

**CITY OF BUENA VISTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 6, 2018**

The City Council for the City of Buena Vista met for a Regular Council Meeting on Thursday, September 6, 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	Lisa Clark

Members Absent: None

ADG#1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the meeting by requesting that everyone stand and repeat the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Coffey delivered the opening prayer.

ADG #2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON AUGUST 16, 2018:

Motion was made by Councilman Coffey to approve the minutes from the Regular Council Meeting and Public Hearing held on August 16, 2018, seconded by Councilman Staton, carried by Council with the exception of Council Member Clark who abstained.

ADG #3 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.

Mr. Brent Styler, 2104 Walnut Avenue was the only person to address Council. He advised that almost all of the equipment from the Amish Cupboard has been moved to the Coiner Building. They are shooting to open for business by October 1, ahead of Mountain Days.

NB #1 THE BUENA VISTA POLICE DEPARTMENT TO REQUEST A REIMBURSEMENT ON THE LICENSE FOR THE RECENT FOP CARNIVAL: (OUT OF ORDER FROM THE AGENDA)

Lt. Mitchell Harrison of the Buena Vista Police Department spoke to Council concerning the recent carnival that the FOP held in Buena Vista. They had to obtain a business licenses and building permit in order to hold the carnival. He asked Council to reimburse the FOP for those charges which totaled \$1100.00.

Motion was made by Council Member Clark to reimburse the FOP in the amount of \$1100.00, seconded by Councilman Coffey, carried by Council.

Ms. Wheeler will submit the reimbursement request to Finance.

Councilman Henson reminded everyone of the 2nd annual Guns and Hoses event scheduled for Friday, September 14, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at Camden Field.

ADG #4 REPORTS:

1.) Mayor

Mayor Fitzgerald advised that he attended the grand opening of Cornerstone Bank and said it was a nice event.

2.) City Manager

Mr. Scudder started his report by saying we are experiencing some water problems throughout the City. One leak is on Hawthorn that goes under the creek. That section has been isolated and we turned the line off so no one is being impacted. A contractor will be repairing that leak. There is a more complicated leak on Cedar Avenue: 14th and 15th blocks. The water line is

underground as far as 15 to 20 feet deep. The road was built over the water line. We will be replacing about 700 feet of new 6 inch water line in this 2 block area. Staff has been out in the field meeting with residents explaining the situation to them. They have identified the water system where there are valves and who is going to be impacted and who will not be impacted. New valves will be installed and then the 700 feet of new water line will be installed 3 feet deep. After all the new valves and line is installed, we will close off the old valves to the pipe that is way underground and connect the new pipe. This leak is impacting the whole water system. Staff is watching the water tanks very closely to make sure they are maintained full. This situation is really pushing Dickinson Well because it has been going on for quite some time. It has impacted some residents and there are also some springs in the same area. All the while this has been going on there have been other water leaks within the City.

Councilman Henson wanted to know if Laurel Park is ready to go back on line.

Mr. Scudder said that he will check to see if Laurel Park is ready. Both Tom Roberts and Rachel Moore have been working on the Columbia Gas project. The good thing about that project is that when Columbia Gas has finished making their repairs, they will mill and pave the whole area that they have disturbed.

Councilman Coffey wanted to know when Columbia Gas was going to start their project.

Ms. Moore advised that they should be starting any day.

Councilman Coffey wanted to know if the repairs would impact either the Christmas parade or Mountain Days.

Mr. Scudder said it should not impact either event.

Mayor Fitzgerald stated that the Labor Day events went very well. He said he cooks every year for the event so he did not get to see the parade. He said from the time the event started at the park until the end of the event the park was packed. They purchased more food than they did last year and they sold out of food at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Scudder opined the parade went very well. He also suggested that next year we charge a small fee for the band performances. He said this would help pay for those bands.

3.) City Attorney

Mr. Kearney started his report by saying that before the next scheduled Council meeting, the tax sale will be in the newspaper. . The hearing date for ACA will be October 31. He said it will probably be January or February before we have a ruling.

4.) Council Committee/Representative

Councilman Henson advised that some of the trees downtown need to be trimmed back. He also reported that 2 of the flag poles on the 10th Street bridge are without lights. He also mentioned a traffic hazard at the Family Pharmacy. He said there is a sight distance problem when exiting the building. You cannot see oncoming traffic.

Council Member Clark suggested that the no parking zone be extended. The hazard was created because a new business opened in the building beside of the pharmacy and by extending the no parking zone it should alleviate the problem.

Councilman Henson then said he was on the floodwall and commented that it looks good after the cleanup. However, he wanted to know where the 4 emergency boat launches were. He said they were put in back in the mid 90's but he could not locate them.

Mr. Scudder said that 2 of them have been cut each year for emergency access to the river. He said he would try to locate all of them.

Councilman Henson then said at the Public Safety meeting they talked about an emergency on Reid's Hill. He wanted to know if Mr. Scudder had been able to make any contacts concerning the emergency.

Mr. Scudder said he has not been able to get in touch with Mr. McDaniel.

Councilman Coffey wanted to know if there has been anymore discussion on the bridge itself. He opined it needs to be addressed because we do not know if the bridge is sufficient enough for the Fire Department or the Rescue Squad. He said we have to maintain coverage for the 14 families that live there.

Mr. Scudder said we can have the bridge inspector come in and look at it.

Councilman Henson said the particular truck they are talking about weighs about 53,000 pounds.

Councilman Coffey said that most of emergency vehicles do not have to cross the bridges in Long Hollow. He said the road is private and he suggested that the City make it a City road.

Mr. Scudder stated that it would be very expensive to make the road a City road if you could get everyone to agree to make it public.

Vice-Mayor Cooper started his report by saying that months ago Rev. LePere started organizing a group in the community to do some kind of service event. He has recruited several different congregations and SVU for this service event. Vice-Mayor Cooper said that SVU sets aside a day each fall to do service. Some of the students will travel up to Washington D.C. and work on the LDS Temple. The Temple is closed for the next couple of years so Brian's timing in approaching the university is very good. The group has now expanded to include SVU. The group has chosen October 9th for the service day. He advised that both Tom Roberts and Rachel Moore have been very helpful in organizing this event. It appears there will be 1,000 volunteers. The university has committed its student body as well as faculty and staff. He said that the ideas the group has identified would only need about 300 volunteers. He said he is seeking ideas from Council on some projects the volunteers could work on. He said he would love to see a playground, a kin to or better than, the Kids Place in Lexington.

Councilman Baldrige said we have dreamed of the possibility of having an amphi theater at Glen Maury Park between the double decker and the multi-purpose building.

Councilman Coffey said there is already one there that could be worked on and brought back.

Mr. Scudder said he would like to see the old trails at Glen Maury Park revitalized.

Councilman Henson suggested that the globes on the lights downtown be cleaned and the poles painted.

Councilman Baldrige said he would like to have some of the overgrowth torn out from some of the derelict homes in the City.

Mr. Kearney said we cannot go on private property without the owner's permission.

Council Member Clark suggested that the wall around the Middle School be power washed.

Mr. Scudder opined it would be awesome to have the steps on 28th Street that go to SVU worked on. He also suggested that the pipe that goes across the creek from the apartments be fixed by restoring the old bridge. He said students are walking across the pipe and it is a safety issue.

Vice-Mayor Cooper stated that some of the larger projects will need some supervision from the City.

Mayor Fitzgerald said if anyone else has any ideas they should sent them directly to Vice-Mayor Cooper.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES:

APT #1 ROCKBRIDGE AREA COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD:

Ms. Lori Turner has resigned. Her term will expire on December 31, 2020. This is the ninth 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 fifth 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 third 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. Ms. Moore will ask industries for a volunteer.

APT #4 BUENA VISTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Jacob Thayer has resigned. His term will expire on July 31, 2019. This is the third 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 ROCKBRIDGE AREA SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD:

Mr. Billy Spence has resigned. His term will expire on October 31, 2020. This is the first time this item has appeared on the agenda. ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE SEPTEMBER 5, 2018; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 8/30/18. NO APPLICANTS – This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

APT #6 CENTRAL SHENANDOAH PLANNING DISTRICT COMMISSION:

Council Member Lisa Clark has resigned. Her term will expire on June 30, 2021. This is the second time this item has appeared on the agenda. A COUNCIL MEMBER MUST FILL THIS POSITION.

Motion was made by Council Member Clark to appoint Mayor Fitzgerald to fill this position, seconded by Councilman Coffey, carried by Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

OB #1 DISCUSS AND APPROVE THE REGIONAL BURN BUILDING AGREEMENT:

Mr. Kearney said Council had talked about the grant for a half million dollars to upgrade the facility many months ago. The grant has been approved and the preliminary plans are going. This is an agreement between the localities of Rockbridge County and the City of Buena Vista. Rockbridge County will coordinate the usage of the building. There will be a fee charged for anyone using the building that is from outside of the area. They have estimated the yearly cost to be approximately \$3,000.00 per year. He checked with VML and there is no additional liability insurance for the City. There may be a small

premium increase for the coverage of the building. He advised that Rockbridge County has already signed the agreement.

Motion was made by Councilman Baldrige to authorize the City Manager, Jay Scudder, to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Buena Vista, seconded by Council Member Clark, carried by Council.

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

Dawn M. Wheeler

Clerk of Council

William H. Fitzgerald

Mayor