March 27, 2017

A Regular Meeting of the Council of the City of Manassas, Virginia was held in Council Chambers, City Hall, on the above date with the following present on roll call: Mayor Harry J. Parrish II, Vice Mayor Marc T. Aveni, Council Members Sheryl L. Bass, Ken D. Elston, Ian T. Lovejoy, Pamela J. Sebesky, and Mark D. Wolfe; Deputy City Manager Bryan Foster, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Andrea P. Madden, Deputy City Clerk Antoinette M. Elgart, City Attorney Martin R. Crim, Chief of Police Douglas W. Keen, Fire and Rescue Chief Rob Clemons, Economic Development Director Patrick J. Small, Finance and Administration Director Paul York, Public Works Director Steven Burke, Communications Manager Patty Prince, and Neighborhood Recreation Supervisor Christen Zenich.

Mayor Parrish called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., delivered the invocation, and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Attorney Report

Mr. Crim reported on current legal matters and cases, including the continuation of the East End Mobile Home Park hearing to June 16, 2017, legislative actions of the General Assembly and the Governor, and a lawsuit involving two individuals who were injured by an antique fire alarm.

City Manager Report

Mr. Foster stated that he was honored to attend the Prince William Valor Awards last Thursday, where four members of the Fire and Rescue Department and nine members of the Police Department were recognized for their heroic efforts in protecting and serving the community. Mr. Foster congratulated Master Detectives Chris Daniels and Giovani Barahona, Senior Police Officers Dann Villanueva and Tim Urey, and Officers Chris Jones, Nicole Arrington, and Lawrence Outland and thanked each for their outstanding service to the City. Mr. Foster also congratulated Master Tech William Barton, Firefighter/EMTs Brad Fairbanks, Ian Burke, and Dustin Clay and thanked them for their commitment to the citizens of Manassas.

Mr. Foster announced that on Saturday, April 1 from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., City residents are invited to participate in Spring RecycleFest at the Manassas Transfer Station on Quarry Road. Residents can drop off household hazardous waste, electronic waste, and up to four boxes of personal documents for shredding. Savers™ will be collecting gently used clothing, accessories, and housewares with proceeds benefiting the Martin K. Alloy Boys & Girls Club in Manassas.

Chief of Police Report

Chief Keen offered his congratulation to all members of Public Safety who were recognized and celebrated at the Prince William Valor Awards.
Chief Keen introduced Lieutenant Steve Neely and Detective Andrew Brooks, who provided a demonstration of a robot acquired through a grant from Firehouse Subs. The robot is an exceptional tool for keeping police officers safe and can provide crucial information in certain situations.

Council Time

Council Member Bass commented on the Valor Awards, upcoming activities involving the Economic Development Authority, and the successful community meeting that was held at Round Elementary to discuss the proposed location for Fire Station #21. Council Member Bass commented on the professionalism of staff and the quality of the presentation and information provided to citizens.

Council Member Elston stated that he witnessed the Manassas City Police Department in action while attending a meeting at Georgetown South; upon hearing that a young girl was missing, the Police Department’s response was quick and professional and the girl was found unharmed. Council Member Elston encouraged the public to take the opportunity to view local theater productions at Osbourn High School and the Hylton Performing Arts Center.

Council Member Sebesky thanked those who attended the community meeting at Round Elementary on March 21, 2017 and congratulated those honored at the Valor Awards. Council Member Sebesky reported on a Virginia Railway Express (VRE) meeting she attended earlier in the month and noted that VRE is asking jurisdictions to send letters of support to the Governor to secure annual funding in the upcoming budget. Council Member Sebesky offered her condolences to the family of Kevin Frye, a City firefighter, a great man, and a dedicated public servant, who passed away last week.

Mayor Time

Mayor Parrish distributed a draft of the letter that Virginia Railway Express (VRE) is requesting be sent to the Governor and asked that it be placed on the April 10, 2017 Consent Agenda for approval.

Mayor Parrish read the following statement regarding the East End Mobile Home Park and asked that it be included in the minutes:

 Recently, speakers at Citizens’ Time during City Council meetings have said that there is a buyer ready, willing and able to purchase the mobile home park and keep it open. The City Council has not been presented with this or any other alternative contracts.

 In all cases where a prospective purchaser has contacted the City, staff has communicated that the City of Manassas will consider any viable alternatives to the City’s purchase of the property that can be reached with the owner of the property.
The failed infrastructure at the East End Mobile Home Park has become an increasingly chronic public health and safety problem that impacts all residents of the City of Manassas, not just those living at the mobile home park. It is imperative that it be resolved.

A viable alternative must include the following:

- A mutually agreed upon contract between a prospective purchaser and the current owner that includes proof of financing;
- A clear and concise plan for the purchase and repairs with definitive goals and timelines; and
- An irrevocable financial guarantee for the replacement of the private sewer system within a reasonable time period.

Mayor Parrish noted that he would appoint two members of the City Council to serve on a joint facilities committee with two members of the School Board in the near future.

Mayor Parrish stated that, weather permitting, paving projects are scheduled to begin next week, and announced a public meeting regarding Battle Street improvements will be held on Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

1) Consent Agenda

1.1 City Council Minutes: March 13, 14, 15, 20 and 22, 2017
1.2 Agreement: Annual Limited Express License for the Use of E.G. Smith Baseball Complex by the Greater Manassas Baseball League (GMBL)
1.3 First Reading of Ordinance #O-2017-09: Personal and Real Estate Interest Disclosures

COUNCIL MEMBER BASS MOVED that the Consent Agenda be approved as presented and the reading of the ordinances dispensed. Seconded by Council Member Lovejoy and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

2) Ordinances and Resolutions

2.1 First Reading of Ordinance #O-2017-12: Animal Ordinance

Martin Crim, City Attorney, stated that the changes to the Animal Ordinance are primarily updates that ensure the City is in compliance with State Code. Mr. Crim commented that there are some new provisions in the Ordinance, including the tethering of animals and the licensure of pet dealers.

VICE MAYOR AVENI MOVED that Ordinance #O-2017-12, amending the Animal Ordinance, Chapter 18, Articles I through VI of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Manassas, Virginia be approved on first reading. Seconded by Council Member Bass. Roll call vote: AYES – Aveni, Bass, Elston, Lovejoy, Sebesky, and Wolfe. MOTION CARRIED.
3) New Business

3.1 Performance Agreement: Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Grant for BadWolf Public House

Patrick Small, Economic Development Director, stated that earlier this year, the City of Manassas made application to the Commonwealth of Virginia for a grant to support the expansion of Bad Wolf Brewing Company as it partners with the owners of CJ Finz to open BadWolf Public House on Battle Street. The City was awarded $10,000 from the Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development Fund, which must be matched with $10,000 from the City’s Economic Opportunity Fund. The Performance Agreement between the City of Manassas, its Economic Development Authority, and BadWolf Public House spells out the terms and conditions of the award.

COUNCIL MEMBER ELSTON MOVED that the Performance Agreement regarding the Agriculture and Forestry Industries Development (AFID) Grant for BadWolf Public House be approved and the Mayor be given the authorization to sign the agreement. Seconded by Council Member Sebesky. Roll call vote: AYES – Aveni, Bass, Elston, Lovejoy, Sebesky, and Wolfe. MOTION CARRIED.

3.2 Report: CenterFuse – Opening and Operations

Debbie Haight, Executive Director of Historic Manassas, Inc., presented an update on the activities and future plans for CenterFuse, which is expected to open in mid-April. Ms. Haight announced an open house on Friday, April 7, 2017 and encouraged anyone interested in working at the location to apply for a space. Additional information on the exciting opportunities at CenterFuse can be found by visiting CenterFuse.Work, calling (844) 324-9675 (WORK), or stopping by 9071 Center Street in Historic Downtown.

4) Citizens’ Time

The following individuals expressed concerns regarding the proposed location of Fire Station #21:

- John Intihar, Manassas
- John Scancella, Manassas
- Lynn Forkell, Manassas
- Rich Greene, Manassas
- Carl Guerreri, Manassas
- Jimi Weaver, Manassas
- Betsy Scancella, Manassas
- Nicholas Yisak, Manassas
- Adrian Heymer, Manassas
Mayor Parrish read the announcement regarding East End Mobile Home Park once again to ensure members of the audience who were not present earlier in the meeting heard the statement.

The following individuals spoke in support of allowing another interested party to purchase the East End Mobile Home Park (EEMHP), which would allow it to remain open:
- Selfo Sosa, Manassas
- Melissa Watson, Manassas

Joel Barr, a resident of the City of Manassas, spoke in opposition to an increase in tax rates, stating that his home's assessed value has increased more than twenty percent (20%) since purchasing the property.

5) **Authorize a Closed Meeting**

5.1 **Authorization of a Closed Meeting**

VICE MAYOR AVENI MOVED that the Council convene in a closed meeting to discuss appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions, as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711, Paragraph A (1), for which the Virginia Freedom of Information Act permits discussion in a closed meeting. Seconded by Council Member Bass. Roll call vote: AYES – Aveni, Bass, Elston, Lovejoy, Sebesky, and Wolfe. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor Parrish announced that the Mayor and City Council would be included in the closed meeting discussion.

The City Council retired to the closed meeting at 6:20 p.m.

6) **Certify the Closed Meeting**

6.1 **Certification of a Closed Meeting**

VICE MAYOR AVENI MOVED that the Council certify that, in the closed meeting just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in a closed meeting and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information act cited in that motion. Seconded by Council Member Wolfe. Roll call vote: AYES – Aveni, Bass, Elston, Lovejoy, Sebesky, and Wolfe. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The City Council returned from the closed meeting at 7:24 p.m.
7) Appointments to Boards, Committees and Commissions

COUNCIL MEMBER ELSTON MOVED that the following appointments, reappointments, and recommendations from the Personnel Committee be approved:

Appointments:
- Jan Alten as a Regular Member to the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;
- Myra Brent as an Alternate Member to the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;

Reappointments:
- Nancy Hersch Ingram to the Architectural Review Board for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;
- Missie Duffy to the Beautification Committee for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;
- Robyn Williams to the Beautification Committee for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;
- Gene Couvillion to the Citizens Advisory Committee for Cemeteries for a four-year term ending June 30, 2021;

Recommendations:
- Dissolve the Traffic Safety Commission as staff fulfills the work of the Commission; and
- Approve the formation of a Recreation & Culture Committee for issues regarding parks, recreation, and culture.

The motion made by Council Member Elston was seconded by Council Member Sebesky and was CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

A motion was duly made, seconded and CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor Parrish declared the meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor

______________________________

City Clerk

______________________________

Date Approved