

REGULAR MEETING OF STAUNTON CITY COUNCIL
Thursday, September 22, 2016
7:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

PRESENT: **Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor**
 Ophie A. Kier, Vice Mayor
 Erik D. Curren
 James J. Harrington
 R. Terry Holmes
 Andrea W. Oakes
 Walter J. Obenschain

ALSO PRESENT: **Stephen F. Owen, City Manager**
 Steven L. Rosenberg, Deputy City Manager
 Douglas L. Guynn, City Attorney
 Linda L. Little, Clerk of Council

Mayor Dull called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor read the following proclamation and presented it to Fire Chief R. Scott Garber:

2016 Fire Prevention Week

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting Staunton; and

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are the locations where people are at greatest risk from fire; and

WHEREAS, home fires killed 2,745 people in the United States in 2014, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), and fire departments in the United States responded to 379,500 home fires; and

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and

WHEREAS, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without working smoke alarms; and

WHEREAS, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, none were working; and

WHEREAS, many Americans don't know how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, or how often they need to be replaced; and

WHEREAS, all smoke alarms should be replaced at least once every 10 years; and

WHEREAS, the age of a smoke alarm can be determined by the date of its manufacture, which is marked on the back of the smoke alarm; and

WHEREAS, Staunton's first responders are dedicated to reducing the occurrence of home fires and home fire injuries through prevention and protection education; and

WHEREAS, Staunton's residents are responsive to public education measures and are able to take personal steps to increase their safety from fire, especially in their homes; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of replacing the smoke alarms in their homes at least every 10 years, and to determine the age of their smoke alarms by checking the date of manufacture on the back of the alarms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor of Staunton, on behalf of the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, do hereby designate October 9 through 15, as Fire Prevention Week throughout the City and urge all of the people of Staunton to find out how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, to replace them if they're more than 10 years old, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Staunton's fire and emergency services during 2016 Fire Prevention Week.

Dated this 22nd day of September, 2016.

s/Carolyn W. Dull

Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

ATTEST: s/Linda L. Little

Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

Chief Garber noted that President Woodrow Wilson was the President who first proclaimed Fire Prevention Week.

The Mayor also mentioned the following:

- The dinner provided tonight was prepared by the Celebration of Holiday Lights Committee
- United Way celebrated its 75th anniversary and started its campaign kickoff for this year
- The Shenandoah Valley Partnership networking event recently took place where site selectors were present and available
- School tours with the School Board were completed
- Several Council members attended the naturalization ceremony at the Frontier Culture Museum
- Several Council members attended the Staunton Downtown Development Association's 20th anniversary meeting recently

Mayor Dull called on Mr. Guynn to say a few words about the Clerk of Council's recent Certified Municipal Clerk's certification from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS BY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

Ms. Oakes stated that she would like to recognize the fact the our country just had another anniversary of 9/11 and would like to thank the fire department for all it does, for the City of Staunton, as well as fire departments across the country.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Holmes moved to approve the work session and regular meeting minutes of September 8, 2016.

The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Kier and carried unanimously as follows, with Ms. Oakes and Mr. Obenschain abstaining due to their absences at the meeting:

Mayor Dull	aye	Mr. Holmes	aye
Dr. Harrington	aye	Ms. Oakes	abstain
Dr. Curren	aye	Vice Mayor Kier	aye
Mr. Obenschain	abstain		

REGULAR MEETING

A. Consideration of Resolution Adopting Updated 2016 Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Emergency Operations Plan

Mr. Steve Owen, City Manager, called on Chief Garber. As required by the Code of Virginia, Augusta County and the cities of Staunton and Waynesboro have recently completed an update of their regional Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Central Shenandoah Planning District (CSPDC) staff assisted with the update. Virginia Code § 44-146.19 requires each local and interjurisdictional agency to prepare and keep current a local or interjurisdictional emergency operations plan. Every four years, each local and interjurisdictional agency is further required to conduct a comprehensive review and revision of its emergency operations plan to ensure that the plan remains current. The statute also requires that the governing body of the locality formally adopt the revised plan.

Ms. Oakes moved to adopt the resolution authorizing the adoption of the updated Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Emergency Operations Plan.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Harrington and carried unanimously as follows:

Dr. Harrington	aye	Ms. Oakes	aye
Dr. Curren	aye	Vice Mayor Kier	aye
Mr. Obenschain	aye	Mayor Dull	aye
Mr. Holmes	aye		

**RESOLUTION
FOR ADOPTION OF THE STAUNTON-AUGUSTA-WAYNESBORO
EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN**

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia recognizes the need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and manmade disasters; and

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton has a responsibility to provide for the safety and well-being of its citizens and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Staunton has established and appointed a Director and Coordinator of Emergency Management;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Staunton, Virginia, that this Emergency Operations Plan, as revised and dated September 2016, is officially adopted, and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED AND ORDERED that the Director of Emergency Management, or his/her designee, is tasked and authorized to maintain and revise as necessary this document during the next four-year period or until such time as it is ordered to come before this Council.

Adopted this 22nd day of September, 2016.

s/Carolyn W. Dull

Carolyn W. Dull, Mayor

ATTEST: s/Linda L. Little

Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council

B. Consideration of Application for Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) Grant

Chief Garber stated that the Rescue Squad Assistance Fund Grant program is a matching grant program administered by the Virginia Department of Health Office of Emergency Medical Services. This grant program can be used for equipment and training, related specifically to emergency medical services. The Fire and Rescue Department would like to apply for a grant for funds to purchase four severe duty tablet computers, for patient care reports, at a total cost of \$11,597. The grant application will request a funding level of 80/20, meaning 80% of the total cost, or \$9,278, would be funded by the grant, and 20% of the total cost, or \$2,319, would be funded by the City's matching funds. The grant review committee can lower the funding level to 50/50, which would result in a required match by the City in the amount of \$5,798.

Dr. Curren moved that City Council authorize staff to apply for a Rescue Squad Assistance Fund Grant, for the purpose of purchasing four severe duty tablet computers as proposed, provided matching funds are available in the Fire and Rescue Department budget for this purpose.

The motion was seconded by Dr. Harrington and carried unanimously as follows:

Dr. Curren	aye	Vice Mayor Kier	aye
Mr. Obenschain	aye	Mayor Dull	aye
Mr. Holmes	aye	Dr. Harrington	aye
Ms. Oakes	aye		

C. Consideration of Application for FY2016 Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Chief Garber stated that the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) provide financial assistance directly to fire departments to enhance their capabilities with respect to fire and fire-related hazards. AFG's primary goal is to assist organizations in meeting their firefighting and emergency response needs. AFG seeks to support organizations that lack the tools and resources necessary to more effectively protect the life and safety of the public and their emergency response personnel with respect to fire and all other hazards. Cost sharing under AFG is based on the population protected by the grantee. Organizations serving populations between 20,000 and 50,000 must agree to match the federal grant funds with an amount of 10% of the total project cost. The Staunton Fire and Rescue Department is pursuing the AFG to fund a project to upgrade its personal protective equipment (PPE). The goal of this project is to ensure firefighter health and safety while the department continues to provide efficient fire firefighting capabilities to the community. The department proposes to upgrade its existing PPE to the current National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1500 standards to ensure the safety of firefighters. The department requests grant funding to replace the PPE at the cost of \$180,000, with a local 10% match of \$18,000. The 10% match will be funded from the department's annual Virginia Department of Fire Programs Aid to Locality funding.

Vice Mayor Kier expressed concern about recent reports suggesting a correlation between exposure of firefighters to materials that burn in a fire and incidences of cancer.

Dr. Harrington moved that City Council authorize staff to apply for an Assistance to Firefighters Grant, for the purpose of upgrading personal protective equipment (PPE), as proposed, provided matching funds are available in the Fire and Rescue Department budget for this purpose.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Oakes and carried unanimously as follows:

Mr. Obenschain	aye	Mayor Dull	aye
Mr. Holmes	aye	Dr. Harrington	aye
Ms. Oakes	aye	Dr. Curren	aye
Vice Mayor Kier	aye		

Matters from the City Manager

Mr. Owen stated that he would just like to add to what the Mayor has stated about what a wonderful place Staunton is, and he was impressed with SDDA's annual report and the recent report from the Community Foundation of the Central Blue Ridge. He further mentioned the employee picnic and all the hard work put in by one specific employee who stayed the night to

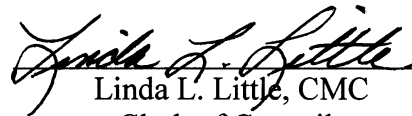
cook for the picnic. He noted that it is indeed a wonderful place that we probably take for granted more than we should.

Matters from the Public

Mr. Baldwin Jennings, 332 Sharon Lane, Staunton, noted that he was interested in the pipeline as a concerned citizen. He stated that the pipeline was coming whether we like it or not. He further stated that there was no sense in putting money into a study because it would be money wasted.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.


Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council