

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
FEBRUARY 2, 2015
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 2nd day of February, 2015, 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 – JANUARY 5, 2015:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 5, 2015 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Ken Dufty commended Mr. Dukes and the Town for the way they are handling the update of the Comprehensive Plan. He stated that Shore Good Bakery will open for business tomorrow, the Yellow Duck will have new owners beginning in March and the building where Lisa's Kitchen was may have a new tenant soon. Mr. Dufty reported that the Quilting Shop, Eastern Shore Events & Rentals and Well Played are doing very well. He noted that businesses are happy here. Mayor Greer asked him about printing a brochure to help advertise the businesses and Councilman Adkins suggested advertising with signs. Mr. Dufty said that the brochures should be ready in about a month and that they have discussed advertising with signs in the past but could not agree on the location. He said that he would bring it up to the Association again.

Roger Eitelman, Executive Director of the Randy Custis Memorial Fund, spoke briefly on the Randy Custis Memorial Park. He mentioned the football fields, soccer fields and baseball fields that are available to our youth. He said that broadband has recently been installed also. Mr. Eitelman stated that their long term goal is to be able to offer sports activities to adults as well as children.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that the Ford pickup truck has been sold for \$1,450 and the blinds for the lobby have been ordered. He noted that the ceilings at the entrances of our building are in need of repair. The cost of repair is approximately \$800. Mr. Duer stated that there is money left from the purchase of the blinds and asked the Council for their permission to repair the ceilings. Lynn has mailed the business license applications and the 2016 budget is underway. He mentioned the he and Mayor Greer have discussed earmarking a portion of the business license revenue for business

development. We have had our four lawn mowers serviced and will not need to purchase new ones this year. We purchased a Kabota ATV at half price. Mr. Duer noted that the Kabota will make reading meters easier and will be more cost efficient. We had three water main breaks last month and are still experiencing more breaks. He reported that they have begun replacing water meters. He and Taylor met with a representative from Progressive Environmental Services about lining some of the water lines that repeatedly burst. We do not have a quote as yet. Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council about a Northampton County Public Hearing on Wednesday, February 25 from 7pm to 10pm regarding zoning and the Town Edge. He urged everyone to attend to protect our Town Edge.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that our water usage is up and the A/R is up. The 90 days plus increased due to the interest that it accrues. Our cash position is at \$1,236,171. Gross sales for the month are \$157,382. Public Works supplies increased due to sand, gravel and a weed eater and Public Works Vehicle Lease/Purchase shows the ATV purchase. Administration Bank Fees shows the cost of a \$1,800 returned check but that check has been paid. The deposit on the blinds for the lobby shows up in Administration Repairs/Maintenance. The \$8,000 in Water Supplies is for 120 water meters. Our total expense for the month was \$21,743.86. Gross profit for the year is \$1,357,323.05, total expenses for the year is \$1,100,496.16 which gives us a net income of \$256,826.89.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that he has found a company from Williamsburg who will come in and remove the solids from the Wastewater Plant and install a valve. The approximate cost for this project is \$5,000 - \$8,000.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Bids on the new wells will begin at the end of this week and close on February 26th at 2:00 pm. Bids will be opened at that time. A pre-bid meeting for the well drilling will be held on February 19th from 10:00am to 11:30am in the Council Chambers.

TOWN PARK, PARKING LOTS – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that we have talked to one builder for an estimate for a building at the Park and should have an estimate by next week. Mr. Dukes has been in discussion with Draper Aden about the plans for a parking lot at the Park and also ANPDC about possible funding for the parking lot. There was brief discussion about hiring a part time event planner and opening a Farmer's Market.

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF 2015 PERSONNEL POLICIES MANUAL:

Mr. Duer stated that we are required by VML to update our employee manual annually. The only changes made are typos from last year. Page 14, Sick Leave, changes from "month" to "week" and on page 16, "Bereavement Leave" is added as it was omitted in error in last year's manual. Councilman Metz made the Motion to approve the Personnel Policies Manual dated February 1, 2015. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

DISCUSS FLOOD PLAIN PLAN:

Mr. Duer stated that FEMA has required us to amend our Zoning Ordinance to accept their flood districts and maps. We must hold a Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission in order to amend this ordinance. He suggested that they hold the Public Hearing on February at 5:30pm on February 23, 2015.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that the Comprehensive Plan is moving forward. Surveys were mailed with the water bills. The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on February 9th to discuss the transportation portion of the Comprehensive Plan. He said that Dollar Tree is planning to move

their business across the highway next to the Verizon store. Northampton County will have to approve their Erosion & Sediment Control Plans and their Transportation Study which will cost Dollar Tree approximately \$25,000.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 41 service calls, 4 pressure tests, 11 turn-offs, 4 water leaks, 5 sewer calls, 5 re-reads, 6 Miss Utility calls, 9 turn-ons, 1 emergency call, 5 new meters and read 715 water meters. Furniture and appliances will be picked up on February 12th and brush and limbs will be picked up on February 19th. We are still averaging 18,000 to 20,000 pounds of trash every month.

Mr. Johnson noted that they have an air compressor, a tractor and a beater that they do not use and would like to sell. He asked the Council’s permission to sell the items. It was the general consensus of the Council to sell the air compressor, tractor and beater.

POLICE REPORT-CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino stated that the officers are doing very well. There were no reportable crashes for the month of January. He said that a dog has been picked up by Animal Control and quarantined after biting a resident and he will follow up with the owner for allowing the dog to run at large. Chief DiMartino noted that they have a good idea who is responsible for the breaking & enterings. He has spoken with Mr. Eder of VDOT about possibly installing a flashing (strobe) light at the Exxon intersection to help cut down on the accidents.

Officers are walking all of the stores in town more which has helped to deter shoplifting. The Rite-Aid store and Dollar General store have reported that their losses are down. Chief DiMartino reported that all calls for service are down. Mayor Greer thanked him and the department for a job well done. Councilman Adkins thanked Sgt. Zieger for assisting at an accident involving his wife.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.1 million gallons of water during the month of January. A major leak was responsible for 100,000 gallons of that usage. We will be adding one new sewer tap due to the failure of the residents system. The flow meter at the Belle Haven drain field has failed and we must replace it. The cost of a new one is approximately \$3,600, and that includes calibration of the meter. Mr. Dukes stated that he and George Duer will be attending a class at the Community College which will give them credits towards their continuing education, which is required by the State to retain their license.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. commented on the possibility of the Town hiring a building inspector.

Bob Meyers stated that he was part of the group that initiated the Town Edge and he urged the Mayor and Council to do whatever it takes to keep it.

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. remarked that the condition of the Plaza is deteriorating rapidly, especially the parking lot. Mr. Duer assured him he would send a letter to the owner.

Stevon Sample said that although he has experienced printer breakdowns, he has sold a few copies of his newspaper and the comic book should be out next week.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS:

OFFICE CLOSED–PRESIDENT’S DAY–MONDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2015

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2015 @ 7:00pm

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015 @ 5:30pm

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015 @7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk

