

COUNCIL CHAMBER – November 1, 2010

Council met in regular session on this date with the following members present: Dr. Brown, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja.

AWARDS/RECOGNITIONS

Mr. Norris read a proclamation declaring November 2010 National Adoption Month in Charlottesville. Ms. Diane Kuknyo was present to accept the award.

Ms. Laurie Thomas presented on the VSA Arts Program. On behalf of the Charlottesville/Albemarle VSA, she thanked the city for providing funding for the local VSA Arts program. She distributed poem books to Council.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Norris announced the design public hearing for the Hillsdale Drive Extension Project at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 16th at the Sr. Center on Pepsi Place. He also reminded citizens of the fuel assistance program. Applications are being accepted until November 12th. Call 970-3400 for more information.

Ms. Szakos reminded citizens that tomorrow is Election Day. Polls will open at 6:00 a.m.

Mr. Norris thanked the city staff who helped make President Obama's visit to the city on Friday a success.

Mr. Norris said that at least one Charlottesville resident received a phone call purporting to be from the Charlottesville Voting Registration office claiming their voter registration is invalid and they will not be able to vote tomorrow. These phone calls are not valid and did not originate from the city's Voting Registration office.

Mr. Norris announced that the McIntire Road Extended report will be moved to the November 15 meeting.

Dr. Brown announced that the Film Festival starts this week.

Mr. Norris acknowledged the Boy Scout troop visiting for the evening.

PUBLIC

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Circle, thanked staff for their work on Friday during President Obama's visit. She asked Council to consider a list of city resources that would be used for expansion of the water supply and as such, should be compensated or credited for.

Ms. Rebecca Quinn, 104 4th St., said she admired how the city performed on Friday. She commended Mr. Norris and Ms. Edwards on their speeches. She said she has noticed new signs around the city and commended staff on the variety of locations and the design. She recommended auctioning the old signs for a cause.

Ms. Kathy Galvin, 712 Lyons Ave., thanked the city for their work on the Obama event. She asked Council to refrain from approving \$5,000 for charrettes and save it for future design and redevelopment of the larger redesign.

Ms. Betty Mooney, 201 Sunset Ave., said that Council has done an admirable job of examining the waste issue and making important changes. She said city dollars are not being well-used at Ivy. She wants to see McIntire expanded because many citizens are having trouble with hazardous waste. She wants additional funding put into McIntire to provide better services for citizens.

Mr. Peter Kleeman, 407 Hedge St., said Council should not consider the McIntire Road Extended draft MOU because it is inappropriate for the city to take action on a permit application that is not complete.

Mr. Stratton Salidis, 704 B Graves, said he agrees with Mr. Kleeman that Council should not consider the McIntire Road MOU. He said the reason the application is not complete may be because they have not determined the terminus of the road. He said the demand estimate should be the focus of the water supply discussion. He said the county will have incentive to sprawl based on the current finance plan.

COUNCIL RESPONSES TO MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Dr. Brown said it is always a pleasure to have Mr. Salidis speak, whether or not he agrees with him.

Ms. Szakos said she would like to see the design charrette project incorporated as part of a larger project rather than in isolation. Mr. Tolbert said the city will conduct their projects in context of the broader area, and this project does not preclude later projects.

Ms. Szakos said she likes the idea of auctioning the old signs. Mr. Tolbert said most of them have gone to recycling. Citizens may contact Donovan Branch at 970-3182 to request old signs.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Ms. Szakos, the following consent agenda items were approved (Ayes: Dr. Brown, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja. Noes: None.)

- a. Minutes of October 18
- b. APPROPRIATION: \$2,992.94 – Insurance Reimbursement - Repair of Damaged City Vehicle (2nd readings)
- c. APPROPRIATION: \$19,953 – State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) Grant for 2010 (2nd reading)
- d. APPROPRIATION: \$7,250 – Westhaven Clinic Funding (carried over)
- e. APPROPRIATION: \$1,430 – The Karen Roberts Memorial Fund for Girls (carried over)
- f. RESOLUTION: Acceptance of Street and Improvements in Village Place PUD
- g. RESOLUTION: Housing the Future Design Workshop
- h. ORDINANCE: Electrical Permit for Electric/Plug-In Vehicular Charger (2nd reading)
- i. ORDINANCE: Petition to rezone property at 1006 Linden Ave (carried over)
- j. ORDINANCE: Petition to rezone property at 110 Summit Street (carried over)

PUBLIC HEARING/ORDINANCE: ABANDONMENT OF STADIUM RD. SEWER EASEMENTS

Mr. Brown said the city has acquired new easements across private property that gives the city access to the new sewer line. In the locations where we have acquired new easements, we do not need the old ones and would like to release them. The easements are in the Cherry Hill subdivision, and they cross seven properties.

The public hearing was opened.

Mr. Peter Kleeman, 407 Hedge St., asked whether homeowners would be responsible for repair if the abandoned sewer lines fail.

The public hearing was closed.

Mr. Brown said staff will answer the question of whether or not the abandoned lines will be removed, filled and plugged, or some other option, on the second reading.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Dr. Brown, the motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING/RESOLUTION: MAIN STREET ARENA PROPERTY LEASE

Mr. Jones said this would allow owners of the Main Street Arena to lease the patio area adjacent to the building and allow them to maintain the space.

Ms. Szakos asked if they were planning to use the area as café space. Mr. Tolbert said if they try to set it up as a café, they will have to pay café space fees similar to other locations on the downtown mall.

Ms. Szakos asked about the terms of the lease. Mr. Brown said it was for one year, until July 1, 2011, and then provides for four more option years under the same terms.

The public hearing was opened.

Ms. Rebecca Quinn, 104 4th St., said she wants to make sure this does not obstruct free access. Mr. Tolbert said it does not.

The public hearing was closed.

On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Dr. Brown, the resolution passed unanimously. (Ayes: Dr. Brown, Mr. Norris, Ms. Szakos, Mr. Huja. Noes: None.)

REPORT: RSWA FUNDING / MCINTIRE RECYLCING FACILITY

Ms. Judy Mueller presented to Council. Last year, Council agreed to fund the activities at McIntire Recycling Center and the Ivy Materials Recovery facility for a period of six months. Approximately 15% of the users of the Ivy facility are city residents. She recommended Council stop funding Ivy because the utilization is very low and many of the services are duplicative of the city's curbside program.

Ms. Mueller said we have seen a massive decrease in tonnage. Mr. Jones asked if that was a result of an increase in curbside pickup. Ms. Mueller said it was.

Ms. Szakos said she uses the McIntire facility because separating recyclables is better for the environment and the economy. Ms. Mueller said staff is looking into distributing covered 96 gallon containers for recycling.

Ms. Szakos asked about batteries and fluorescents. Ms. Mueller said Lowes will take CFLs at no cost. Ms. Szakos asked about curbside composting at McIntire. Ms.

Mueller said space is limited. Ms. Szakos said she wants staff to examine generating funding out of the site itself, perhaps through advertising.

Dr. Brown said separation is important in order to allow for production of recycled office paper. He said we should encourage local businesses to recycle their paper.

Mr. Norris asked why the Vanderlin proposal for the McIntire Recycling Center was not approved. Ms. Mueller said their proposal was per haul, and it was difficult to anticipate how many hauls we would have and budget accordingly. Mr. Norris said he wanted to reopen the discussion of whether it makes sense to hire a private firm in the future.

Mr. Norris asked if the city could expand services to include more hazardous waste materials, reinstate operating hours and bolster the operation at McIntire in general. Ms. Mueller said staff can address these items during budget discussions, but there are monetary restraints.

Ms. Szakos said the city should consider setting a waste target and strengthen services to decrease the amount of trash that ends up in a landfill. Mr. Huja supported Mr. Norris's request to bolster services.

On motion by Mr. Huja, seconded by Ms. Szakos, Council voted to continue funding its share of the operation of the McIntire Recycling Center for the remainder of this fiscal year.

REPORT: SMITH AQUATIC CENTER

Mr. Daly presented to Council on the opening of the Smith Aquatic Center. He gave an overview of the project time line from 2007-2010. He reviewed options for citizens to utilize the facility, rate structures, pass options, and the scholarship program, which is based on a household size of three and is designed to reach areas of the community where income may be a barrier to participation in Parks and Recreation programming. Parks and Recreation also plans to program classes, athletics and events at the Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. Huja asked if the Charlottesville High School swim team had access to the facility. Mr. Daly confirmed that they do. Ms. Szakos asked if this project was ultimately cost-neutral. Mr. Daly said it may not be 100% cost-neutral, but there will be more cost recovery at this facility than any other facility in the city.

Ms. Szakos said there are so many efficiencies, and she is impressed with the thought that went into it.

Mr. Norris said the quality of service will improve dramatically for our residents. Mr. Daly said staff's service quality standards are very high. Mr. Norris commended staff for a successful opening.

REPORT: CHESAPEAKE BAY TMDL

Mr. Tolbert introduced Steve Williams and Leslie Middleton.

Ms. Middleton said these studies are an outgrowth of the clean water act. TMDL (Total Max Daily Load) refers to the amount of pollutant that can be released into a water body. They are developed in the context of local knowledge. The Chesapeake Bay TMDL is the largest ever done in the country and is complex. It sets limits for nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment at the state level. She reviewed the Chesapeake Bay TMDL schedule and discussed the steering committee for the Piedmont Regional Pilot Project (PRPP). She reviewed feedback from PRPP Focus Groups.

Mr. Williams reviewed a timeline, implementation plan, and next steps.

Mr. Tolbert said he wants Council to authorize sending a letter to the governor's office in order to go on the record with concern about the Virginia Water Improvement Plan, which does not adequately address TMDL requirements. As written now, the burden will be shouldered by local governments instead of spreading the financial burden equitably.

Ms. Szakos asked how other state plans have fared. Mr. Williams said the Washington, DC and Maryland plans were determined to be adequate and aggressive. Other states did not fare well and were also determined to have serious deficiencies.

Ms. Szakos asked if the states have examined ways to collaborate. Ms. Middleton said the EPA recognized these plans would not be perfect. States must work together where they share major tributaries. Interstate trading has been floated as a possible way of trading.

On motion by Ms. Szakos, seconded by Dr. Brown, Council approved the letter staff drafted to Governor McDonnell.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Norris announced that Ms. Edwards was absent because she is attending a ceremony recognizing Mr. David Simmons for being awarded the Community Service Award by the University of Virginia Health System.

Mr. Norris reminded residents to vote on November 2.

MATTERS BY THE PUBLIC

Ms. DeDe Smith, 2652 Jefferson Park Circle, said the TMDL report seems like we are trying to fix the problem without changing the culture of how we do things. We have to consider everything more consistently and holistically. We should make decisions based on how they will impact streams and rivers.

Mr. Peter Kleeman, 407 Hedge St., said he enjoyed the presentation about the Smith Aquatic Center. He recommended dropping the time limit on the punch cards.

The meeting was adjourned.

President

Clerk