

**CITY OF BUENA VISTA
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 19, 2019**

The City Council for the City of Buena Vista met for a Regular Council Meeting on Thursday, December 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Buena Vista Firehouse (2010 Sycamore Avenue).

Council Members Present:	Mayor Bill Fitzgerald
Melvin Henson	Danny Staton
Stanley Coffey	Steve Baldrige
Vice-Mayor Cooper	Lisa Clark

Members Absent: None.

ADG#1 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND PRAYER:

Mayor Fitzgerald opened the meeting by asking everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Baldrige delivered the prayer.

Mayor Fitzgerald apologized to everyone for all the misunderstanding concerning the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary City meeting and Resolution.

ADG #2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD ON NOVEMBER 21, 2019:

Motion was made by Councilman Henson to approve the above minutes, seconded by Councilman Coffey, carried by Council with the exception of Vice-Mayor Cooper who abstained.

ADG #3 RECOGNITION/COMMUNICATION FROM VISITORS:
Citizens who desire to speak on matters not listed on the agenda below will be heard at this time. Citizens who desire to speak on an item listed on the agenda, open for public comment, will be heard when that item is considered:

City Attorney, Mr. Brian Kearney stated that no action would be taken tonight. The Resolution will be voted on Saturday, December 21. The meeting will be held at the Parry McCluer Middle School beginning at 12:00 p.m. He advised everyone if they wanted to speak tonight, they were more than welcome to. Mr. Kearney said all speakers would be limited to 2 minutes per speaker. He said that Council wanted to get input from the citizens before they take any action on the matter. He advised that citizens would be allowed to speak on Saturday and that Council will vote on the Resolution on Saturday.

Mayor Fitzgerald stated that the Resolution will be approved on Saturday.

Mr. Butch Thomas, 243 East 29th Street, Buena Vista stated that the City cannot override the State so citizens should stand up for what they believe in.

The following spoke in favor of supporting the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary City Resolution:

Mr. Jesse Lineberry, 2525 Racey Acres Drive, Buena Vista

Mr. Joel Ramsey, 143 East 5th Street, Buena Vista

Mr. Chris Simpkins, 115 South Woodland Avenue, Buena Vista

Ms. Cheryl Hickman, 2345 Birch Avenue, Buena Vista

Mr. Scott Guise, 336 Murat Road, Lexington

Ms. Collette Barry-Rec, 448 Lime Kiln, Lexington

Mr. Dwight Williams, 2818 Jefferson Lane, Waynesboro

Mr. Mike Gibson, 2514 Spruce Avenue, Buena Vista

Mrs. Juliet Gibson, 2514 Spruce Avenue, Buena Vista

Mr. Daniel Mowry, 2162 Oak Avenue, Buena Vista

Mr. Tyler Adams, Congressman Ben Cline's representative

The following spoke against supporting the 2nd Amendment Sanctuary City Resolution:

Mr. Jeffrey Cash, 1263 Forest Avenue, Buena Vista

ADG #4 REPORTS:

1.) Mayor

None.

2.) City Manager

None.

3.) City Attorney

None.

4.) Council Committee/Representative

Councilman Henson reported about some great events that have taken place in Buena Vista in the last several weeks: Christmas in the Park at Glen Maury Park and the Paxton House; Christmas parade; Horse's Christmas at Kling Elementary School; work finally being done on the double decker at GMP. He also opined that the deer population at GMP is oversized. He suggested that the City do a kill like we did several years ago.

Mr. Scudder advised that the Police Department is working on a controlled kill at GMP.

Council Member Clark opined that Council should have a retreat in early February. She also said that according to "Roberts Rules of Order" the agenda should be approved by Council for each meeting. She then wanted to know if the agenda for tonight's meeting could be amended. She wanted to add Legal Concerns by Council.

Councilman Baldrige stated that anything between an attorney and a client should be confidential.

Council Member Clark opined that anything Mr. Kearney has to say should be said in front of the citizens.

Vice-Mayor Cooper said the agenda for tonight's meeting cannot be amended.

Mr. Kearney advised that under "Robert's Rules of Order" you cannot technically amend an agenda during a meeting because of FOIA.

Ms. Wheeler said she would add that to all future agendas.

After much discussion concerning the meaning of the word “Sanctuary” and why it should be included in the Resolution, Mayor Fitzgerald said again the Resolution would be approved on Saturday.

Mr. Kearney said he does not want people to think they can come to a Sanctuary City and break the law. Everyone still must follow the law and the law will be enforced.

Council Member Clark advised that Lobby Day in Richmond is January 20 and urged the citizens to go and voice their opinions.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO VARIOUS BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES:

ADG #5 BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS:

Mr. Casey Crookston has resigned from the Board of Zoning Appeals. His term will expire on December 31, 2021. This is the 14th time this item has appeared on the agenda. **NO APPLICANTS - ADVERTISED NEWS GAZETTE MAY 15, 2019; WEB SITE AND CHANNEL 18 MAY 13, 2019**

This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

ADG #6 BOARD OF EQUALIZATION:

Council needs to appoint 3 citizens to the Board of Equalization. The term will start on July 1, 2020. The appointees will have to be approved by the Circuit Court Judge. This is the first time this item has appeared on the agenda.

This item will be carried over to the next Council meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

~~NB #1 AUDITORS REPORT FROM ROBINSON, FARMER, COX:~~

~~NB #2 MARKETING REPORT FROM KRISTINA RAMSEY:~~

**NB #3 PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION FOR STEVE
BALDRIDGE:**

Vice-Mayor Cooper read the following Proclamation and presented it to Councilman Baldrige:

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, MR. STEVE BALDRIDGE has faithfully served the City of Buena Vista from January 1, 2012, to December 31, 2019 as a member of City Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Baldrige faithfully fulfilled the duties of a City Council member with the highest integrity and performed many acts of kindness that enriched the lives of many of the citizens of the City of Buena Vista and the surrounding area ; and

WHEREAS, the City of Buena Vista is extremely grateful to Mr. Baldrige for his dedication in not only serving the City of Buena Vista in this capacity but also his valuable input to the Boards and

Committees he has served on.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, on this date, December 19, 2019, by the Mayor, the Buena Vista City Council and the citizens of the City of Buena Vista that Mr. Baldrige be honored for his years of service.

William H. Fitzgerald, Mayor
The City of Buena Vista

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

According to Section 2.2-3711 (A) of the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, for the purpose of providing specific legal advice associated with a possible 2nd Amendment Resolution:

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

William H. Fitzgerald, Mayor

Dawn M. Wheeler, Clerk of Council