

TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
NOVEMBER 4, 2013  
7:00 PM

Mayor Greer-Present  
Vice-Mayor Lewis-Present  
Councilman Ward-Present  
Councilman Massey-Present  
Councilman Doughty-Present  
Councilman Duer-Present  
Councilman Metz-Present

STAFF PRESENT: Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino, Officer Zieger, Taylor Dukes.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Greer. Mayor Greer established a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MINUTES OF PUBLIC HEARING ON OCTOBER 7, 2013, REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 7, 2013, AND EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING ON OCTOBER 10, 2013:

Councilman Duer made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing on October 7, 2013, the regular Council meeting on October 7, 2013 and the Emergency Council meeting on October 10, 2013 with the correction on the October 7, 2013 meetings. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (3 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER, PLEASE SIGN UP):

Ken Carpenter congratulated Robert Duer on his appointment to the Council and also to the new Mayor. Mr. Carpenter noted that Mr. Jackson had asked him to serve on the Planning Commission. He said that he received a citation for watering his lawn during the time the water conservation measures were in effect when in fact he did not know at the time the measures were still in effect. He stated that he was told that it would not be enforced and the contractor set the timer on the sprinkler. Mr. Carpenter noted that he appreciates the work the Council does but he does not agree with the pay increase the Council gave themselves and there should be a pay freeze on the Mayor and Council.

Elvin Hess spoke on behalf of the Greater Exmore Business and Community Association. He said that their goals are to create a positive, vital downtown economic community and to recognize a successful, growing community. He said that along with our Town government we can address all community issues and make it a livable community. Mr. Hess noted that the Yard Sale was an overwhelming success, the Council voted to contract with a Broadband provider and have made a step forward in reconsidering the green space for the food vendors for the yard Sale. He said that the Council is moving forward with the Street Hockey facility and commends them for their selection of a Town Manager. Mr. Hess stated that Ken Dufty is the President of the Business Association, Mr. Hess is the Vice-President, Miechella Decker is the Secretary and Mark Sinclair is the Treasurer. He said that they are seeking businesses for membership. He said he has a form for anyone who has a vacant building for rent or sale. This will help the Town staff and Business Association be aware of available buildings and spaces for new businesses.

Ken Dufty noted that they have contacted businesses about decorating for Christmas. He said that they have some ideas for Christmas such as a Tree Lighting Ceremony, Carolers, Street Musicians, something combined with the Santa Train coming and maybe something every weekend until Christmas. He noted that they are still in the discussion phase. He said that they would like to get artists to display their creations in empty storefronts and maybe a sidewalk art show. Mr. Dufty told the Mayor and Council that they are very excited and look forward to working with them.

David Scanlan noted that he is representing the Friends of the Railroad. He said that the roof on the Train Station has been replaced and the tractor has been moved from the old Center Chevrolet

building to the railroad yard. Mr. Scanlan said that the tractor will be painted and the Boy Scouts will be building a pavilion over it.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

##### UPDATE ON BROADBAND SERVICES:

Taylor Dukes reported that David Rowan is preparing a contract for Broadband services with the Town. He said that Brian Manley, with Baycreek Communications has asked about putting an antenna on the Town Office roof to speed up Broadband service for the downtown area.

##### DISCUSSION/VOTE ON P.E.R. PROPOSALS:

Mr. Dukes said that Draper Aden Associates has been working with the Town since 2003 on the different projects including the new wells and recommends them for the Town engineers. Councilman Ward made the Motion to hire Draper Aden as the Town's engineering firm. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Massey. The Motion was passed unanimously.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

##### FINANCIAL REPORT:

The Clerk reported that expenditures are higher than should be because software support was needed to get our taxes out but was not budgeted, police uniforms will be reimbursed by grant monies and there is no line item for grant purchases. Councilman Duer noted that he went over the financial report with the Clerk and found that all the departments are doing a good job of managing themselves and that revenue is higher than anticipated.

Councilman Massey asked about the status of the audits. The Clerk told him that she talked to Ms. Smith last week and she is hoping to have the statements ready on the 15<sup>th</sup> and pick up the next year.

Mayor Greer stated that we have come a long way in the last 1½ years. He said that the Council and the employees have done an exceptional job. He noted that there are rumors on the street and urges everyone to attend the Council meetings to get the real facts and figures. Mayor Greer said that he feels very good with the Business Association on board and the direction Exmore is going.

##### POLICE REPORT:

Chief DiMartino stated that he and all his officers are excited to learn that Mr. Duer is our new Town Manager. He said that the officers have stepped up to meet their performance goals and make sure all calls are answered. Chief DiMartino reported that recently they have assisted the County more than usual lately and the County has assisted them as well. He said that been extremely busy but their heads are up and they are happy. Chief DiMartino noted that we met with Peggy Jordan from USDA Rural Development last week and closed on the loan/grant for the new police cars. He said that the cars are ordered and should be here the first week in December. Chief DiMartino noted that Marc Marshall from the Northampton County Sheriff's Office is the newest officer for Exmore. He said that although Officer Marshall is DCJS Corrections Certified and is also weapons and vehicle trained and knows arrest procedures and civil process he will still have to go through the abbreviated school. Captain Doughty is a Lidar/Radar Instructor and has certified Officer Marshall to write summons. Chief DiMartino said that he certified Officer Marshall with his weapon that was issued through the department. Halloween went well with all officers out as well as four deputies. Mayor Greer told Chief DiMartino that Pastor Carpenter sent his thanks to the Police Department for their help during Halloween.

Councilman Massey asked Chief DiMartino what make the cars are. Chief DiMartino told him that they are Impala's. He said that the payments are \$1,100 per month for five years for three cars. He noted that we sold the old Chevy police car for \$2,000 and the pickup for \$2,025.

##### PUBLIC WORKS/UTILITIES REPORT:

Taylor Dukes reported that only two bids came in for the RFP that was put out for the refuse containers. He said that the low bidder was Otto Environmental Systems at \$48.05 per container plus shipping. The total for containers is \$30,272 plus shipping. Mr. Dukes noted that that \$34,000 was budgeted for the containers and another \$7,500 for the tipper attachments. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to purchase the containers from Otto Environmental Systems. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously.

Mr. Dukes reported that the water and wastewater departments are doing well. He said that we have pumped 4,690,400 gallons of water as of November 1 for a total of 59,890,000 gallons for the year. Mr. Dukes stated that we are continuing to pump one septic tank per week. He said that the two wet wells at the Belle Haven drain fields are crumbling and falling apart and Bundick Well and Pump has given us an estimate of \$2,400 to replace the cast iron pipe with PVC pipe. Mr. Dukes said that logging started on the Belle Haven drain field property a week ago and they will be there about a month. He noted that they are scheduled to turn off approximately 33 water customers tomorrow and the majority of them are “repeat offenders”.

Mr. Dukes stated that since the Council approved Draper Aden Associates as the engineering firm they can now resubmit the permit for the well project. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to move forward with the contract with Draper Aden for the well project/ The Motion was seconded by Councilman Ward. The Motion was passed unanimously. Mayor Greer thanked the citizens for their cooperation with the water conservation measures.

Mr. Dukes stated that we have to have an asbestos study done on the old Center Chevrolet building before we can obtain a permit and have it demolished.

Mr. Dukes said that he spoke to the Health Department about putting the new public works building at the wastewater plant. He said they told him it can be put there as long as it is not near the drain fields or did not interfere with expansion of the wastewater building.

**DISCUSSION ON PLANNING COMMISSION:**

The Clerk informed the Mayor and Council that Sandy Savage has agreed to serve on the Planning Commission as well as Mr. Carpenter.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS (3 MINUTE LIMIT PER SPEAKER):**

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. asked about the status of the Board of Zoning Appeals. He said that Timmy Tilghman was on the board with him along with some other but he does not remember who they were.

Mayor Greer asked the Council their thoughts on having the Christmas dinner catered this year instead of having the staff handle it all. He read the menu for 55 people at the cost of \$666.00 and asked them to think it over. He said that it usually costs over \$300 and the staff works hard to prepare everything.

**SCHEDULED CLOSINGS & COUNCIL MEETINGS:**

**REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – DECEMBER 2, 2013 7:00pm**

**TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – NOVEMBER 11 (VETERAN’S DAY)**

**NOVEMBER 28 & 29 (THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY)**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Duer made the Motion to adjourn. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously.

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Douglas Greer, Mayor

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Ethel Parks, Town Clerk