

April 10, 2006

MINUTES OF RADFORD CITY COUNCIL
The "New River" City

619 Second Street

April 10, 2006

Radford, Virginia

Meeting Number 24 of Radford City Council, F.Y. 2005-2006

A meeting of Radford City Council was convened at 7:30 p.m., April 10, 2006, in Council Chambers, 619 Second Street, Radford, VA. The Mayor of the City, Mr. Thomas L. Starnes, was present and presiding. Other members of Council present were, Ms. Laurie Buchwald, Dr. Richard Harshberger, and Mr. S. Oliver Lewis III. Dr. Bruce Brown was absent.

Others present were as follows:

Mr. Anthony W. Cox, City Manager/City Clerk
Mr. David C. Ridpath, Assistant City Manager
Ms. Judith J. Bruce, Deputy City Clerk
Mr. Jim Guynn, Jr., City Attorney
Mr. Shawn Utt, Grants Administrator/Public Relations

The news media was represented by The Roanoke Times and The Radford News Journal.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Mayor Starnes, the invocation was pronounced by Mr. Howard (Jiggs) Bruce.

MINUTES APPROVAL:

On a motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Ms. Buchwald, the minutes of March 20, 2006 were approved as presented.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Abstained
	Mr. Lewis:	Yes
	Mayor Starnes:	Yes

On a motion by Mr. Lewis, seconded by Dr. Harshberger, the minutes of March 27, 2006 were approved as presented.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Yes

Mr. Lewis: Yes
Mayor Starnes: Yes

On a motion by Dr. Harshberger, seconded by Mr. Lewis, the minutes of March 28, 2006 were approved as presented.

VOTE:
Dr. Brown: Absent
Ms. Buchwald: Yes
Dr. Harshberger: Yes
Mr. Lewis: Yes
Mayor Starnes: Yes

On a motion by Ms. Buchwald, seconded by Dr. Harshberger, the minutes of April 4, 2006 were approved as presented.

VOTE:
Dr. Brown: Absent
Ms. Buchwald: Yes
Dr. Harshberger: Yes
Mr. Lewis: Yes
Mayor Starnes: Yes

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Starnes convened a public hearing at 7:34 p.m. to hear comments regarding the 2005-2006 Community Development Block Grant Action Plan. Ms. Ali Whitaker, New River Valley Planning District Commission, presented an overview of the plan. This public hearing opens a thirty-day period for public comments. Speaking from the audience were Ms. Patty Quesenberry, New River Community Action and Ms. Pat Brown, Women's Resource Center. Both Ms. Quesenberry and Ms. Brown thanked Council for including their agencies in the allocation of grant funds. The public hearing was closed at 7:42 p.m.

No action was taken.

SUBJECT: Report from P.L.A.Y. Group

SUMMARY: Ms. Catherine Vannoy and Ms. Chris Barnes, representing P.L.A.Y., reported on the status of their efforts in obtaining and installing playground equipment for Bisset Park. The costs of both Phase A and Phase B total \$103,880. The group has funds in the amount of \$63,090 and asked Council's support for the remaining amount.

No action was taken.

SUBJECT: Resolution establishing Signature Trees within City of Radford

SUMMARY: The Radford Beautification and Forestry Commission requested, at an earlier Council meeting, that Council consider establishing “signature trees” for the City of Radford. The following resolution was considered:

CITY OF RADFORD

**RESOLUTION
2006-13**

WHEREAS: The City of Radford seeks to improve the natural beauty of the city’s municipal forest and,

WHEREAS: The City of Radford recognizes the impact of trees on environmental improvement, and

WHEREAS: The City of Radford desires to improve public awareness of and participation in the propagation of the municipal forest, and

WHEREAS: The commission on Beautification and Municipal Forestry for The City of Radford requests that the City adopt a signature tree program to assist in these efforts

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED by the City Council of Radford that they approve the adoption of the Eastern Redbud, the Red October Glory Maple, the Sourwood, and the Fosters Holly trees as the official signature trees for the City of Radford.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council encourages Radford citizens to consider these trees when landscaping.

Thomas L. Starnes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Date of Adoption

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion that the resolution be approved. Ms. Buchwald seconded the motion.

VOTE:
Dr. Brown: Absent
Ms. Buchwald: Yes
Dr. Harshberger: Yes
Mr. Lewis: Yes
Mayor Starnes: Yes

SUBJECT: Proclamation declaring “Arbor Day” in City of Radford

SUMMARY: Council considered the following proclamation:

**CITY OF RADFORD
PROCLAMATION
2006-02**

WHEREAS, in 1872, a special day was set aside for the planting of trees, and

WHEREAS, this holiday, called Arbor Day, was first observed with the planting of more than a million trees, and

WHEREAS, 2006 is the 134 anniversary of the holiday and Arbor Day is now observed throughout the nation and the world, and

WHEREAS, trees can reduce the erosion of our precious topsoil by wind and water, cut heating and cooling costs, moderate the temperature, clean the air, produce life-giving oxygen, and provide habitat for wildlife and

WHEREAS, trees are a renewable resource giving us paper, wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, and beautify our community, and

WHEREAS, trees, wherever they are planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal.

NOW THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Radford does hereby proclaim April 28, 2006 as the 134 anniversary celebration of Arbor Day in the City of Radford, Virginia and urges all citizens to celebrate Arbor Day and to support efforts to protect our trees and woodlands, and

Further, urges all citizens to plant trees to gladden the heart and promote the well-being of this and future generations.

Dated this 10th day of April, 2006

Thomas L. Starnes, Mayor

ATTEST:

Judith J. Bruce, Deputy City Clerk

ACTION: Ms. Buchwald made a motion that the proclamation be approved as presented. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Yes
	Mr. Lewis:	Yes
	Mayor Starnes:	Yes

SUBJECT: Homeland Security Funds – Supplemental Allocation

SUMMARY: The City of Radford has been awarded additional Homeland Security funds which have been distributed on a population basis. The City has received \$13,591. The following action was taken:

ACTION: Ms. Buchwald made a motion that the following resolution be approved: Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

DESIGNATION OF APPLICANTS AGENT

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED BY OF City Council OF City of Radford
(Governing Body) (Public Entity)

THAT Anthony W. Cox, City Manager
(Name of Incumbent) (Official Position)

Is hereby authorized to execute for and in behalf of

the City of Radford, a public entity established under the laws of the State of Virginia, this application and to file it in the appropriate State Office for the purpose of obtaining certain Federal financial assistance under the OJP, National Domestic Preparedness Office Grant Program(s), administered by the Commonwealth of Virginia.

That, the City of Radford a public entity established under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, hereby authorizes its agent to provide to the Commonwealth and to the Office of Justice Programs (OJP) for all matters pertaining to such Federal financial assistance any and all information pertaining to these Grants as may be requested.

Passed and approved this 10th day of April, 20 06.

	Yes	No
Mr. Thomas L. Starnes, Mayor		_____

Dr. Bruce Brown, Vice-Mayor		_____

Ms. Laurie Buchwald, Council Member		_____

Dr. Richard Harshberger, Council Member		_____

Mr. Oliver Lewis, Council Member		_____

CERTIFICATION

I, Judith J. Bruce , duly appointed and Deputy Clerk of

the City of Radford , do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct
copy of a Resolution passed and approved by the City Council of City of Radford

On the 10th Day of April , 2006

Date: _____
_____ Deputy Clerk
(Official Position)

(Signature)

VOTE:

Dr. Brown:	Absent
Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
Dr. Harshberger:	Yes
Mr. Lewis:	Yes
Mayor Starnes:	Yes

SUBJECT: Homeland Security Funds – Appropriation Ordinance 1505.21

SUMMARY: Council considered Appropriation Ordinance 1505.21 in the amount of \$13,591 to receive the above referenced Homeland Security Funds. The following action was taken:

ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion that Appropriation Ordinance 1505.21 be approved on first reading. Ms. Buchwald seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Yes
	Mr. Lewis:	Yes
	Mayor Starnes:	Yes

ADDITIONAL ACTION: Mr. Lewis made a motion that the second reading shall be dispensed with. Dr. Harshberger seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Yes
	Mr. Lewis:	Yes
	Mayor Starnes:	Yes

SUBJECT: Preliminary Plat and Agreement for Southerland Manor Townhomes

SUMMARY: Council considered the Preliminary Plat and Agreement for Southerland Manor Townhomes located on Auburn Avenue which was reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. The following action was taken:

ACTION: Dr. Harshberger made a motion to accept and approve the preliminary plat and agreement for the Alexander development on the former Dr. Cube site be approved. Mr. Lewis seconded the motion.

VOTE:	Dr. Brown:	Absent
	Ms. Buchwald:	Yes
	Dr. Harshberger:	Yes
	Mr. Lewis:	Yes
	Mayor Starnes:	Yes

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. Status report on landscaping projects
2. Update on all projects
3. Request from TransDominion Express for annual dues
4. Report on upcoming events

AUDIENCE COMMENTS:

Mrs. Joyce Simpkins, Chairman of Beautification Commission, thanked Council for their support by approving the Signature Tree Resolution.

Mr. Buck Monroe reported that the sidewalk in front of the Best Western needs to be replaced. Mr. Ridpath said that the repair is on the schedule to be done.

Mr. Bobby Farmer asked about the citizen survey being conducted by Virginia Tech.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

MS. BUCHWALD:

Thanked the Library Staff and the Lamplighters for a great fundraising event at RU West.

Commended staff on the tree planting around the City.

Said Main Street businesses were booming last weekend and thanked everyone who volunteered.

DR. HARSHBERGER:

Noted that the City has received national recognition for its housing rehab program associated with the CDBG program. Commended Shawn Utt for his work with the program and Heather Bell for her article in the News Journal.

MAYOR STARNES:

Noted that Radford residents were on the Today Show in New York City this a.m.

Said that due to the recent panhandlers around the City, Council needs to look into an ordinance.

CLOSED MEETING:

Dr. Harshberger made a motion, seconded by Mr. Lewis, to convene a closed meeting for the purpose of discussion of personnel, real property, and legal as provided in Section 2.2-371 A, paragraphs 1 and 7 of the Code of VA 1950 as amended which reads as follows:

(1) Discussion or consideration of, or interviews of prospective candidates for employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, demotion, salaries, disciplining, or resignation of public officers, appointees or employees of any public body, and evaluation of performance of departments.

(7) Consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants or attorneys, pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by counsel.

Anthony W. Cox, City Clerk

Judith J. Bruce, Deputy City Clerk