

**CITY OF BUENA VISTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND
EXECUTIVE SESSION
JUNE 7, 2018**

The City Council for the City of Buena Vista met for a Regular Council Meeting and Executive Session on Thursday, June 7, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (2039 Sycamore Avenue).

Council Members Present:	Mayor Bill Fitzgerald
Steve Baldrige	Daniel Staton
Tyson Cooper, Vice-Mayor	Stanley Coffey

Members Absent: Lisa Clark and Melvin Henson

ADG#1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

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

ADG #2 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 a specific item listed on the agenda, open for public comment, will be heard when that item is considered.

Mr. Steve Grist, President of CornerStone Bank addressed Council. He advised that he also had with him his fellow Board members and Mary Buzzard, who is a lender and a long time banker in this community. He said it is their understanding that the branch of Union Bank and Trust has decided to close their facility in Buena Vista on August 10, 2018. He said he wanted Council to know publicly and in person that they intend to come to Buena Vista and open a branch here. They have been in touch with Union Bank trying to find out a listing

price and asking price for that building. He said they are at the early stages of trying to obtain that information. They plan to be ready, willing and able to open accounts and serve the members of our community. They are working very hard to make that happen. They want to bring “The Cornerstone’s Care of Banking” to Buena Vista. Mr. Grist said that many of the citizens of Buena Vista are already customers of CornerStone. He advised that many people have told CornerStone if they come to Buena Vista they will bank with them. He said he does not know the timeline as of yet. There are working with their regulators as well and they can file their application for a new branch when Union Bank closes. He then introduced the Board members that were in the audience.

Mayor Fitzgerald thanked Mr. Grist for his announcement about coming to Buena Vista. He told Mr. Grist if he could do anything to help them to please let him know.

Mr. Scudder said he is excited and appreciative of CornerStone opening in Buena Vista.

Councilman Coffey then thanked Mr. Grist. He also wanted to know if they would be hiring any of the employees from Union Bank.

Mr. Grist said they are talking with them but he cannot discuss too much about it because of the HIPPA laws.

No one else spoke.

ADG #4 REPORTS:

1.) Mayor:

Mayor Fitzgerald said that he went to the mural unveiling. He opined it is a beautiful portrait. He said they brought everything in together from the college and the high school. He said it is a big benefit for Buena Vista to have the mural. He also attended the Firemen’s parade.

Mr. Scudder said we also need to thank the Arts Council of Buena Vista. He feels they are the ones that kind of spear headed this mural.

Councilman Baldrige said we also need to thank the National Endowment of Arts.

Mr. Scudder said that is a good partnership to have that we have taken advantage of on a couple of occasions that have benefited the City.

Mayor Fitzgerald said he spoke with the artist and told her we have more buildings in the City that she could do murals on.

2.) City Manager:

Mr. Scudder said there has been an effort by Public Works, Ms. Mastran and Ms. Vassar, and also other staff members to be able to put

information on water bills. This is the first attempt and they put information on the water bill about upcoming events at Glen Maury Park. He opined this will be a neat addition to our public information outreach. Mr. Scudder gave the following report on street repairs; Mr. John Cole, Street Supervisor is keeping track of costs; staff reports are in your package; 35 potholes repaired; work orders involving repairs at one location was 26; there were 9 work orders involving 2-8 locations; 178 total man hours expended on pot hole repairs; average number of hours per work order is 5.1; total equipment expended on pot holes is 178; so far we have spread out 28 tons of gravel; 40 tons of cold patch; Adams Paving will pave the road behind the pool at the park and the lower road to the campground. This is a synopsis of the work that has been done in the last month or two.

3.) City Attorney:

Mr. Kearney started his report by saying that he did file our brief today in answer to ACA. They have 15 days to reply. The court will then decide if a hearing is necessary or they will rule. He said he will not be at the next Council meeting but Mr. Heslep will be attending.

4.) Council Committee/Representative:

Councilman Baldrige said that the high school graduation was held on May 26th and it was a great ceremony. The Sunday after that the Memorial Day Celebration was held at the American Legion. The City of Buena Vista hosted the Governor School banquet at SVU. They had more people than they have ever had; over 100 people. On May 31st there was a Paxton House dinner. They had an opportunity to view the Paxton House and all of the progress that has been made there. The house is now complete. They are furnishing the house with a lot of pieces that came along with the house. He opined there is so much history in the house. The house is handicap accessible and has a bathroom out back. On Friday night the mural was dedicated at 21st Street and Magnolia Avenue entitled "Greetings from Buena Vista".

Mr. Scudder said that awards were given out at the Paxton House to Mrs. Virginia Hess, Mr. Frances Lynn and Mrs. Irma Thompson. He opined it went very well and people were taken aback by the old photo from 1891. Mayor Fitzgerald was the person that came up with the idea to make copies to be given to Mr. Lynn, Mrs. Hess and Mrs. Thompson.

Councilman Baldrige advised that the Spring Sports banquet was being held tonight at the high school. He opined we had some great teams this

year and there is one athlete that has been on 4 State championship teams.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

NB #1 DISCUSSION OF OLDER VEHICLE REPLACEMENT:

Ms. Trina Mastran, Director of Public Works, introduced Mr. John Cole, the new Street supervisor, and Mr. Ken Talley, Building, Grounds and Refuse supervisor. Ms. Mastran handed out sheets explaining vehicles that need to be replaced. She advised that they have 32 vehicles in their fleet and the average age of the vehicles is 18 years old. Nine per cent of their vehicles are 10 years old or less; sixty-six per cent are 15 years or greater; thirty-seven per cent are 20 years old or greater. They are looking at purchasing 3 vehicles. She addressed water and sewer: the current vehicle being used is an old Buena Vista ambulance. The vehicle died this week and had to be towed. The vehicle has been used for utility work. They want to purchase a new utility truck that would include a rack on top of the truck. They got 3 quotes and they would like to purchase the truck from Magic City Ford for \$32,200.00. The funds for the purchase would be taken out of the water and sewer funds.

Mr. John Cole told Council the vehicle that he is driving currently is a Chevrolet S10 and that we paid \$3,000.00 for it 5 or 6 years ago. The truck needs a new transmission; the air conditioning needs to be repaired; needs a wiring harness; a fuel pump; 4 new tires. In order to make the repairs, we would need to put between \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 in the vehicle. They are looking at a 2012 Chevy Silverado; 4 wheel drive; there are 19,000 miles on the vehicle. The price for the vehicle is \$14,599.95. Mr. Cole opined we need the vehicle desperately.

Ms. Mastran said that Mr. Scudder wanted to know who was driving the Jeep Cherokee. The mowing crew had the vehicle today. Also this week a rod blew in the dually. The mechanic quoted \$6,500.00 for a new engine. The vehicle carries 5 people and it is essential to have a vehicle to transport the prisoners. Ms. Mastran said we have 2 groups of inmates that have to be picked up to help Public Works with their work.

Mr. Scudder advised that the prisoners are a new program that has been amazingly successful.

Mr. Ken Talley said he would like to purchase a 2014 Ford F150 at a price of \$17,599.95. He said that currently all of the vehicles are signed out and he has been driving his personal vehicle which is 14 years old. He said they are trying to get ahead a little in having good vehicles. After the refuse people get done picking up trash they go out and pick up brush. He needs another vehicle to haul 6 men to go out and get the brush. The other dump trucks are busy doing street work. He said he has been using his personal vehicle for a few months.

Mr. Cole said all the new vehicles will be crew cabs. He said that more than likely one of the new vehicles will be used by the mowing crew.

Councilman Baldrige opined you cannot get the best use of your people if you can't them to where they need to work.

Mr. Scudder said that he doesn't think that even the new members of Council are surprised by this because we know the circumstances and how we have been pushing it to get to where we are today. He told Ms. Mastran, Mr. Cole and Mr. Talley that he appreciated the work they did to make the presentation for new vehicles.

Councilman Coffey wanted to know if Mr. Talley was being reimbursed for the use of his personal vehicle.

Mr. Scudder said he is not getting reimbursed.

Ms. Mastran said she has been driving her personal vehicle for 12 years. In full disclosure, they just purchased a vehicle for her to drive. She said that she also wanted to make it really clear that the tone in Public Works is: each vehicle will be assigned; all vehicles will be signed out; the supervisors will make sure the vehicles are washed and inspected. She said the new vehicles will be taken care of. Adam will track expenses and they will be required to dispose of the old vehicles.

Mr. Scudder said the money to pay for the vehicles will be coming from different pots and some might be appropriated from the general fund balance.

Ms. Mastran said the water and sewer fund has money for a vehicle this fiscal year to pay for the \$32,200 vehicle. The building/grounds, cemetery and streets budget does not have the funds. She opined that the general fund will be used to pay for the other 2 vehicles. Ms. Mastran said there is nothing in next year's budget for vehicles.

Mr. Scudder said we will transfer \$35,000.00 from the general fund to purchase the 2 trucks for Public Works.

Motion was made by Councilman Baldrige to transfer funds in the amount of \$35,000.00 from the general fund to pay for 2 trucks; one for the Street Supervisor and the other for the Building/Grounds Supervisor for Public Works. The motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Cooper, carried by Council.

Mr. Kearney said we cannot take funds from the water/sewer funds. That action has to be taken by the PSA Board.

Mr. Scudder said we should tell them to go ahead and purchase the trucks.

Councilman Coffey wanted to know how their personal vehicles would be covered if they were damaged while doing City business.

Mr. Kearney said that VML would cover if the employee was on City business.

NB # 2 FIRST READING BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE FY 2018:

BUDGET AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

WHEREAS, on May 18, 2017 the City of Buena Vista adopted its budget for Fiscal Year 2018 (the “Budget”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved certain ongoing projects and activities that required additional funds and usage of fund balances to be reappropriated during the current fiscal year.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council for the City of Buena Vista, Virginia, in accordance with Section 15.2-2507 of the 1950

Code of Virginia that the Budget be amended to increase the following line items by the amounts shown:

	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
Professional Services (City Attorney/Juvenile Domestic)	11,000	
DCJS Training Equipment (Police Grant)	2,048	
21 st Century Grant (Police Grant)	22,925	
VDEM Grant (Police Grant)	43,180	
DMV 402 Grant (Police Grant)	3,380	
Regional Jail (Increase in inmates/cost)	60,000	
Street Maintenance (Pavement Maint, Repair Maint)	394,499	
Landfill (Increase in Landfill fees)	23,452	
Building & Grounds (Repair Maintenance)	180,673	
Parks & Recreation (Pool Maint, Repair Maint Projects)	117,006	
Social Services (CSA and VPA additional Expend.)	643,208	
Transfer Unappropriated Surplus		712,872
Grants and State Funds		788,499

Bill Fitzgerald, Mayor

ATTEST:

Clerk of Council

Date of Adoption

NB #3 PINNING OF NEW POLICE OFFICERS:

Mr. Scudder said this will be done at next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

OB #1 CHARTER REVISION UPDATE:

Mr. Kearney said we need to schedule a meeting to discuss the charter revision update. He will coordinate the meeting with Dawn when she gets back to work.

Mayor Fitzgerald wanted to know if Council wants to cancel the July 5th meeting. Council will make a decision at the next Council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

According to Section 2.2-3711 (A) (6) of the Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of discussing the possibility of the investment of public funds associated with solid waste where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position and negotiating strategy of the City.

CERTIFICATION OF EXECUTIVE MEETING

MOTION: Councilman Baldrige

DATE: 6/7/18

SECOND: Vice-Mayor Cooper

WHEREAS, the Buena Vista City Council has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.1-344.1 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Buena Vista City Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buena Vista City Council hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Buena Vista City Council.

VOTE: AYES: All

NAYS: None

ABSENT DURING VOTE: Council Member Clark, Councilman Henson

ABSENT DURING MEETING: Council Member Clark, Councilman Henson

Dawn M. Wheeler

Clerk of Council

REGULAR SESSION: Councilman Baldrige moved to return to regular session, seconded by Vice-Mayor Cooper and carried by Council.

Mayor Fitzgerald

Mr. Baldrige

Mr. Staton

Vice-Mayor Cooper

Mr. Coffey

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

Dawn M. Wheeler

Clerk of Council

William H. Fitzgerald

Mayor