

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
AUGUST 3, 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 3rd day of August, 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.

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 JULY 6, 2015: Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of July 6, 2015 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously. JOINT PUBLIC HEARING OF JULY 20, 2015: Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Joint Public Hearing of July 20, 2015 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis. Councilman Sturgis stated that he was absent from the Joint Public Hearing on July 20th and therefore wished to abstain from voting on the Minutes. The Motion was passed by the vote of Councilman Adkins, Councilman Doughty, Councilman Heaster, Councilman Metz and Vice-Mayor Lewis all in favor and Councilman Sturgis abstained.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Roy Ballard informed the Mayor and Council that Mr. Scanlan came to him and told him that he has closed the railroad bank account, post office box, discontinued the electric service and gave him the \$2,000 check from the Town. Mr. Ballard noted that he and a group of individuals have put countless hours into maintaining the railroad building over the years and he does not want to see it fall down. Mayor Greer asked Mr. Ballard to think about taking on the role of restoring and opening the railroad station. Mr. Ballard returned the \$2,000 check for the windows due to the fact that Mr. Scanlan closed the bank account. Mr. Ballard announced that the Town-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled and the Antique Emporium will be selling spots starting Wednesday.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that they have broken ground at the Park for the new multi-purpose building. Dollar Tree has broken ground and most of the subcontractors have obtained their business licenses. He briefly mentioned the derelict house on Jefferson noting that Mr. Dukes will elaborate during his report. Mr. Duer noted that Bay Area Receivables has talked to him about collecting delinquent utility bills. Their fee is 35%. He informed the Mayor and Council that Northampton County will be withholding 5% of the traffic fines. We have asked for the Ordinance that gives them the authority to withhold the funds but have not received it yet. We have also asked for an accounting of the traffic

finances so we will know what is being withheld. Mr. Duer announced that there is a work session next Monday, August 10 at 7:00pm. He noted that the Council is to meet at the railroad station at 6:45pm before the work session. The public is invited. Declaration Networks would like to be offered a discounted rate from Broadband Authority. Mr. Duer asked the Council's permission to seek the discount. It was the general consensus of the Council to allow them to do this. Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that our auditor has had some health problems but is back on our audit.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported a gross profit for the month of \$183,283. Large expenses such as \$2,900 for roll bars on the mowers, \$3,900 for sewer pump outs at the Hampton Inn (to be reimbursed), the fence and a pump were installed at the Wastewater Plant, \$158,752.60 was paid out for the new wells, \$7,885 for road repairs and other expenses shows us with a net income of a loss of \$117,770. The funds for the new wells will be reimbursed once the project is complete and the next phase is bid out. Our largest expenditure coming up will be a car and we have another pump to install at the Wastewater Plant and the building at the Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON TOWN EDGE – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that the Town Edge issue with the County supposedly was settled but is not. With the present County zoning, we will lose our ability to obtain proffers. They have increased the density on our Town Edge from 1 per acre to 6 per acre. He encouraged everyone to call or send a letter to our Board of Supervisors voicing our opposition to the zoning that will take away our Town Edge.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that Hampton Inn has become a problem with a large amount of flow. He noted that we may need to run a new line to the center of Town.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes said that they are performing an aquifer test on Well #4 and it has to run for 48 hours. We should have the results back in two weeks.

UPDATE ON MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that they will be putting together plans for the building and getting estimates for the stage.

UPDATE ON PSA – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that there are no new updates on the PSA.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN:

There was no new discussion on the Comprehensive Plan. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to adopt the Resolution which adopts the Comprehensive Plan. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

MUNICIPAL PARKS PARKING LOT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Duer noted that he asked for four bids and received only two. Mr. Dukes said that the two bids came in at \$33,000, each written within \$600 of each other, using 6 inches of crush and run. He said that they can bring the cost down to \$23,000 by using only 3 inches of crush and run. This will allow enough money to build a stage. The Council agreed to re-bid the parking lot using 3 inches of crush and run.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that all the officers are doing very well. With the 48-Hour program and the DMV program in place, officers are able to be out on the roads more. He noted that the speeds are high and that almost one third of the tickets written are for reckless driving and there were four reportable crashes in July. The fire at the Sage Diner started in the ceiling around the HVAC unit. Calls for

service are down. Chief DiMartino informed the Mayor and Council that the officers may be wearing a polo shirt and BDU's on their night shift.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped approximately 4 million gallons of water in July. George Duer is attending class for a water course in Blacksburg this week. Town Manager Duer added that our water billing increased last month and it may be partially due to the new meters that have been installed.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 55 service calls, 14 turn-offs, 4 leaks, 5 sewer calls, 7 re-reads, 8 Miss Utility calls, 1 emergency call, 12 turn-ons and 4 pressure tests. The fire hydrants were flushed on July 29th, brush and limbs were picked up on July 16th, furniture and appliances were picked up on July 9th and we are averaging 18,000 to 20,000 of trash per month. They read 714 water meters and the total of new meters installed is 126.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that he is currently taking bids for the removal of the derelict house on Jefferson Avenue. He is in the process of having the purple house on Lee Street torn down. He mentioned that there is an individual who is abusing the sewer system and he is working our attorney to resolve the issue. They will have to install a pre-treatment system or they will be abandoned off of Exmore's system.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Councilman Sturgis asked Mr. Dukes to call VDOT to clean up the loose crush and run on the road at the south end of Town.

Councilman Metz mentioned the wheelchairs that are crossing the highway at Rent-A-Center. He said it is a safety concern. Mr. Dukes said that this issue is part of the Comprehensive Plan.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS:

Mayor Greer announced to the Council to meet at the railroad station at 6:45pm on Monday, August 10th prior to the work session.

TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION – MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015 @ 7:00pm

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2015 (LABOR DAY)

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 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