

The Council of the City of Villa Rica met in a regular scheduled meeting on Tuesday, July 3 2001 at Villa Rica City Hall. Those present were Mayor Monroe Spake; Councilmembers, Perry Amidon, Shirley Marchman, Verland Best, Woody Holland and Jeane Williams; City Manager Steve Russell; and City Attorney David Mecklin. Approximately 35 people were in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Spake, invocation by Councilmember Williams, all recited the pledge of allegiance.

Amidon motioned to approve the minutes from the June meeting as presented seconded by Marchman. Carried 5/0.

Gayle Knight presented the new CDBG and CHIP Grants Policy Statement that needs to be adopted by council. She informed council that the City had approximately \$8,500 left from the previous grant and this would be used to help in down payments for first time buyers. Holland asked if these renovations would be for owner-occupied homes only, Knight said yes. Marchman motioned to adopt as presented, seconded by Amidon. Carried 5/0.

Marchman thanked the city for participation in the Dorsey Festival and made a special thank you to Jeff Reese of the Recreation Center and Ernestine Mullins of the Senior Center for their work on the pre-July 4th cook out for city employees.

Williams nominated Dennis Lingle to the Zoning Commission to replace Richard Smallwood, who is moving from town, seconded by Best. Carried 5/0. Russell administered the oath of office to Lingle. Williams asked that a letter of appreciation be prepared for Smallwood to be signed by Mayor and Council.

Russell presented a nomination request from Downtown Development Authority for Brenda Ward to replace Triska Bearden who has resigned. Best motioned to accept the nomination, seconded by Marchman. Carried 5/0.

Soudi presented RA-3-01; a rezoning application proposed for the northeast corner of Old Town Road and Reid Road. The current zoning is General Industrial and the property owner, Barbara Brown Ray, requests rezoning to Single Family Residential. Spake opened the public hearing for comments either for or against; hearing none, he closed the public hearing and asked for Council in-put. Williams asked if two-tenth's of acre would qualify for the rezoning, Soudi said no it would be considered substandard but could be used for single family only in R-20. Williams motioned to accept as R-20, single family residential, seconded by Best. Carried 5/0.

Soudi presented a request from the Wilco Travel Plaza to demolish the restaurant and rebuild. Holland asked if it would be closed; Rochelle Wolfe, representative of Wilco,

said the restaurant is already closed and their plans are to build a new building and then demolish the old. Amidon motioned to approve, seconded by Best. Carried 5/0.

Russell presented a clarification of the wording in the Alcohol Ordinance; informing Council that he had talked with City Attorney, David Mecklin and no advertising or posting was required. Page 20 of Article V-Employee Identification Cards, Section 3.111-Required; issuance; revocation; paragraph 9 should be changed from “All employees required to obtain an employee identification card shall be required to display same in a manner readily visible to customers and authorized agents of the city...” to “shall be required to display same on their person readily visible...”. Some owner/managers had misinterpreted the ordinance to mean they could display on the wall or at the cash register; this resulted in several citations by our Police Department. Russell said this would be considered a first reading to amend the language of the Ordinance for clarification purposes and will be on the August agenda for approval.

Russell presented two new contracts from DCA on the Greenspace Grant allotting the City an additional \$84.00 through Carroll County and \$17.00 through Douglas County due to another entity in Georgia not participating in the grant. Williams motioned to approve the new contracts and allow the Mayor to sign, seconded by Amidon. Carried 5/0.

CITY UPDATE: Russell said he had been dealing with health insurance for the past three or four months; our American Medical renewal premium is going to \$613,170.48. Russell said he had been working with other companies to get the best premium and coverage for the City. He currently has proposals from three different vendors, these proposals are in the \$400,000 range. Russell said he was reviewing providers, deductible, cost and services and asked council approval for him to enter into an agreement and contract prior to the August council meeting to get the best product for the city. Marchman motioned to allow Russell to enter into a contract with the best provider, seconded by Best. Williams asked if American Medical would have to pay pending claims, Russell said yes they are responsible until their contract expires. Holland asked what was budgeted, Russell said we could see a savings of over \$75,000. Amidon asked Russell to look at the drug card costs closely. Motion carried 5/0. Russell informed council that the new heating and air units had been successfully installed and were operational. Russell said the Fullerville Soccer Complex is taking shape and should be in use in the Spring of 2002. Best asked if we could secure the field to keep others off; Russell said Gold Dust was not gated, so this had not been considered. Best voiced concern about use by others before the field was ready. Russell noted that the Dorsey Festival this past weekend had been a great success.

Spake said Punkintown Road pavement is not adhering; Russell said Jackson Paving had done this under a LARP project and they will grind and replace; he also said DOT may become involved.

Mecklin said attorneys closing the sale of a piece of property for Discount Auto Parts had contacted him. When the City obtained the right of way for the road widening, the DOT and the City obtained access easements to all that property. In order to close the sale of that property, the City needs to quit claim a certain portion of this easement. Russell said he had met with the Auto Parts engineers and the City did not have a problem with that; Mecklin noted that this was not property the City had paid for. Williams motioned to allow the Mayor to sign a quit claim deed back to Tanyard Properties, seconded by Amidon. Carried 5/0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Steve Dobbs – Waterford Subdivision- spoke against the storage facility currently under construction using Waterford Drive as a main entrance. He asked Council to address this problem. Dobbs said a commercial facility should not use a residential neighborhood for access.

Sheila Dobbs 137 Waterford read a petition from Waterford residents asking the City to stop the right-of-way of Fortress Storage, Inc through Waterford residential streets and to direct Fortress to use Highway 78 as their entrance/exit. She said this is a problem for the residents due to excessive traffic, mud in the drive when it rains and is an eyesore. This petition was signed by 61 residents of Waterford Subdivision.

Harold Westbrook, 93 Melleray Court spoke against Fortress using residential streets and asked that they remove their sign from the entrance to Waterford. Mr. Westbrook also asked for a privacy fence to protect the residents of Waterford.

Russell said James Moran and Paul Soudi had worked to get the silt fencing in place. Soudi said this project did not require rezoning, but came to the city to get conformity zoning and then were to go to DOT to get access from Highway 78. Soudi said Waterford Drive was not to be the primary access road; he also said a buffer was required with a privacy fence and vegetation. Best asked Soudi to check with DOT to find out what access rights were given to Fortress; Holland agreed. Russell asked Soudi to do this as soon as possible.

Bill Bates – Thomas Dorsey Drive said the impact of the name change of his street from Sunset Drive to Thomas Dorsey Drive had caused more problems than anticipated: address changes on checking accounts, driver's license, business cards and stationary. He suggested naming the new bridge after Mr. Dorsey and returning their street to Sunset Drive.

With no further comments, Spake closed the Public Comments section. Marchman motioned to adjourn to executive session for the discussion of personnel matters, seconded by Williams. Carried 5/0. Adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Marchman motioned to return to regular session, Williams seconded. Motion carried 5/0. Spake said no action had been taken during executive session. With no further business, Williams motioned to adjourn, seconded by Marchman. Carried 5/0. Adjourned 9:15 p.m.

Monroe Spake - Mayor

ATTEST:

Steve Russell – City Manager