

**CITY OF BUENA VISTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

JANUARY 3, 2019

The City Council for the City of Buena Vista met for a Regular Council Meeting on Thursday, January 3, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (2039 Sycamore Avenue).

Council Members Present:	Mayor Bill Fitzgerald
Steve Baldrige	Daniel Staton
Melvin Henson	Stanley Coffey

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 DECEMBER 20, 2018:

Motion was made by Councilman Coffey to approve the above mentioned minutes, seconded by Councilman Staton, carried by Council.

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.

Chief Keith Hartman addressed Council about the EOP that he presented to them a couple of weeks back. Chief Hartman said the Councilman Henson came and discussed some of the issues that he has with the EOP. He said he answered Councilman Henson's questions and wanted to know if anyone else had questions. He would like to put the EOP on the agenda for approval at the January 17, 2019 Council meeting. He also thanked Vice-Mayor Cooper for submitting some names of people that might be interested in serving on the RACSB.

ADG #4 REPORTS:

1.) Mayor

None.

2.) City Manager

Mr. Scudder advised that he has looked at the work being done on the Oyler Pavilion at GMP and is very pleased with the work that has been done. He also mentioned that he has been working with Mr. Billy Bane to install a memorial plaque for Mr. Guy Carawan in GMP. He advised that Hamrick's donated the plaque that will be installed.

3.) City Attorney

None.

Councilman Henson wanted to know if Mr. Kearney had any news concerning the decision from the appeals court on the golf course.

Mr. Kearney said he has not heard anything.

4.) Council Committee/Representative

Councilman Henson asked Mr. Scudder to define "perpetual care".

Mr. Scudder said it means that something will be maintained forever.

Councilman Henson then wanted to know how often cemetery conditions are

monitored.

Mr. Scudder replied by saying that he does not know if Public Works monitors the cemetery on a weekly basis but they do monitor it.

Councilman Henson reported that there are dead tree limbs that have been hanging for well past a month at the cemetery.

Councilman Coffey said that he has talked with some people concerning the condition of the cemetery. He said that people understand that we have had a lot of rain and tracks have to be made in the ground at the cemetery. However, some personal property has been torn up at some of the graves. He said the tracks have torn up a long piece of property and nothing has been done to repair the land. He opined if the City had put down some straw it would have helped make the area look better. He said that the owners of the grave sites that were damaged were not notified by the City of the damage that has been done. He opined that Public Works needs to understand and be respectful of other people's property.

Ms. Rachel Moore said that Ms. Mastran had sent her a request to put out to the public that the ground is very wet and as soon as it dries up some, the damage at the cemetery will be repaired.

Mr. Scudder said he will talk to the staff about future damage to the cemetery and how they should convey the information to the owners of the grave sites.

Councilman Henson said there are several grave sites that have sunk and they need to be repaired. He also mentioned the fence on 10th has been hit again. He also thinks that Council needs to have a work session on the neglect of City property and buildings. He opined if we let some of them go, they will cost us big money in the future.

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 16th 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. Chief Hartman does have a name of someone that might be

interested in serving on this board.

APT #2 BUENA VISTA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Richard Roberts term will expire on January 31, 2019. Mr. Roberts is not willing to serve again. This is a 4 year term and the 1st time it has appeared on the agenda. ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE JANUARY 2, 2019; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 12/27/18. NO APPLICANTS- MR. PETER TROTMAN TURNED HIS APPLICATION IN ON JANUARY 2, 2019.

Motion was made by Councilman Baldrige to appoint Mr. Peter Trotman to the BVEDA, seconded by Vice-Mayor Cooper, carried by Council

APT #3 REGIONAL INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY:

Mr. Jerry Miller's term will expire on February 28, 2019. Mr. Miller is willing to serve again if reappointed. This is a 4 year term and the 1st time it has appeared on the agenda. ADVERTISED THE NEWS GAZETTE JANUARY 2, 2019; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 12/28/18. NO APPLICANTS

Motion was made by Councilman Henson to reappoint Mr. Miller to the RIDA, seconded by Councilman Coffey, carried by Council.

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OLD BUSINESS:

OB #1 DISCUSS CHARTER COMMITTEE:

Mayor Fitzgerald thinks we should reduce the committee to 5 members with 1 of those members being a Council person. He suggested that each department head look at the charter and recommend any changes that they deem necessary. He said that by the 1/17/19 meeting, he would like to have everyone's suggestions as to how we should handle the charter review.

Councilman Baldrige wanted to know if we can put in writing the scope, the staff or budget and what the time line might be for the review.

Mayor Fitzgerald said he would like for the committee to meet at least one time per month and the meetings will be open to the public.

Councilman Henson stated that he would like to see a member of the Police Department be in attendance because the biggest thing about the charter is enforcement.

Mr. Kearney advised that the Police Department has nothing to do with the charter.

Mayor Fitzgerald charged Council to bring their suggestions back to the next Council meeting. He also mentioned that the charter is so far outdated.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB #1 MS. SADIE GIBSON FROM ROBINSON, FARMER, COX TO PRESENT THE ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT:

Ms. Sadie Gibson from Robinson, Farmer Cox presented the annual audit to Council. (See the audit report in the minute book)

NB #2 MR. TOM ROBERTS TO PRESENT AND DISCUSS THE EROSION & SEDIMENT CONTROL/STORM WATER MANAGEMENT FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE:

Mr. Roberts started his presentation by stating that we need to update the fee schedule for Erosion & Sediment Control/Storm Water Management. Mr. Roberts advised that he is now the administrator for these fees replacing Trina Mastran. We have also outsourced the plan review and for the time being inspections as well. The plan review and inspections were outsourced to A. Morton Thomas. To outsource the plan review and inspections costs a lot of money and we need to pass those costs on to the applicants. The new fee schedule is very similar to Rockbridge County's and other localities in Virginia. (See fee schedule in minute book) He opined the dollar amounts are a lot but that is the cost of development. He requested that Council vote on the new fees no later than the next scheduled Council meeting which will be January 17, 2019. Mr. Roberts anticipates some requests for new development coming in soon and right now our fee schedule is \$25.00 per acre.

Vice-Mayor Cooper wanted to know if there is a risk that we will deter new development with the fee increases.

Mr. Roberts stated that you need an erosion/sediment control permit if the land disturbance is greater than 10,000 square feet.

Mr. Scudder advised that all of the things that Mr. Roberts is talking about are requirements from DEQ. We have analyzed and reviewed the costs associated with

land disturbance and we do not want to eat those costs.

Mr. Roberts said the water, sewer and tap fees for the City are far too low.

After some further discussion, motion was made by Vice-Mayor Cooper to approve the new erosion and sediment control/storm water management fee schedule, seconded by Councilman Baldrige, carried by Council.

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

Dawn M. Wheeler

Clerk of Council

William H. Fitzgerald

Mayor