

**TOWN OF WEST POINT
TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES
July 27, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The West Point Town Council held its regular monthly meeting on July 27th, 2021. The Honorable James H. Hudson, III called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Invocation was given by Pastor Wayne Groome followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Mayor, Jim Hudson; Vice Mayor, Deborah Ball; Tina Gulley; Robert Lawrence; Jack Lawson; James Pruet, John Ragsdale and Chris Vincent.

Also Present: John B. Edwards, Jr., Town Manager; Andrea Erard, Town Attorney; Karen Barrow, Town Clerk; Holly McGowan, Director of Community Development; Jon Morr, Building Official, Donna Pauley, Human Resource Officer and other interested persons.

II. CITIZENS ADDRESS TO COUNCIL

Mayor Hudson welcomed Troop 340 to the Town Council meeting and advised that Troop 340 are observing the meeting to earn merit badges. Mr. Hudson also stated that the items on the Town Council agenda go to a Town Council Committee, a Board or Commission first for discussion, research and review. They are placed on the Town Council agenda when the review process is complete.

A. Citizens Address to Council

Mr. Hudson opened the floor for citizens to address Town Council on any Town related business.

- 1 Tom Redd, 690 River Road, West Point, Virginia 23181 stated that the Pavilion is a nice addition to the Town, but the port-a-john is located in open view. Mr. Redd asked if there is any other option for a non-visible location for the port-a-john. Mr. Redd also stated that there is a Homestay request that is about to go through the process for a special use permit, it is scheduled for a public hearing at Planning Commission and will come before Town Council for approval. Mr. Redd advised that he just paid \$5,000 to the town in taxes, and he feels that anyone who owns a house in R-1 does so to be protected and not have a business located next door, a homestay is a business. If Town Council approves this application, it will open a large can worms. Mr. Redd stated that he will be at the Planning Commission and Town Council public hearings for this application.

Mr. Hudson asked if anyone else wanted to address Town Council. There being none, the Citizens Address was closed.

III. COUNCIL RESPONSE

None was noted.

IV. AGENDA CHANGES

Mr. Edwards asked for the Resolution “Ending the Declaration of Local Emergency” to be placed on the Town Council agenda as item 1 under the Public Safety Committee.

Mrs. Ball made a motion to adopt the agenda with amendments, seconded by Mr. Lawson. Upon Roll call Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Lawson; Mr. Pruet, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

V. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Vincent made a motion to adopt the following consent agenda, seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Upon roll call Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Lawson; Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

- 1) Town Council and Work Session minutes of May 27th 2021
- 2) Cash Reports
 - a) General Fund
Cash on hand as of June 30th 2021 - \$652,013.14
 - b) Water Fund
Cash on hand as of June 30th 2021 - \$1,645,836.75
 - c) CIP
Cash on hand as of June 30th 2021 - \$(356,898.91)
 - d) Solid Waste
Cash on hand as of June 30th 2021 - \$229,967.98
- 3) Monthly Budget Report
- 4) School Fund Cash Report
 - a) Cash on hand as of June 30th 2021 - \$227,574.54
- 5) West Point Monthly Police Activity Report
- 6) Building Official Monthly Report
- 7) Public Works Monthly Permit Report
- 8) Community Development Monthly Permit Report
- 9) Treasurer Monthly Report
- 10) Human Resource Monthly Report

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Economic and Community Development – Mr. Lawson reported for the Committee

1. Crab Carnival Master Plan

Mr. Lawson advised that the Chamber of Commerce was present at the July meeting to discuss the changes this year for the Crab Carnival. The Beer Garden will be expanding, and the woodsman competition will be coming back. The chamber will be working on finalizing both of these changes.

Mr. Lawson made a motion to adopt the Crab Carnival Master Plan, seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Upon roll call Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Lawson; Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

Mr. Lawson also stated that the Committee voted to change the monthly committee meeting to the seconded Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM, we reviewed the property donation from George S. Richardson and some signage for the Riverwalk Pavilion.

B. Education Committee – Mr. Ragsdale reported for the Committee

Mr. Ragsdale advised there was nothing to report.

C. Finance Committee – Mrs. Ball reported for the Committee

Mrs. Ball advised there was nothing to report.

D. Public Safety – Mrs. Gulley reported for the Committee

1. Resolution Ending the Declaration of Local Emergency

Mrs. Gulley made a motion to adopt the attached resolution, seconded by Mr. Lawrence. Upon roll call Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Lawson; Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

E. Public Works – Mr. Lawrence reported for the Committee

Mr. Lawrence advised that the Committee voted to change the meeting time to the seconded Thursday of the month at 4:00 P.M.

1. Middle Peninsula Regional Airport Obstruction Removal Project

Mr. Edwards advised that the Regional Airport Authority have asked permission to remove some trees located on town property that is a threat to obstructing the view of the runway approach.

Mr. Lawrence made a motion that Town Council grant permission to the Middle Peninsula Airport Authority to have the necessary trees removed at its expense, seconded by Mr. Vincent. Upon roll call, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Gulley, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

VII. TOWN MANAGER’S ITEMS

Mr. Edwards advised that as of July, he will be the Chairman of the Airport Authority and that Mr. Vincent will be the alternat member for the Town.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

There was nothing to report under Old Business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Planning Commission Report - Mr. Hudson

Mr. Hudson advised that the Planning Commission did not meet in July and that the next meeting will be on August 4th 2021 at 5 P.M.

1. Closed Session

Mr. Pruett made a motion to go into closed meeting pursuant to Virginia Code §2.23711(A)(1) for the discussion of the performance and evaluation of the Town Manager, seconded by Mrs. Ball. Upon roll call; Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

Reconvene

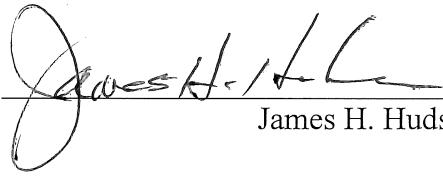
Mrs. Ball made a motion to reconvene in public meeting, seconded by Mrs. Gulley. Upon roll call; Mrs. Ball; Mrs. Gulley; Mr. Lawrence; Mr. Lawson; Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

Certification

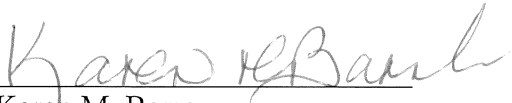
Mr. Lawrence made a motion to certify that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the meeting by the Council, seconded by Mr. Pruett. Upon roll call, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Gulley, Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Lawson, Mr. Pruett, Mr. Ragsdale and Mr. Vincent all voted “Aye”. The motion was approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Hudson adjourned the meeting.


James H. Hudson, III
Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk



**RESOLUTION BY THE WEST POINT TOWN ENDING
THE DECLARATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY
FOR THE COVID-19 VIRUS**

WHEREAS on March 12, 2020, Governor Ralph S. Northam issued Executive Order Fifty-One declaring a state of emergency for the Commonwealth of Virginia arising from the novel Corona virus (COVID-19) pandemic; and

WHEREAS Executive Order Fifty-One acknowledged the existence of a public health emergency which constitutes a disaster as defined by Virginia Code § 44-146.16 arising from the public health threat presented by a communicable disease anticipated to spread; and

WHEREAS Executive Order Fifty-One ordered implementation of the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan, activation of the Virginia Emergency Operations Center to aid local governments, and authorize executive branch agencies to waive “any state requirement or regulation” as appropriate; and

WHEREAS on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a national emergency, beginning March 1, 2020, in response to the spread of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS on March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic; and

WHEREAS on April 28, 2020, the Town of West Point, at the advice of qualified individuals, declared a local state of emergency:

1. Because of the potential spread of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) and its potential impacts on the public health and safety of the residents of the Town of West Point;
2. Because of the urgent need to prepare; and
3. Because of the opportunity for funding reimbursements and emergency procurement provisions that exist under such declaration

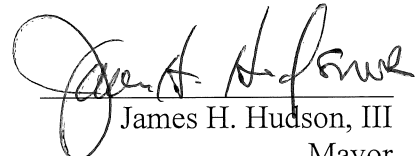
WHEREAS Code of Virginia § 44-146.21 requires the West Point Town Council to confirm the local declaration made by the Coordinator of Emergency Services at the next regular meeting or at a special meeting held within 45 days of the declaration; and

WHEREAS the Town Council confirmed the local declaration made by the Coordinator of Emergency Services on April 28, 2020; and


WHEREAS Code of Virginia § 44-146.21 states “The governing body, when in its judgment all emergency actions have been taken, shall take appropriate action to end the declared emergency.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the West Point Town Council finds that all necessary emergency actions have been taken and it is appropriate to end the declaration of a local state of emergency confirmed by Council on July 27, 2021.

Certified to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Town Council of the Town of West Point at its regular monthly meeting held on the 27th day of July 2021, at which meeting a quorum was present and voting throughout.


James H. Hudson, III
Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk



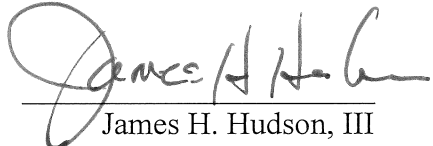
**TOWN OF WEST POINT
RESOLUTION**

RESOLVED, That the Town Council of the Town of West Point, Virginia, accepts the donation by George Selden Richardson III of Lot 199, fronting on C Street in the Town; subject to the Mayor, the Town Manager and the Town Attorney's review and approval of the title to the property; that the Mayor and/or Town Manager are authorized and directed to accept a deed of gift conveying the lots to the Town and to execute and deliver such deed and documents as may be necessary or desirable in furtherance of this resolution.

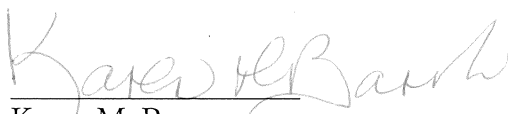
RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Mayor and Town Manager are hereby authorized and directed to take such other action as they deem reasonable and appropriate in furtherance of this Resolution.

RESOLVED FURTHER that James H. Hudson III is the duly elected and serving Mayor and John B. Edwards, Jr. is the duly appointed and serving Town Manager.

Certified to be a true and accurate copy of the resolution duly introduced and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of West Point, Virginia at its meeting on July 27, 2021, throughout which meeting a quorum was present and voting.


James H. Hudson, III
Mayor

ATTEST:


Karen M. Barrow
Town Clerk