

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2014
7:00 PM

At a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Exmore, Virginia, held in the Meeting Room of the J. Guy Lawson Municipal Building, 3305 Main Street, Exmore Virginia, on the 3rd day of November, 2014, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Present
Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Present
Councilman G. W. Adkins-Present
Councilman Bradley Doughty-Present
Councilman Bryon Heaster-Present
Councilman John Metz-Present
Councilman Chase Sturgis-Present

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Duer, Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino, Taylor Dukes, Mike Johnson, Sgt. Zieger, Officer Marshall, Officer Brady.

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 the majority in attendance.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES –REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – OCTOBER 6, 2014:

Councilman Metz made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of October 6, 2014 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Ken Dufty thanked the Police Department, Public Works Department and Mr. Duer for their help with the September Yard Sale. He stated that was the best one by far. He said that their goal this year was to be able to raise enough money to have professional brochures printed, highlighting all the businesses in Town.

Mr. Dufty noted that the Northampton County Zoning Core Group is inviting the Mayor and Council to join them at the Eastville Fire Company Bingo Hall on Thursday, November 6, 2014 at 7:00pm for a public forum. He said that they will discuss the new Northampton County zoning plans.

Chief DiMartino introduced Officer Keith Brady and welcomed him to Exmore Police Department. Mayor Greer and the Councilmen welcomed Officer Brady.

PRESENTATION OF SAFETY AWARD TO EXMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Mr. Duer noted that our Police Department has been awarded with the National Click-It-Or-Ticket Safety Award. Chief DiMartino explained that Exmore had the highest percentage of seat belt enforcement and usage in Virginia. Mayor Greer presented the award to Chief DiMartino and Sgt. Zieger. Applause and congratulations were given to the Police Department by all in attendance.

E. S. TOURISM – KERRY ALLISON:

Kerry Allison, from the E. S. Tourism Commission, gave a presentation on their marketing program. She noted that they market mainly through social media using a digital marketing program. Their key productivity targets are history, outdoors/nature, shopping, beaches, and wine/dining.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that Exmore will be featured in an upcoming issue of Cooperative Living Magazine, which circulates state-wide and throughout Maryland. He said that they chose Exmore because of our reputation of a “Town Moving Forward”.

Mr. Duer noted that we have one new business in Town, The Nexx Level Barber Shop and they are open for business.

The Park bathrooms are here and due to be set in place tomorrow.

Southern Software Tax program is up and running and the tax bill are ready to go in the mail. It is a much more efficient program than what we were using and the bills do include the decal fee. Mr. Duer commended Kathy for doing an excellent job at getting the bills out and collecting the delinquent taxes.

Mr. Duer commended Ken Ward on his job of keeping the weeds under control this summer. He noted that Mr. Ward sprayed for us, which helped Mike out tremendously.

Mrs. Parks attended training on the Virginia Public Records Act last week that was very informative.

Mr. Duer noted that he and Mr. Dukes met with Tommy Arnold to talk about a 20’ x 40’ Community Building at the Park.

We have received three bids for the heating and A/C in the Municipal Building and a contractor has been obtained.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that the 30-60-90 day report shows \$10,910.82 that is 90 days and over. He explained that the bulk of that is in just a few hands. He noted that with the new tax software we can now provide them with a list of delinquent taxes from as far back as 1989.

Mr. Duer stated that at the end of the month we had \$1,042,949.50 as our cash position, gross profits were \$711,130.58, which is up from \$624,763 last year, total expense is \$639,790.09 for a net income of \$71,340.49. Transient Occupancy is approximately \$20,000 above budget year-to-date, Meals Taxes are at \$133,419.10 which is \$23,000 above budget year-to-date, Police Fines are \$82,000 above budget and that includes a second check for fines last month, Water income is at \$122,643, which is \$28,800 above budget, Wastewater income is at \$54,405, which is above budget also. Our total income at the end of the month was \$711,130.58 which is \$108,000 above the budgeted amount of \$602,863.00

Mr. Duer reported that salaries for the month are just above 100% and that is due to a third pay cycle during the month when we normally have two. Sewer pumps have reached their life span and we are having to replace them at a cost of \$379.00 per pump. Mr. Duer noted that we purchased and replaced ten pumps last month.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the Board of Zoning Appeals has met and decided that they would meet the third Monday of the month if there is a case to be heard. He noted that they have a Public Hearing scheduled for November 17 at 7:00pm to hear the poultry case.

The Comprehensive Plan is moving forward.

OLD BUSINESS:

ANPDC AND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

Mr. Duer said that if anyone has a survey to turn in, to get it in by Wednesday afternoon.

PRETTYMAN PROPERTY:

Mr. Duer stated that he has addressed the property with Mr. Prettyman and Mr. Prettyman has assured him that it is being taken care of.

TOWN PARK UPDATE:

Previously reported.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – DRAPER ADEN – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that Draper Aden is still working on the project and they are addressing the pump issue. He said that they are trying to find a more efficient pump.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – DRAPER ADEN – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the progress report shows that 51% of the 1st phase is complete. Draper Aden has submitted a bid packet to the Health Department last month and we have been approved for the Categorical Exclusion.

CLOSED SESSION – DISCUSSION OF EMPLOYEE SALARIES:

At a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Exmore, Virginia, held in the Meeting Room of the J. Guy Lawson Municipal Building, 3305 Main Street, Exmore, Virginia, on the 3rd day of November, 2014, at 7:00 pm,

Councilman Adkins: “I move that the Council convene in closed session pursuant to Virginia Section §2.2-3711 (A)(1), to discuss or employees salaries. The Motion to enter into Closed Session was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed by the roll call vote of Councilman Chase Sturgis-Aye; Councilman Gordon Adkins-Aye; Councilman Bradley Doughty-Aye; Councilman Bryon Heaster-Aye; Councilman John Metz-Aye; Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Aye. The Mayor, Town Council, Mr. Duer and Mrs. Parks convened to Closed Session.

RECOVERY FROM CLOSED SESSION, (VOTE IF NECESSARY):

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION:

At a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Exmore, Virginia, held in the Meeting Room of the J. Guy Lawson Municipal Building, 3305 Main Street, Exmore, Virginia, on the 3rd day of November 3, 2014, at 7:00 pm,

Councilman Adkins read the “Certification of Closed Meeting” as follows:

WHEREAS, the Council of the Town of Exmore has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of Section §2.2-3712(D) of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section §2.2-3712(D) of the *Code of Virginia* requires a certification by this Council that such a closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the Town of Exmore hereby certifies that, to the best of each member’s knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully EXEMPTED FROM OPEN MEETING REQUIREMENTS BY Virginia law were discussed and (ii) only such business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered.

The “Certification of Closed Meeting” was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was approved by the roll call vote of: Councilman Chase Sturgis-Aye; Councilman Gordon Adkins-Aye; Councilman Bradley Doughty-Aye; Councilman Bryon Heaster-Aye; Councilman John Metz-Aye; Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Aye.

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to increase health insurance benefits to \$550. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer announced that Mike Johnson has been named Director of Public Works and Mr. Dukes has been named Director of Utilities/Zoning Administrator.

NEW BUSINESS:

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 48 service calls, 16 turn-offs, 7 sewer calls, 12 Miss Utility calls, and 13 turn-ons and performed 7 pressure tests. He noted that they flushed the fire hydrants on November 3rd and the next scheduled flushing is for December 3rd. Mr. Johnson said that they re-read 10 water meters and repaired 2 water leaks at the Park. Furniture and appliance pick-up will be on November 13th, limbs will be picked up on November 20th, they are averaging 18,000 to 20,000 pounds of trash per week, and they read 710 water meters last month.

POLICE REPORT-CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that all the officers are doing well. They are working hard and pulling together. When Dan left, Greg and Jason offered to work 12 hour shifts to close the gap so we would still have 24 hour coverage. Halloween went well with no major issues. Grants are on schedule. Chief DiMartino commented on the Carpenter incident in court. He said that Jason had his body camera on and everything was captured on video. Caitlyn Carpenter Rowley was arrested for kicking in the side of Jason's car, causing \$1,600 in damages, which is a felony and she is being held without bond. Jeremy Carpenter was arrested in the courtroom for threatening with assault on a police officer and resisting arrest and he is being held without bond.

The Click-It-Or-Ticket award is through the DMV grant. Chief DiMartino noted that there was one reportable crash in August and September and five in October. All cars have camera systems in them now. He explained that there were 72 tickets written last month in the 48 Hour program and 11 of those were reckless. Police fines are \$212,817. He stated that according to their court dockets, they are collecting 91% of the fines.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that there were 3.3 million gallons of water pumped in October and Well #2 is still off. They had 21 utility service calls that were mostly sewer related. Sewer pumps are burning up at a faster than usual rate. He noted that we have pumped 37 million gallons of water to date this year.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Stevon Sample informed the Mayor and Council that he should be ready to launch both his comic book and newspaper by the end of the month.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS:

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014 @ 7:00pm

BZA HEARING – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2014 @7:00pm

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2014 – VETERAN'S DAY
THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27-28, 2014
THANKSGIVING

ADJOURNMENT:

Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to adjourn. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty. The Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk