

**CITY OF BUENA VISTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND
PUBLIC HEARING**

AUGUST 16, 2018

The City Council for the City of Buena Vista met for a Regular Council Meeting and a Public Hearing on Thursday, August 16, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (2039 Sycamore Avenue).

Council Members Present: Mayor Bill Fitzgerald

Steve Baldrige Daniel Staton

Stanley Coffey Melvin Henson

Vice-Mayor Tyson Cooper

Members Absent: Lisa Clark

ADG#1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the meeting by requesting that everyone stand and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice-Mayor Cooper delivered the opening prayer.

**ADG #2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR
COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 2, 2018.**

Motion was made by Councilman Henson to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting held on August 2, 2018, seconded by Vice-Mayor Cooper, carried by Council.

ADG #3
CANCELLED

PUBLIC HEARING

CITY COUNCIL

August 16th 2018

Pursuant to Code of Virginia Section 15.2-2204 and the City of Buena Vista Land Development Regulations, notice is given that City Council will hold a public hearing to receive comment on one matter.

- 1) Zoning Map Amendment to rezone Lots 7A, 8, 9 and 23 of Block 26, Section 5 (to be designated 212 Park Avenue) from R3 Residential Limited to MB Mixed Business, for the purpose of constructing six (6) dwelling units. The lots are currently undeveloped. Casey Crookston, applicant.

The Public Hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers located in the Municipal Building located at 2039 Sycamore Avenue in Buena Vista during the regular City Council meeting at approximately 6:00 PM on Thursday, August 16th, 2018. Staff reports for each matter, and a copy of the Comprehensive Plan, are available from the Director of Planning and Community Development, Thomas Roberts, 2039 Sycamore Avenue, Buena Vista VA 24416 or (540) 261-8607 or troberts@bvcity.org.

ADG #4 RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATION FROM VISITORS: Citizens who desire to speak on matters not listed on the agenda below will be heard at this time. Citizens who desire to speak on an item listed on the agenda, open for public comment, will be heard when that item is considered.

Ms. Gretchen Sukow and Mr. Don Henke of the Environment Committee of 50 Ways Rockbridge invited Council to attend a presentation on climate change on Saturday, September 8, 2018 at Westfell Hall, Lexington Presbyterian Church, 120 South Main Street, Lexington, Virginia.

ADG #5 REPORTS:

1.) Mayor

None.

2.) City Manager

Mr. Scudder opined the most important thing dealt with since the last meeting was Columbia Gas. They were getting ready to do some work on Magnolia and there was a lack of communication on their part for reviews and designs. He stopped the work until we can get some information about what they intend to do. The area in question is the area we just improved. We have had conversations about coordination early on a couple of years ago when all of this work started. We were doing well and Columbia Gas had some staffing changes. They have been working the back streets and alleys which was really not a big deal. However, this one is a big deal and it was not followed through with properly. We are going to regroup and see what needs to be done.

3.) City Attorney

None.

4.) Council Committee/Representative

Councilman Coffey advised there was a meeting yesterday with Councilman Henson, Jay Scudder, Trina Mastran and himself. He said there was a long discussion on the Code for brush pickup. He opined that Ms. Mastran does an amazing job. He then wanted to read the Code: "SECTION 28-59: LIMBS AND CUTTINGS: Limbs and cuttings should be cut in 5 foot lengths and tied in bundles not exceeding one and a half feet in diameter; placed by the garbage container on regular collection day". He said that does not happen. For our meeting in September, Ms. Mastran will bring a proposal of what we need to add to this. It does cost the City every time we pick up brush. He opined the only good thing about picking the brush up is we can take it to Beverly Brothers which does not cost us. He said that Ms. Mastran keeps a record on the tonnage and other items that impact the cost for the City. Councilman Coffey opined Ms. Mastran keeps a lot of data and stated again that she is doing a great job.

Councilman Henson opined that Ms. Mastran has some major problems at Public Works such as manpower issues. He opined this has been an extremely long mowing season. He also opined that Ms. Mastran is doing a good job with what she has to work with. They also had 2 garbage trucks down this week so they

had to use a 2 ton dump truck and a loader for refuse pickup.

Vice-Mayor Cooper opined before we start talking about fees and additional costs we should have an education campaign concerning refuse and brush pickup. He feels that most citizens want to corporate.

Councilman Henson said that perhaps Council could look at the information and come up with some proposals as to how to educate the citizens.

Vice-Mayor Cooper opined if we write a really nice and well worded letter then most citizens will be positive.

Mr. Scudder said this is the 3rd time we have focused on this issue in the last 7 years.

Councilman Baldrige stated that about 2 ½ years ago we had a conversation about needing to inform people what is appropriate about trash cans and alleyways and what is not appropriate. Almost all of the traditions violate the code for trash pickup because of the holders. We have a huge need to figure out what is really functional because if we were to purchase a trash truck that has a mechanical arm we could not have what we have in the alley now.

Mr. Scudder said this has been a big discussion but has never gone forward. He opined this is the time to move forward with the brush code and trash pickup. He said our whole solid waste process is very expensive and opined it all should be revamped.

Mayor Fitzgerald suggested that Council wait until Ms. Mastran gives her report and then they can discuss the issues.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES:

**APT #1 ROCKBRIDGE AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD:
(DISCUSSED OUT OF ORDER FROM THE AGENDA)**

Ms. Lori Turner has resigned. Her term will expire on December 31, 2020. This is the eighth time this item has appeared on the agenda. ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE 3/21/18; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 3/15/18. NO APPLICANTS – This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

APT #2 ROCKBRIDGE AREA DISABILITY SERVICES BOARD:

Ms. Rebekah Powers has resigned. Her term will expire January 31, 2021. This is the fourth time this item has appeared on the agenda. **ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE 6/27/18; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 6/19/18. NO APPLICANTS** - This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

APT #3 SHENANDOAH VALLEY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

Ms. Janice Shanks has resigned. Her term ended June 30, 2018. This is a 4 year term. The Shenandoah Valley Workforce Development Board has asked that we appoint someone from the private sector to replace Ms. Shanks. This is the second time this item has appeared on the agenda. **ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE AUGUST 1, 2018; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 7/26/18. NO APPLICANTS** - This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

APT #4 BUENA VISTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Jacob Thayer has resigned. His term will expire on July 31, 2019. This is the second time this item has appeared on the agenda. **ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE AUGUST 1, 2018; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 7/27/18. NO APPLICANTS** - This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

APT #5 REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Jacob Thayer has resigned. His term will expire on January 31, 2021. This is the second time this item has appeared on the agenda. **ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE AUGUST 1, 2018; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 7/27/18. APPLICANTS: MR. BRENT STYLER**

Motion was made by Councilman Baldrige to appoint Mr. Brent Styler to the Regional IDA, seconded by Councilman Coffey, carried by Council.

APT #6 CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION:

Council Member Lisa Clark has resigned. Her term will expire on June 30, 2021. This is the first time this item has appeared on the agenda. A COUNCIL MEMBER MUST FILL THIS POSITION. This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

Councilman Baldrige reported that Council Member Clark requested that he replace her as ex-officio on the Social Services Board.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB #1 DISCUSS NEW GOLF CART LEASE:

Mr. Edward Armentrout started the discussion by stating our current lease dated 2013, 50 carts at \$59.00 per cart; \$2,950.00 per month; \$188,800.00 term of lease. The lease is up. His first approach with the company was to see if we could continue our current lease. Unfortunately our carts have been liquidated even though we still have them at the golf course. The original new plan was to get 40 new carts, 10 less from our current lease, and also lease a 2018 TXT 800 Hauler. The lease will be for 64 months (5 years) at \$66.70 per cart for a total of \$2,668.00 per month and \$132.00 per month for the Hauler, for a total of \$2800.00 per month for 64 months. The total lease amount will be for \$179,200.00 for 5 years. The second option is a 3 year lease: 40 carts at \$93.00 per cart for a total of \$3,720.00 per month plus \$201.00 per month for the Hauler for a total of \$3,921.00 per month. The total lease amount will be \$141,156.00 for 3 years. He discussed the options with Mr. Kearney and they feel like one of the above options will be the best way to go. He said if Council would like him to, he could talk to the company and discuss an annual contract.

Mr. Scudder said every time you talk to the company the price increases. He said in all likely hood if something happens with the course, and we had some years left on the lease, we could work something out to turn that over to someone else who might need the carts. From a financial standpoint it makes sense to him to do the same thing we have done in the past. He feels we should go with the 5 year lease. He said before we

started leasing 50 carts per lease, we were leasing more than 50. We have dropped the number down to 50 and will not drop the number down to 40. Over the last 15 years we have reduced the number of carts to keep the cost the same. He recommended that we go with Option #1, the 5 year lease.

Vice-Mayor Cooper stated that in the additional comments it says we could ask other companies for bids.

Mr. Armentrout said we could but he has not done so because EZGO is the best and he does not want to tarnish our relationship with them.

Vice-Mayor Cooper wanted to know what the Hauler is.

Mr. Armentrout explained that the Hauler is like a John Derr Gator except it is a golf cart. It has a picker on the front that is used to pick up golf balls. It cuts this operation down to one man versus three or four men and it also has a cover on it. The one they currently have has been used for 15 years.

Vice-Mayor Cooper then questioned the statement that the cart fleet is the main revenue driver accounting for 50 to 60% of the annual revenue.

Mr. Armentrout said he decided to pull the cart fees, the green fees and season passes. For years 2014 and 2015 there was revenue of \$159,000.00 for the carts; 2016 it was \$187,000.00. We paid \$3,000.00 per month for the carts so our gross profit for 2016 was \$157,000.00.

Vice-Mayor Cooper wanted to know what is included in a season pass.

Mr. Armentrout explained that a season pass runs from April to March of the following year. It includes the greens fee. A resident of Buena Vista pays \$675.00 for a season pass. When a season pass holder comes to play all he has to pay for is the cart rental in the amount of \$16.00.

Mr. Kearney said he has to have a resolution authorizing to enter into a lease agreement with EZGO LLC and authorizing Ed Armentrout to sign the lease on behalf of the City.

Motion was made by Councilman Baldrige to approve the lease agreement with EZGO LLC and authorization for Ed Armentrout to sign the agreement, seconded by Vice-Mayor Cooper, carried by Council.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Dawn M. Wheeler

Clerk of Council

William H. Fitzgerald

Mayor