

TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
MARCH 7, 2016  
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 7<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Present  
Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Present  
Councilman G. W. Adkins-Absent  
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, Sgt. Campbell, 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 FEBRUARY 1, 2016:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular Council meeting of February 1, 2016 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer asked to amend the agenda, under New Business, to discuss a Resolution for Exmore Village. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to amend the agenda, under New Business, to discuss a Resolution for Exmore Village. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

RANDY CUSTIS PARK:

Mr. Phil Custis, President of the Randy Custis Memorial Fund, stated that over the years the Randy Custis Park has served the youth of Northampton County and part of Accomack County. He said that it has grown over the years and can continue to grow with the help of donations from the communities. Mr. Custis asked the Mayor and Council for their consideration of donating \$15,000 to the Park this year and \$15,000 next year.

Mr. Roger Eitelman spoke in support of the Randy Custis Park. He said that it has grown from one ball field to five ball fields, five soccer fields, a football field, two volleyball courts, a concession stand, a playground and indoor and outdoor batting cages. He asked the Mayor and Council to support the continued growth of the Randy Custis Park with their donation.

EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA TOURISM COMMISSION:

Kerry Allison noted that according to their most recent reports (2014), the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission is the fastest growing tourism commission in the state. She said that employment, visitor spending and lodging tax increased substantially for both counties from 2009-2014.

**REVELL WALKER, SKATE BOARD PARK:**

Mr. Walker spoke to the Mayor and Council about the need for a Skate Park in Exmore. He said that he has people to help him and only needs a site to build it on. He asked for the Council's approval once he finds a location. Mr. Walker noted that 10,000 square feet would be ideal for a Skate Park but he could build a small one with 5,000 square feet to work with. Mr. Duer noted that if Mr. Walker builds the Skate Park and wants the Town to manage it, we can have it insured. The Council agreed to support Mr. Walker in building a Skate Park.

**CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):**

There was no one signed up to speak.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:**

Mr. Duer said that he has no news from Dollar General or Tractor Supply. The business license applications have been mailed and we are receiving payments. There is a new Cajun Restaurant to open soon on Main Street. Mr. Duer announced that there will be a County Zoning meeting at the High School on Wednesday night at 7:00. He stated that we will get our Town Edge back as it was in the 2009 zoning. Mr. Dukes has inquired about back braces for the Public Works crew in order to assist them when picking up furniture and appliances. He was informed that the Town should stop the furniture and appliance pick-up as the workers should not be lifting on those heavy items. Mayor Greer and the Council agreed to discuss the furniture and appliance pick-up further during the April meeting.

**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

Mr. Duer reported that our cash position is \$1,638,079. He noted that we have moved \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Money Market account. He explained that he has added a Budget Amendment Report. The group insurance rate for Public Works increased and Mr. Duer has asked for a budget amendment from \$24,100 to \$27,300, Police supplies were budgeted at \$2,950 and due to the number of summonses they are writing, the projected spending is \$5,110, there was a typo in the Wastewater group insurance and it should have been 23,000. We purchased a utility trailer for the Water Department in the amount of \$3,600 that was not budgeted. Water Supplies were budgeted at \$10,500 but we purchased the new meters this year instead of last year which increases the budget to \$50,000. Mr. Duer said that repairs on the trash truck have been more costly than anticipated and he would like to increase the Sanitation Vehicle Repair from \$3,500 to \$5,400. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to accept the amended budget. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer noted that revenue from business licenses is coming in. The sale of the white Impala netted \$2,700. Total income for the month of February was \$191,938. He pointed out that the rifles were purchased with grant funds. Total expenses for the month were \$125,456 for a net income of \$66,481. Gross profit for the year-to-date is \$1,521,921.76 and total expenses are \$1,298,646.36 for a net income of \$223,275.40.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**BUDGET DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Duer stated that he has decreased real estate taxes due to the County's reassessment and also decreased business license tax due to the gas prices. He noted that he increased the water income because we are selling more water and increased wastewater sales. The total projected budget for the upcoming year is \$1,941,000. Mr. Duer said that he has not budgeted for any improvements to the Park but the budget does include police car computers, a new car, new well payments and funds to demolish and clean up derelict buildings.

The Mayor and Council discussed holding a budget work session and they agreed on April 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Duer explained that we are scheduled to purchase a truck in 2017 to replace Mr. Johnson's truck. He would like to purchase it in this year's budget. We can purchase a 4X4 on state contract price for approximately \$30,000. After brief discussion Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to purchase a 4X4 pickup at a cost of no more than \$30,000. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

## 2 YEAR BPOL REDUCTION PROGRAM FOR NEW BUSINESSES (ORDINANCE NO. 210):

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve Ordinance No. 210 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

## UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that Draper Aden & Associates are designing a sewer plant that will work for Exmore. Royal Farms has requested to connect to our sewer system. Councilman Heaster asked if the Virginia Department of Health would allow another connection. Mr. Dukes said that they can connect if their system fails and theirs has failed.

## UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the well design should be submitted to the Office of Drinking Water by May for approval. He said that they should be ready for bids by mid-summer.

## NEW BUSINESS:

### EXMORE VILLAGE RESOLUTION:

Mr. Duer noted that Mark-Dana Corporation will be renovating the Exmore Village Apartments and needs a Resolution from the Town for the Virginia Housing Authority, designating the site as a revitalization area. Councilman Metz made the Motion to approve the Resolution for Exmore Village. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

## UNLICENSED VEHICLE ORDINANCE:

Mr. Dukes reported that there are numerous vehicles within the town that are in a state of disrepair or abandoned. He has contacted David Rowan for legal counsel. He asked the Council to look at Ordinance No. 130 and consider raising the unlicensed fee to \$100 in an effort to help clean up Exmore. They decided to revisit this during April's meeting.

Mr. Dukes noted that he has received an estimate for a split rail fence for the Park. It could run between \$1,100 and \$2,700. The Council agreed to discuss this further during the work session.

## ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that he has the completed Zoning Ordinance and it has been sent to David Rowan. From there it will come back to the Planning Commission and then to Public Hearing.

## POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino thanked the Mayor and Council for their support. Fines are coming in and the County continues to hold a month back. E-summons collected is at \$21,000. He noted that the white Impala sold for \$2,700 and they will be placing the seized Toyota up for bid as well. Chief DiMartino expressed that moral within the Police Department is better than it has ever been. He stated that they worked two DUI related hit & runs and they are still working with VDOT to deal with the stop light issues. He said that the speeds are still up and they are ticketing the drivers.

## PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 51 service calls, 12 turn-offs, 1 water leak, 8 sewer calls, 7 rereads, 9 Miss Utility calls, 1 emergency turn-off, 1 pressure test and 12 turn-ons. He stated that they flushed the blow-offs instead of the hydrants. Mr. Johnson noted that they picked up the limbs and brush on February 18<sup>th</sup> and the furniture and appliances were picked up on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Trash is averaging 18,000 to 20,000 lbs. They read 715 water meters and installed 38 more new meters, bringing the count of newly installed meters to 354. Mr. Johnson remarked that the "Welcome to Exmore" banners are in bad shape. The cost of new banners are \$105 each and up. Mr. Duer said he would get an estimate and bring it back next month.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that we pumped 34 million gallons of water in February. He commended Mr. Markulin and Mr. Murray for their hard work and adapting to their many duties.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. asked the Mayor and Council to consider supporting Shore Little League's request.

Bob Myers said that he would like to see the cinder block homes on Occohannock Road cleaned up. He asked the Mayor and Council to speak to the owner of the homes to get the tenants to clean up the trash around them.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

BUDGET WORK SESSION: MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016 @ 6:00pm.

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING: MONDAY, APRIL 4, 2016 @ 7:00pm

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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Douglas Greer, Mayor

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Ethel Parks, Town Clerk