beginning work so that all necessary permits are obtained. The permit will allow the Code Compliance

Department to review and sign off on the work as it progresses. This is the same procedure that any other citizen would have to follow.

In answer to a question from Councilman Moss regarding if it is a written policy that employees talk with the Code Compliance Department about permits before beginning work on projects, Kim Callis stated permits are required by ordinance. Town employees have to follow the Town Code too.

C. Code Compliance Report

i. Monthly Report

David Hash submitted the report of activity for August 2020 as follows:

Inspections Completed	-	74
Permits Issued	-	28
Fees Collected	-	\$ 1,953.60
UEZ Exemption	-	\$ 0
Rehab Exemption	-	\$ 0
General Exemption	-	\$ 336.60
Work Value	-	\$ 366,055.00

New businesses for August included:

- § J & B's Odds and Ends, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § Accessories by Sylvia, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § M & H Enterprise, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § Catherine's Family Hair Salon, 900 E. Atlantic Street (hair salon)
- § Chop Chop Lawn Services, 205 Wilson Street (lawncare services)
- § SK Beauty, 713 E. Atlantic Street (retail beauty supply)
- § Classic Ole-Skool Carwash, 205 Wilson Street (carwash detailing)
- § With Faith Home Care Service, 9175 Redlawn Road (non-medical home care service)
- § Avon Hut, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § DJ's Boutique, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § Katrina Tisdale, 935 W. Atlantic Street (flea market vendor)
- § Microtel Inn & Suites by Wyndham South Hill, 111 Arnold Drive (hotel)

ii. Dilapidated Properties

David Hash submitted a report on the status of the following 34 dilapidated properties:

- § 211 E. Atlantic Street
- § 400 Goodes Ferry Road
- § 402 Goodes Ferry Road
- § 210 Park Lane
- § 110 Third Street
- § 315 W. Danville Street
- § 906 Plank Road
- § 212 N. Mecklenburg Avenue
- § 109 E. Third Street
- § 201 E. Atlantic Street

- § 706 Brooke Avenue
- § 112 Center Lane
- § 930 W. Danville Street
- § 932 W. Danville Street
- § 211 Bryan Street
- § 118 S. Lunenburg Avenue
- § 1179 Country Lane
- § 208 Pennington Street
- § 112 E. Atlantic Street
- § 403 N. Mecklenburg Avenue
- § 419 E. Atlantic Street
- § 456 Old Hwy. 58
- § 506 Moseley Lane
- § 609 W. Danville Street
- § 617 W. Danville Street
- § 603 W. Danville Street
- § 418 Old Highway 58
- § 154 Buena Vista Circle
- § 1214 Plank Road
- § 1231 Halifax Street
- § 112 Raleigh Avenue
- § 227 Circle Drive
- § 114 C N. Clay Street
- § Corner of Circle Drive and Ogburn Street

iii. Code Inspector Activity Report

follows: Jamie Velvin submitted the Code Inspector Activity Report for August 2020 as

- § Met with Mrs. Holden regarding her property at 506 Moseley Lane
- § Met with Dr. Nwaokocha regarding his property at 311 Leonard Street
- § Met with Michelle Crowder about sewage overflow at 421 E. Main Street
- § Spoke with Ed Hart about extension of deadline for the completion of work at 603 W. Danville Street
- § Checked 22 addresses for inoperable vehicles, sent out 21 letters to remove vehicles, and posted notice on door at 612 W. Main Street to remove inoperable vehicle
- § Met with Mike Robinson regarding his property at 114 C Clay Street
- § Spoke with Louise Ogburn regarding complaints on Second Street, Third Street, and Brook Avenue
- § Met with Jon Taylor regarding his property at 210 Park Lane
- § Met with Mr. Garnes about a vehicle at 428 Meadow Street
- § Met with Mary Gywnn about a vehicle at 602 South Hill Avenue
- § Met with Tommy Stanley at office regarding 1500 W. Danville Street
- § Kept check on progress of cleanup at 1500 W. Danville Street
- § Met with Sam Allen for inspections, and set new dates for work at his properties
- § Spoke with Holly McFarland regarding the property at 1214 Plank Road and sent her related code information
- § Spoke with Latisha Farrar about a vehicle at 448 Lombardy Street
- § Contacted Wayne Jackson about the work schedule for 1231 Halifax Street

- § Located and submitted 34 vehicles for tagging as inoperable to the Police Department
- § Spoke with Ken Currin about sign placement at the intersection of E. Atlantic Street and Brook Avenue
- § Met with Kenneth Nemeth regarding his property on Ogburn Street
- § Met with Ricky Jones at 617 W. Danville Street regarding completed work
- § Spoke with and sent a letter to Charles Crowder regarding the property at 212 N. Mecklenburg Avenue
- § Contacted Willie Bob Smith regarding the deadline passing for his property at 418 Old Highway 58
- § Spoke with Bill at United Country Realty regarding canceling the auction of 930 and 932 W. Danville Street
- § Spoke with Mrs. Yarbrough about a vehicle at 690 Lombardy Street
- § Met with Charles Crowder at 212 N. Mecklenburg Avenue
- § Spoke with Mrs. Winn about tall grass at 426 E. Atlantic Street
- § Met with Chief Vaughan and Detective Durham regarding structure fire at 1179 Country Lane
- § Met with the neighbors around 112 Raleigh Street
- § Spoke with Alfred Bracey regarding fire damage to his property at 1179 Country Lane
- § Posted structure at 1179 Country Lane as unsafe and sent letter to property owner
- § Inspected all properties on the Item B Agenda List (two properties added)
- § Sent out six notices to cut grass
- § Removed 13 off-premise signs

D. Business Development Report

Brent Morris submitted the business development report for August 2020 as follows:

- § Mailed 24 informational packets to prospective industries with a continued focus on eCommerce
- § Began working with Jane Stringer on the 2021 Historic Garden Tour. They toured prospective properties including Whittles Mill. The Garden Tour is being redirected to outside venues.
- § Mr. Morris updated the Business Incentives to include two additional incentives that will focus on the downtown area. He is working with Andy Wells on updating the defined downtown map to reflect the requested coverage area down W. Danville Street and E. Atlantic Street. Once Mr. Wells has completed the map, Mr. Morris will schedule a focus group of businesses, property owners, and Council to receive feedback.
- § Mr. Morris presented Council with a flyer on the “Stay Connected” program that is being implemented by the South Hill Chamber of Commerce. This program will allow participants to receive instant alerts of events, important dates, and changes to Town services as needed in our community. This new system will send text and voice call alerts. Mr. Morris has been working with the government affairs offices of Verizon and CenturyLink on landline customers. Chamber staff will be working to input all landline numbers. They will be rolling out a “Stay Connected” campaign this month. A flyer will be mailed with the September water bills.

E. Human Resources Report

Carol Hutchinson submitted the following administrative news for August 2020:

- § Anna Cratch attended the Virginia FOIA Training Day virtual conference hosted by Fairfax County on August 7, 2020.
- § Training regarding the COVID-19 standard set forth by Governor Northam was held August 20, 27, and 28. The various dates allowed all employees to attend the mandatory training. The Town of South Hill COVID-19 and Infectious Disease Prevention Plan is posted on all Town communication boards. The standard was designed to keep employees safe from COVID-19 exposure in the workplace.
- § A position opening for an Accounting Technician II was advertised in August. The interview/hiring process will be held in September.
- § Kim Callis has been reelected for the 2021 term as President of the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC).

A motion was made by Councilman Honeycutt, second by Councilman Moss, to approve the Reports to Approve as Presented. Motion carried unanimously.

12. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

13. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Moss reported he received a letter from a constituent concerning the ordinance about water meters and transfers from one name to another and having to pay the deposit. Councilman Moss talked to Kim Callis. He also talked to a few colleagues who think it best the policy go to a committee for review. Councilman Moss said he isn't sure if it should be the Policy or Water and Sewer Committee. Mr. Callis commented it is a finance matter so it should be the Budget and Finance Committee. The letter will be shared with them.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business matters before the South Hill Town Council, Mayor Marion adjourned the meeting at p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Anna B. Cratch.

Signed:

Dean Marion, Mayor

Attest:

Anna B. Cratch, Town Clerk

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH HILL, VIRGINIA

AN AMENDMENT

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Council of the Town of South Hill, Virginia, in regular session assembled that:

Chapter 94.1 Zoning, Article 4 Permitted Uses in Zoning Districts be amended by adding the following language to Section 94.1-76. The added language is underlined and in italics.

Sec. 94.1-76 Table of permitted uses, Table 4.1 Uses Permitted by Zoning District be amended by adding a new category which would read:

Data Center to be allowed by Right in General Industrial District I-G and Industrial Park District I-P.

Done in the Town of South Hill, Virginia, this 14th day of September, 2020.

Town of South Hill, Virginia

By: *Dean Marion*
Dean Marion, Mayor

ATTEST:

Anna B. Cratch
Anna B. Cratch, Town Clerk

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF SOUTH HILL, VIRGINIA

AN AMENDMENT

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Council of the Town of South Hill, Virginia, in regular session assembled that:

Chapter 99.1 Definitions for Land Use Ordinances be amended by adding the following language to Section 99.1-3. The added language is underlined and in italics.

Section 99.1-3 Definitions of Specific Words and Terms.

Data Center-a group of networked computer servers typically used by organizations for the remote storage, processing, or distribution of data.

Done in the Town of South Hill, Virginia, this 14th day of September, 2020.

Town of South Hill, Virginia

By: Dean Marion
Dean Marion, Mayor

ATTEST:

Anna B. Cratch
Anna B. Cratch, Town Clerk



You'll like the view from
South Hill

Town of South Hill

Incorporated 1901

ADMINISTRATION
(434) 447-3191

CODE COMPLIANCE
OFFICIAL
(434) 447-5041

PUBLIC WORKS
(434) 447-3191

RESOLUTION OF TOWN OF SOUTH HILL ADOPTING THE REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OF 2020

WHEREAS, the South Hill Town Council recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Town of South Hill; and

WHEREAS, the Town of South Hill coordinated with the Southside Planning District Commission on preparing a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2020 in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Town of South Hill from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the South Hill Town Council demonstrates their commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Town Council of South Hill, Virginia, that:

1. The Town Council of the Town of South Hill adopts the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan of 2020.

CERTIFICATE

The undersigned Mayor of the Town Council of South Hill, Virginia hereby certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the South Hill Town Council at a meeting held on September 14, 2020. A record of the roll-call vote by the South Hill Town Council is as follows:

Name	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilwoman Lillie Feggins-Boone	✓			
Councilman Gavin Honeycutt	✓			
Councilwoman Delores Luster	✓			
Councilman Mike Moody	✓			
Councilman Shep Moss	✓			
Councilman Leroy Sasser	✓			
Councilman Ben Taylor	✓			
Councilman Joseph Taylor	✓			

Date: September 14, 2020

By: Dean Marion
Dean Marion, Mayor

Attest: Anna B. Cratch
Anna B. Cratch, Town Clerk



Town of South Hill

Incorporated 1901

ADMINISTRATION
(434) 447-3191

BUILDING AND CODE
OFFICIAL
(434) 447-5041

PUBLIC WORKS
(434) 447-3228

WHITTLES MILL DAM PRESERVATION RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Whittles Mill Dam was initially constructed circa 1750 prior to our nation's fight for independence and is deeply rooted in our region's heritage; and

WHEREAS, the Whittles Mill Dam is stout and sturdy and has survived the test of time, numerous natural disasters, and several commercial undertakings; and


WHEREAS, the Whittles Mill Dam has been recognized by the Commonwealth of Virginia and nationally for its distinguished history; and

WHEREAS, Whittles Mill provides valuable historical, educational, recreational, tourism, and other significant tangible and intangible benefits to residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, Whittles Mill is a scenic and tranquil setting for swimming, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, camping, picnicking, relaxing, and many of life's simple pleasures and should be maintained and preserved without significant, costly, and unnecessary alterations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Council of the Town of South Hill endorses, supports, and encourages all efforts and measures to preserve the character of the Whittles Mill Dam and honor its unique and rich history.

Adopted this 14th day of September 2020 by the Council of the Town of South Hill.



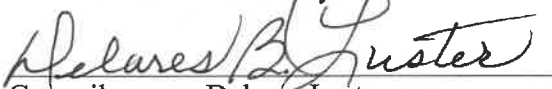
Dean Marion, Mayor



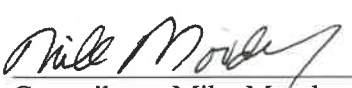
Councilwoman Lillie Higgins-Boone



Councilman Gavin Honeycutt



Councilwoman Delores Luster



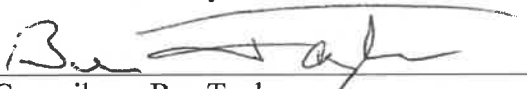
Councilman Mike Moody



Councilman Shep Moss



Councilman Leroy Sasser



Councilman Ben Taylor



Councilman Joseph Taylor

Attest:


Kim Callis, Town Manager



Anna Cratch, Town Clerk



**SOUTH HILL TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020, 7 PM**

(Council Chambers, Town Hall, 211 S. Mecklenburg Avenue)

Please silence all cell phones while Council is in session.

1. Call to Order
2. Invocation
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2020
5. Service Awards
6. Scott Burnette, CEO, VCU Health Community Memorial Hospital – Health Care Facilities
7. Citizens to Address Council (*Comments are limited to three minutes.*)
 - A. Gavin Gwaltney, Captain of the Southside Rescue Squad, Inc. (SSRS) – Budgeting Needs
8. Public Hearings
 - A. Sheila Cutrell – Appropriation of Funds
 - B. David Hash – Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Allowing a Data Center by Right in Districts I-G and I-P
9. Town Manager Report
 - A. FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plan
 - B. Proposed Amendment to the Noise Ordinance
 - C. Proposed Amendment to the Brush, Grass, Leaves Ordinance
 - D. Whittles Mill Dam Resolution
 - E. Facilities Reservation Calendar
 - F. Miscellaneous Items – COVID-19 Training, Robocall, CARES Act, Veterans Memorial Park Wall
10. Finance Report
 - A. Monthly Financial Report
 - B. Maturity of CD
 - C. CARES Act Funding
11. Reports to Approve as Presented
 - A. Police Report
 - B. Municipal Services Report
 - C. Code Compliance Report
 - i. Monthly Report
 - ii. Dilapidated Properties
 - iii. Code Inspector Activity Report
 - D. Business Development Report
 - E. Human Resources Report
12. Committee Reports
13. Old Business
14. New Business
15. Adjournment