

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF
WARRENTON HELD ON JUNE 26, 2017

The special meeting of the Council of the Town of Warrenton was held on June 26, 2017 in the Town Council Chambers and was called to order by Mayor Powell L. Duggan at 7 p.m.

Councilmembers present: Mayor Powell L. Duggan, presiding, Sunny Reynolds, Vice Mayor, Councilmembers Jerry M. Wood, Alec P. Burnett, Robert H. Kravetz and Kevin T. Carter.

Also present: Brannon Godfrey, Town Manager, Whitson W. Robinson, Town Attorney, and Evelyn J. Weimer, Town Recorder.

Amendment to FY 17 Budget and Appropriation of Capital Contribution to Warrenton Library

The Town Manager noted the FY 17 budget would have to be amended to appropriate the first one third of the contribution for the Warrenton Library and the second half of the contribution was approved with the adoption of the FY 18. He stated that the amendment is needed because the contribution is more than 1% of the overall adopted budget. The public hearing was set for the night and following the public hearing, the Manager noted that Council should amend the FY 17 General Fund Budget to increase General Fund Revenues from Unassigned Fund Balance by \$333,333 and increase the General Fund Expenditures – Capital Projects – Warrenton Library by \$333,333.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:01 p.m. and called for citizens who wished to speak against. There being no citizens wishing to speak against, he called for citizens in favor to come forward.

Ms. Ann Martella

Ms. Martella, Center District to the Library Board, Winchester Street resident, came forward. She noted that she had served with Ms. Laurie Parker on the board. Ms. Parker was also present. Ms. Martella, on behalf of the Library Board, thanked Council for their generous donation.

There being no other citizens to speak, the Mayor closed the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Ms. Reynolds moved that Council amend the FY 17 General Fund Budget to increase General Fund Revenues from Unassigned Fund Balance by \$333,333 and increase the General Fund Expenditures – Capital Projects – Warrenton Library by \$333,333. Mr. Kravetz seconded the motion.

Mr. Robinson noted that after the vote, if positive, a motion should be made to allow the Town Manager to sign the agreement.

Mayor Duggan asked if there was discussion. Ms. Reynolds noted that at the last Council meeting Mr. Kravetz and Mr. Wood were interested in the use of the existing library. She pointed Council to section 8 of the agreement. She noted it was discussed at the Liaison Committee meeting and the County was in agreement.

Mr. Carter asked if the County drafted the agreement and the Town Attorney noted that it was originally drafted by Mr. Kevin Burke, County Attorney, and he had made his changes to it. He stated that there is additional language noting that when the County is given the occupancy permit, the 1979 lease is terminated and there would be six months for the County to vacate the property.

Mr. Robinson stated that when the contract is signed there will be eighteen months to negotiate what will happen with the existing library space. Mr. Carter asked if the Town would be legally agreeing to funding for future years and Mr. Robinson said that was the case. However, the current Council would not be binding the future Councils. The Town Attorney stated that the County would keep those funds in a separate account to keep track of the interest which would accrue. If the \$1 million would come back to the Town, the interest would also. He stated that if the Town would proceed with the last installment, the interest accumulated could be used toward the final \$333,333. Mr. Wood asked when the Town could negotiate the purposes for which the Town would like to use the old library. The Town Attorney responded that when they get the private funding done and they decide to begin to move dirt. At that point, the County would have six months to vacate the building.

Mr. Burnett wanted to confirm that the interest would come back to the Town and the Town Attorney noted it would and it could be used to offset the last payment.

On a vote of 5-0 (for: Reynolds, Wood, Burnett, Kravetz, Carter; against: none) the motion passed.

On a motion by Mr. Kravetz, seconded by Ms. Reynolds, Council approved on a 5-0 vote (for: Reynolds, Wood, Burnett, Kravetz, Carter; against: none) that the funding agreement is approved and the Town Manager is authorized to sign the agreement on behalf of the Town.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Evelyn J. Weimer, Town Recorder

