

City Council
WORK SESSION
September 22, 2016
6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Mayor Dull, Vice Mayor Kier, Council Members Curren, Harrington, Holmes, Oakes and Obenschain.

The Mayor called the work session of City Council to order. The invocation/moment of silence was given by Mr. Obenschain.

1. Consideration of Work Session and Regular Meeting Agendas

Consistent with Procedural Memorandum No. 3, amended by Council at its organization meeting on July 1, 2016, the agendas were presented for Council consideration.

Dr. Harrington moved to approve the Work Session agenda, with the addition of discussion on the recent schools visited, and the Regular Meeting agenda.

The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Kier and carried unanimously as follows:

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

2. Discussion of Resolution Adopting Updated 2016 Staunton-Augusta-Waynesboro Emergency Operations Plan

Steve Owen, City Manager, called on R. Scott Garber, Fire Chief, to review this matter and the next two. Chief Garber stated that, 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.

This will be Item A on the regular agenda.

3. Discussion 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.

Mayor Dull asked if the funds were already available in the Fire Department's budget. Chief Garber indicated that they were.

This will be Item B on the regular agenda.

4. Discussion of Application for FY2016 Department of Homeland Security Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG)

Chief Garber stated that the Assistance to Firefighters Grants (AFG) provides 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.

Chief Garber stated that cancer rates among firefighters have skyrocketed over the past five years because of dirty equipment. He noted that fires contain much more hazardous materials than they have in the past.

This will be Item C on the regular agenda.

5. Discussion of Atlantic Coast Pipeline

At its meeting on August 25, 2016, in a closed portion of its work session, City Council was briefed by legal counsel concerning the Atlantic Coast Pipeline project. With the benefit of this

advice, this item is returned to Council's work session agenda for discussion about what further action, if any, Council would like to pursue. Options include:

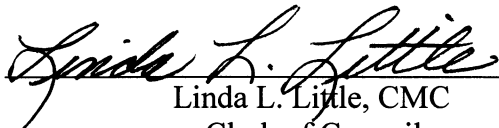
- seek and receive more information;
- send another communication to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) beyond Council's October 23, 2014 Resolution and May 24, 2016 letter;
- take more formal action that might include a request to FERC to intervene in the pending case;
- communicate with Dominion Virginia Power or others;
- engage in outreach to citizens with information and solicitation of their own communications to FERC; or
- pursue other initiatives.

After discussion, it was the consensus of Council to communicate with Dominion Virginia Power about planning a meeting to discuss the City's issues and receive more information on how the pipeline may affect the City's water supply.

Discussion of Visit to Culpepper and Fluvanna Schools

Dr. Harrington updated Council members on the recent visit by the School Board and a few Council members to view newly constructed and renovated schools in Culpeper County and a new school in Fluvanna County.

The work session adjourned at 7:05 p.m.


Linda L. Little, CMC
Clerk of Council