

A CALLED MEETING OF THE BRISTOL, VIRGINIA, CITY COUNCIL WAS HELD ON JUNE 4, 2018, AT 6:00 P.M. AT THE BRISTOL TRAINSTATION, 101 M.L.K. BLVD., BRISTOL, VIRGINIA WITH MAYOR KEVIN MUMPOWER PRESIDING. COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE VICE MAYOR KEVIN WINGARD, DOUG FLEENOR, WILLIAM HARTLEY, AND ARCHIE HUBBARD, III. INTERIM CITY MANAGER/CITY ATTORNEY, RANDALL EADS.

Mayor Mumpower called for a moment of silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

A. Mayor's Minute and Council Comments.

Mayor Mumpower stated that the Bristol Mall has been purchased and a company has proposed to repurpose the mall.

B. City Manager's Comments.

No comments were made by the City Manager.

CALLED MEETING AGENDA

1. Consider Resolution of Support for Bristol Mall Project

City Manager, Mr. Randall Eads, reported the 2018 Virginia General Assembly passed a bill that will allow for the use of cannabidiol oil for medically prescribed uses. A pharmaceutical processing company, which will manufacture and distribute the products as allowed by the legislation, has proposed the purchase of the Bristol Mall for this purpose. The developer estimates that the facility will create 50-75 jobs in the City. The resolution will allow the City Manager to draft a letter of support for use in the application to the Virginia Board of Pharmacy. Should the application be approved, the proposal will come back to Council for formal approval in August or September with public comment.

A question and answer session ensued between Dharma Pharmaceuticals and the members of the public.

Councilman, Mr. Fleenor, made a motion to approve the resolution of support for the Bristol Mall Project. Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor, Mr. Wingard, and carried by the following votes:

AYES: Fleenor, Hartley, Hubbard, Wingard and Mumpower

Mr. Fleenor thanked the community for support, and stated that the 2017-2018 City Council has created 400-450 jobs in the past two years. He also stated that the Bristol Mall project is the epitome of true capitalism as the company is not asking for any federal, state or local assistance.

Mr. Hubbard expressed concerns regarding the air control.

Mr. Hartley commended the business for purchase and use of the mall, stating the project will benefit the community and increase job opportunities. Mr. Hartley commented about the lack of information and requested more details. He also expressed concerns regarding the air quality, security and impact on surrounding neighborhoods.

Vice-Mayor, Mr. Wingard, asked the pharmaceutical company if the use of plants were strictly for medicinal purposes. He also asked if the products has been suppressed. Mr. Wingard welcomes the job creation and stated that the medicine has the capability for alleviating medical issues.

Mayor Mumpower reported the company has already reached out to state legislators, and he encourage citizens to speak to state legislators about approval or disapproval of support.

City Manager, Mr. Randall Eads, read the Resolution of Support for the Bristol Mall Project:

WHEREAS, the Bristol Mall has been a vacant property within the City limits since August 2017; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that the property is an important part of the City's economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and City Manager have been approached by a company wishing to purchase the property and utilize it as a pharmaceutical manufacturing and distribution facility, which requires approval from the Commonwealth of Virginia's Board of Pharmacy; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of this Council and the City Manager to provide the support necessary for their application to the state to be successful; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the City Council and City Manager shall provide a letter of support for use in the application to the Commonwealth of Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER that the City Council will allow for a public hearing and discussion of the project in full should the Commonwealth of Virginia's Board of Pharmacy approve the application.

C. Adjournment.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**
*



City Clerk



Mayor