

Richlands Planning Commission

August 4, 2020

Members Present

Richard Smith

Rod Cury

Michelle Elswick

Virginia Hart

Staff and Town Officials Present

Tim Taylor

Nathan Keen

Connie Allen

Adrienne Cordle

Guests:

Shea Cook

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Richard Smith.
2. Virginia Hart gave the invocation; Rod Cury led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. The agenda was presented. There were no additions/deletions; Rod Cury made the motion to accept the agenda; Virginia Hart seconded the motion. All members voted "aye" and the agenda was accepted.
4. Minutes from the July 16, 2020 meeting were presented. Rod Cury made the motion to approve the minutes; Michelle Elswick seconded the motion. All members voted "aye" and the minutes were approved.
5. Chairman Smith reviewed the Public Hearing that had been held prior to this meeting to receive public comment regarding the request for re-zoning property located at 2622 Chestnut Street Richlands, VA (Map #105-A-805050001-003 from an existing M-1 classification to R-2 classification for the purpose of constructing a single or multi-family dwelling.
 - No one had spoken in opposition to the rezoning at the Public Hearing held prior to this meeting.
 - Several members agreed that the change would benefit the property and the town.
 - Rod Cury made the motion to recommend to Council that the property located at 2622 Chestnut Street be rezoned from an existing M-1 classification to R-2 classification. Virginia Hart seconded the motion; all members voted "aye" and the motion passed. The recommendation will be presented to Council at their August 11, 2020 meeting.

6. Old Business:

- The Commission held a brief discussion revisiting the request from Mr. Glen Roberts at our last meeting regarding a conditional use permit for a mobile home to be located on a single lot at 420 Purcell Road. It had been voted at that meeting to send a letter of recommendation to Council regarding the request. That recommendation will be presented to Council at their August 11, 2020 meeting.
- Rod Cury shared email correspondence from the Town Attorney, Wayne McClanahan, regarding conditional use. The Commission had agreed to revisit this last time, but will postpone the discussion again until all members are present. These members will add valuable insight to the discussion. Zoning along the remainder of Chestnut Street will also be discussed at that time.

7. New Business:

- Tim Taylor asked the Commission to submit a Resolution of Support to VDOT for the two projects that the Town will be submitting: the 460 Intersection Improvements and the 2nd Street at Front Street Realignment. He will get the needed information for the resolution to Virginia Hart to have a draft by next month's meeting.
- Shea Cook addressed the Commission on two issues/recommendations. The first was for the formulation of a Flood Remediation Task force to address recurring flooding. He discussed the impact it has had not just on his family personally but many others as well and the negative impact economically on the town. He shared with the members some research he had done into possible funding sources that are available. A productive conversation was held and ideas exchanged. Virginia Hart made the motion to present a request to Council for their approval of a Flood Remediation Task Force; Rod Cury seconded the motion. All members voted "aye" and the motion passed. The request will be presented to Council at their August 11, 2020 meeting in the form of a recommendation.
- Shea Cook also addressed the topic of municipal internet such as the Town of Wytheville has and asked if it is a possibility for Richlands. Tim Taylor shared information about efforts currently underway in and will share that with Mr. Cook.
- Virginia Hart shared a concern she had received from a citizen regarding a business operating out of a home in Hidden Valley and possible zoning issues with it. Tim Taylor took the information to look into the matter.

8. With no other business, Virginia Hart made the motion to adjourn; it was seconded by Michelle Elswick and all members voted "aye". Meeting was adjourned.

9. The next regular meeting for the Planning Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 7:30.

Submitted by: Virginia Hart, Secretary

Virginia Hart
9/1/2020