

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
JUNE 1, 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 1st day of June, 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, Chief DiMartino, Taylor Dukes, Mike Johnson, Sgt. Zieger, Cpl. Marshall, Officer Brady.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Greer. Mayor Greer established a quorum.
Mayor Greer recognized Mr. Granville Hogg from the Northampton County Board of Supervisors and thanked him for taking his time for attending tonight.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the majority in attendance.

INVOCATION:

Mayor Greer asked for a moment of silence for the Clerk, Ethel Parks and her family.
The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MAY 4, 2015: Councilman Metz made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of May 4, 2015 with the correction. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Mr. Gerald Boyd addressed the Mayor and Council about his new business in Town. He noted that they have opened a Counseling Service and a Training and Consulting Service.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that we are experiencing a few minor issues with the Park bathrooms but nothing major.

Congressman Rigell has scheduled an open house at his headquarters in Belle Haven on Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 2:30 – 3:30. The invitation is open to the public.

Mr. Duer stated that he and Mr. Dukes met with Bonnie Walker from the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission to discuss what they can do to help tourism in Exmore. He said it was a very informative meeting.

The Rotary Oyster Roast will be held Friday, October 23, 2015 at the Town Park.

The Ford Tractor and the Air Compressor has been advertised for bids.

There is no new word from Mr. McSwain regarding the Town Edge.

When VDOT repaves Main Street they will not put the crosswalks back. Mr. Dukes noted that he has submitted a request to VDOT to install a crosswalk at Commercial Avenue and Main Street and a second one at Westfield Avenue and Main Street to allow safe crossing for pedestrians.

Mr. Duer noted that the PSA wants to expand the sewer line from Cape Charles to Route 13 for 70 lots of which only 4 are interested in connecting to. The only way to pay for the expansion is to increase the tax rate of all Northampton County residents.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that our checking and savings balances are at \$1.3 million with an ending balance of \$985,000 in checking accounts. Gross profit was \$175,232 and total expense was \$106,858 for a net income of \$68,374 for the month of May. Gross profit for the year is \$2,092,378 and total expense for the year is \$1,683,211 for a net income for the year of \$409,168.

Councilman Metz commended Mr. Duer and the employees for a job well done.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that when the sewer system was put in ten years ago there should have been a tank and an effluent tank installed per connection. The effluent tanks were not installed and that is part of our solids build up problem. The engineer is working on a solution to this problem.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the screen and casing have been installed in one well and have started on the second well. They will then move on to the aquifer tests.

USDA RESOLUTIONS FOR CAR LOAN:

Mr. Duer explained that the Loan Resolutions are formal documentation to replace the wrecked police car. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to adopt the Loan Resolutions. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING AT TOWN PARK:

Mr. Duer noted that he has no update on the multi-purpose building.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.208 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND RE-ENACT ORDINANCE NO. 112 (TRAFFIC ORDINANCE):

Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to adopt Ordinance No. 208. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

SET ASIDE USDA RESERVE ACCOUNT – DISCUSSION:

Mr. Duer explained that the USDA requires us to set aside 10% of what we borrow in a fund designated for the USDA. He noted that we have a small CD that we can rename for that purpose. Councilman Adkins made the Motion to set aside a CD for the USDA. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

A-NPDC GRANT PROPOSAL, LETTER OF SUPPORT – DISCUSSION:

The Town and the A-NPDC have met and discussed ten homes in town without bathrooms. The A-NPDC is willing to work with the Town to apply for grants to replace these homes. They will do all the work and the grant will go through the Town as it has in the past. Councilman Adkins made the Motion to support the A-NPDC in their efforts to obtain grants and help with the ten homes. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

PARKING RESOLUTION:

Mr. Duer explained that there is no parking on Main Street between Willis Wharf Road and Commercial Avenue. There are some who choose to park there anyway and it is a problem seeing around those vehicles. VDOT will install “No Parking” signs for the Town but needs a Resolution requesting the signs. Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adopt a Resolution authorizing “No Parking” signs between Commercial Avenue and Willis Wharf Road on Main Street. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

DECLARATION NETWORK – BROADBAND:

Mr. Duer explained to the Mayor and Council that Declaration Network is a broadband company who would like to install five antennae on the rail of our water tower. They are proposing to pay \$500 per antenna per year (\$2,500 per year). He noted that another broadband company would like to install antennae as well. Mr. Duer stated that although the rent paid to the Town is low, the benefits will be much greater. He asked the Mayor and Council to authorize himself, Mr. Dukes and Mrs. Parks to negotiate and their behalf to move forward with Declaration Network and the other broadband company. Councilman Adkins made the Motion to allow Mr. Duer, Mr. Dukes and Mrs. Parks to act on the Council's behalf. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty and was passed unanimously.

Councilman Sturgis brought the crosswalks to the floor for Motion and vote. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion for the Town to paint the crosswalks. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer asked for direction from the Council for Mr. Dukes to vote at the PSA meeting regarding the sewer line expansion in Cape Charles. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to direct Mr. Dukes to vote "No" on the sewer line expansion on behalf of Exmore. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino noted that the year-to-date fines are at \$517,703. The officers are working hard and only one reportable crash for May. Mayor Greer thanked Chief DiMartino and the department for keeping our Town safe and secure. He noted that their continuous presence is a sense of security to the community. Mr. Duer stated that there have been two murders in Town and our department is working diligently and tirelessly to make sure they do not go unsolved.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.6 million gallons of water in May, treated approximately 810,000 gallons of sewage and repaired 2 water leaks.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 11 turn-offs, 8 water leaks, 8 sewer calls, 4 re-reads, 8 Miss Utility calls, 1 emergency turn-off, 2 emergency calls, 3 turn-ons and 1 pressure test. Hydrants were scheduled to be flushed on May 27 but due to a water leak it has been rescheduled for June 4. Brush and limbs were picked up on May 24, furniture and appliances were picked up on May 14 and trash is still at an average of 18,000 to 20,000 pounds per month. They read 715 water meters. There were 11 new meters installed which brings the total to 71 new meters installed.

Mayor Greer commended Mr. Johnson and the Public Works crew for how good the Exmore looks. He stated that he is always getting compliments from residents.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes announced that there will be a Comprehensive Plan meeting on June 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm with the Planning Commission and Connie Morrison to review the draft Comprehensive Plan. On July 20, 2015 there will be Joint Public Hearing between the Town Council and the Planning Commission for public comment then vote on it at the August meeting.

Mr. Dukes stated that the Town is taking bids to remove the old green trailer on Willis Wharf Road and the Town will not be reimbursed for those expenses. Contractors are taking care of the two burned structures on Virginia Avenue and there are six other properties to be cleaned up or the structure torn down. Mr. Dukes noted that there have been comments made about the use of the triangle shaped property across from Tru-Blu. He said that the property owner is within zoning to hold an outdoor flea market on the property.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION:

Councilman Sturgis asked about the status of the Parking Lot. Mr. Duer noted that we have received a second bid at \$12,500. The first bid was at \$11,500.

Councilman Metz asked about the Farmer’s Market. Councilman Adkins stated they are working on it. Mr. Welch’s said they are working on the details.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. – PSA(notes) (*inaudible*)

David Boyd – PSA (notes) (*inaudible*)

Mr. Bob Meyers stated that he is pleased to know that the Town Council is in opposition of the PSA project.

Debbie Campbell commended the Mayor and Council for their stand against the PSA project.

Mr. Dukes announced that the next PSA meeting is June 22 at 5:00pm. He said that it is a Joint Work Session with the Board of Supervisors to discuss the special tax district.

Ken Dufty welcomed the Exmore’s new business. He credits the Mayor, Town Council, Public Works Department, Police Department, Mr. Duer and Mr. Dukes for making Exmore what it is today. He thanked the Mayor and Council for opposing PSA expansion.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS:

- CLOSINGS–TOWN OFFICE CLOSED, FRIDAY, JULY, 3, 2015–INDEPENDENCE DAY
- PLANNING COMMISSION – JUNE 22, 2015 @ 7:00pm
- TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 6, 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

Taylor Dukes, Zoning Administrator

I, Ethel Parks, Clerk of the Council for the Town of Exmore, was absent from the June 1, 2015 meeting of the Exmore Town Council have transcribed the aforementioned Minutes strictly from the notes of Mr. Taylor Dukes and the digital recorder (as was reasonably audible) and bear no responsibility for the accuracy of the contents other than for the notes and audible portions of the digital recorder.

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk