



CITY OF FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL  
**MINUTES**  
Council Chambers, 715 Princess Anne Street  
Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401

HON. MARY KATHERINE GREENLAW, MAYOR  
HON. WILLIAM C. WITHERS, JR., VICE -MAYOR, WARD TWO  
HON. KERRY P. DEVINE, AT-LARGE  
HON. MATTHEW J. KELLY, AT-LARGE  
HON. BRADFORD C. ELLIS, WARD ONE  
HON. DR. TIMOTHY P. DUFFY, WARD THREE  
HON. CHARLIE L. FRYE, JR., WARD FOUR

---

**Council Work Session**  
**March 22, 2016**

**Fiscal Year 2017 Recommended Budget Review**  
**Downtown Traffic Signals**  
**Liberty Place**

**The Council** of the City of Fredericksburg, Virginia held a work session on Tuesday, March 22, 2016, beginning at 5:30 p.m. in City Hall Conference Room.

**Council Present.** Mayor Mary Katherine Greenlaw, Presiding. Councilors William C. Withers, Jr., Kerry P. Devine, Timothy P. Duffy, Bradford C. Ellis, Charlie L. Frye, Jr. and Matthew J. Kelly (left early 6:30).

**Also Present.** City Manager Beverly Cameron, Assistant City Manager Mark Whitley, City Attorney Kathleen Dooley, Budget Manager Deidre Jett, Economic Development Director Karen Hedelt, Assistant Economic Development Director Bill Freehling, Public Works Director Doug Fawcett, Planning and Building Services Director Charles Johnston, Zoning Administrator Michael Craig, and Clerk of Council Tonya B. Lacey

**Fiscal Year 2017 Recommended Budget Review.** Staff reviewed the Fiscal Year 2017 budget in a PowerPoint. The presentation covered the seven budget highlights, sources and uses, fund balance, tax rate and work session schedule.

Councilor Ellis asked staff what were the long and near term impacts for not fully funding the school board's request and Mr. Cameron suggested Council ask the school board at the next work session. He added that they were proposing 9½ new positions.

Vice-Mayor Withers asked Mr. Cameron why he was only recommending \$150,000 more for the school board and he said he could not give any more money because there was no additional money unless the taxes were increased. Vice-Mayor Withers explained that over the past 7 years the schools budget increased 34 percent and the City's slightly less than 20 percent and the City has been deferring items and he feels the schools have not been deferring.

Mr. Whitley pointed out that out of the \$1.7 million; half a million was an increase of \$2-2.5 million in the cash fund into capital for the schools.

Mr. Whitley explained the equalization process for the purpose of the tax rate advertisement. (See attached memo).

Vice-Mayor Withers asked that Council keep in mind that the lower end property values were going up 10-15% and would have an increase but the higher end properties would not.

After extensive discussion on equalized rate and whether to advertise a higher tax rate Councils Devine, Duffy, Ellis, and Kelly decided to advertise a \$0.02 rate increase and Councilors Greenlaw, Withers and Frye wanted to stick with the City Manager's recommendation of no tax increase. They were not comfortable suggesting a tax increase during an equalization year.

**Downtown Traffic Signals.** Mr. Fawcett presented a PowerPoint presentation. In the presentation he discussed the budget, the scope, he showed pictures of the intersections that would be part of the project, pictures of the type of poles and signs to be mounted, and he discussed the right-of-way requirements and the schedule. (See attachments for more information).

**Liberty Place.** Mr. Craig presented a PowerPoint presentation on the liberty place changes. In the presentation he showed the originally proposed building that was approved as well as its elevations and he also showed the newly proposed design and its elevations. The newly proposed design has more residential square footage, more non-residential square footage more parking garage and a decreased Amelia Street setback. (See attachments for more information).

Mr. Craig stated that the Special Use Permit would be coming back before Council at the April 26 meeting unless the Planning Commission deferred action. Council expressed their concern with how boxy the new design seemed to be and they expressed concerns with there being no setbacks along the street. The Council did however like the idea of having more parking.

**Adjournment.** There being no further business to come before the Council at this time. Mayor Greenlaw declared the work session officially adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

*Tonya B Lacey*

---

**Tonya B. Lacey  
Clerk of Council  
City of Fredericksburg**

**APPROVED**

**04-12-16**