

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
OCTOBER 5, 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 5th day of October, 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 Rippon, 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 SEPTEMBER 14, 2015:
Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of September 14, 2015 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Frances McCleary informed the Mayor and Council that she has been having a problem with the sewer stopping up for approximately 1½ months. She said that she is concerned that it will cause more problems in the future if it is not taken care of soon. Mr. Duer stated that Mr. Dukes will be addressing sewer concerns in his report.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that the 19th Annual Town-Wide Yard Sale was a success with only one glitch. There is a car show, sponsored by the Business Association, scheduled for October 17th at the Park and the Soule Arnold Oyster Roast is scheduled for October 23rd at the Park. Mr. Duer noted that we have hired two maintenance workers. Kevin Murray started last week and the other will start next week. The new door has been installed on the back of the building and will be painted soon. Mr. Duer noted that the earliest the well project will be completed is May 2017. Mr. Dukes has a full report. We have received a check from the Circuit Court for the Police Fines that included fines collected by the court in August. Mr. Duer noted that the court system is paying a month behind. We have been approved for the VML Safety Grant and have purchased safety lights for our mowers, vehicles and trailers and had them installed. Mr. Duer said that the sewer lines are not large enough to handle everything being pumped through them. He said that Mr. Dukes will give a more detailed report.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that our current assets are \$1,315,212. In September we purchased lights for the new police cars, demolished an old house, cleaned up yards, built the new catwalk at the Wastewater Plant and had change orders with the new well project.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON NO PARKING ZONE BETWEEN WILLIS WHARF RD & COMMERCIAL AVE – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer stated that he has received notification from VDOT that the No Parking Zone between Commercial Avenue and Willis Wharf Road on Main Street has been approved and they will soon install the signs.

UPDATE ON TOWN EDGE & COUNTY ZONING – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that the Town Edge is back to where it was in the beginning. He thanked Town residents for their input and assistance.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

PER COMPLETE:

Mr. Dukes reported that the P.E.R. report is 100% complete for task 1 and 3 and 69% complete for task 2.

ENGINEERING ESTIMATE:

He is recommending a change order for Fluidyne to inspect the Wastewater Plant to see if it is a viable plant or if it should be replaced. The cost for them to come here and inspect it would be \$4,910. After brief discussion, Councilman Heaster made the Motion to move forward with the change order for Fluidyne to inspect the Wastewater Plant. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

ENGINEERING ESTIMATE FOR FILTRATION:

Mr. Dukes Stated that due to the manganese in the water, we will need to install a filtration plant. He said the cost for the engineering service for the filtration plant is approximately \$93,600. He noted that the entire new well project will cost approximately \$1,000,000. Councilman Heaster stated that he feels it is unacceptable to wait until 2017 for this project to be completed. He asked for a letter to be drafted to Draper Aden stating that fact and have other agencies contact them as well. He asked if the additional \$93,600 for the filtration system would delay the reimbursement from the State. Mr. Duer noted that once this phase is complete and the second bid has gone out, the \$158,000 will be reimbursed to the Town. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to proceed with the filtration system. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty and was passed unanimously.

Mayor Greer assured Ms. McCleary that the Town is working to resolve the sewer issues. He stated that the problems that she is having are ongoing problems that the Town is working on.

UPDATE ON TOWN PARK – MR. DUER:

PORTABLE STAGE OPTION:

Mr. Duer explained to the Mayor and Council that they have the option of a permanent stage or a portable stage. He said the information is in their packets but they do not have to make any decisions until spring.

NEW BUSINESS:

AMEND ORDINANCE NO. 200, SECTION 4 – STRIKE \$3.00 CHARGE FOR COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS, CONSIDER RAISING CONNECTION FEES:

Mr. Duer stated that Section 4 of Ordinance No. 200 charges residents who do not have water, sewer or trash pick-up, \$3.00 for brush and limb removal. He said that it is very hard to manage and asked the Council to remove the charge. He added that the Town cannot hook up water lines for the cost stated in Section 5 of the Ordinance. After brief discussion, the Council agreed to increase the connection fees by \$500 per water line size pending a Public Hearing on November 2, 2015 at 6:45pm. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to increase water line connection fees by \$500. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that there were no problems as schools opened last month. He said there was one minor incident at the Town-Wide Yard Sale when it was handled quickly. The fines are slower coming in now and the Circuit Court is keeping 5%. He stated that the department is doing very well. Chief DiMartino noted that Councilman Metz has spoken with him regarding a reward that would lead to a conviction of the person(s) responsible for either of the two murders in Town. The Council agreed to allocate \$5,000 for both and Mr. Duer said that he will need to talk to Mr. Rowan about the legalities first. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to allocate \$5,000 for a reward, pending approval from the Town attorney. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.4 million gallons of water in September. He noted that we are on track for the year.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes said that he continues to work towards obtaining clearance to get abandoned properties cleaned up. He noted that some of the owners are deceased and their heirs are as well.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 52 service calls. There were 14 turn-offs, 1 water line break, 9 sewer calls, 4 re-reads, 9 Miss Utility calls, 1 emergency call, 1 emergency turn off, 13 turn-ons and 2 pressure tests. He noted that they did the blow-offs last month instead of flushing hydrants. Brush and limbs will be picked up on October 15th and furniture and appliances were picked up on October 8th. Trash is averaging 18,000 to 20,000 pounds. They read 713 water meters and installed 16 more new meters, which makes 180 new water meters installed.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. noted that when David Scanlan was on the Town Council he brought it to the Council's attention to go back to the engineer responsible for the sewer plant to fix the problems then. Stevon Sample announced that he will hold an art show at his in home shop at 3329 York Circle, Exmore on November 7, 2015. Also, his comic book and newspaper are both available.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS:

PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, NOVEMBER, 2, 2015 @ 6:45pm

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

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015 (VETERAN'S DAY)

THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 & 27, 2015

(THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY)

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk

