

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
APRIL 4, 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 4th day of April, 2016, 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, Sgt. Campbell, Officer Brady, Cpl. Marshall, Carroll Taylor.

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:

PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 7, 2016:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Public Hearing of March 7, 2016 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of March 7, 2016 with the correction. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Kenneth Carpenter expressed his dismay with the Mayor's comments and various other topics regarding past and present operations of the Town.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that he has not heard anything new from Tractor Supply. He said that the Town and County have worked with them in all respects to help bring their business to Exmore.

Mr. Duer stated that we have had two incidents in which two of our officers could have been seriously hurt. If Chief DiMartino feels the need for additional training, we will add the cost to the proposed budget.

The vents on the Quonset Hut blew off from the wind over the weekend and will be repaired.

Two businesses, The Quilt Shop and Radio Shack have closed their business in town. The Quilt Shop moved to Nassawadox in a building with more room and Mr. Matthews (Radio Shack) retired. Mr. Duer stated that there is interest of a bakery and a restaurant opening in town and Dollar General is moving forward.

Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that most BPOL fees are in and those that have not paid will be receiving reminders.

The new Public Works truck has been ordered and should arrive within 60 days.

There will be an Earth Day celebration in the Town Park on Saturday, April 23 from 12:00 – 3:00 pm.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer commented that the balance in the 90 + days column of the Utilities Balance report cannot be collected. Current assets are at \$1,647,487 with a total income of \$201,765, total expense of \$165,032 for a net income of \$36,732. Mr. Duer explained that we funded three payrolls in March but the funds may not be debited from our account until April 1. Our year-to-date net income is \$259,662. The end of the quarter budget report shows that we are \$8,792 over our budgeted net income.

OLD BUSINESS:

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Mr. Duer noted that a Budget Work Session was held prior to the Town Council meeting. He said that a Public Hearing for the proposed budget can be held at 6:30 pm on May 2, 2016.

ABANDONED VEHICLES ORDINANCE:

Mr. Dukes asked the Mayor and Council to consider amending Ordinance No. 130 to address “all vehicles” instead of only “motor vehicles” and change the vehicle tax fee and fine. He said that it would help in the efforts to clean up the abandoned vehicles in Exmore. After brief discussion, the Council agreed to change the license fee from \$50 to \$100 and the fine to \$200 with a maximum of \$500. Mr. Dukes said that he would consult with our attorney and bring the ordinance back to the May meeting.

BANNERS ON MAIN STREET:

Mr. Duer reported that the banners on Main Street are badly faded and in generally bad shape. He would like to replace them with some larger ones. The cost is approximately \$150 per banner. He noted also that the “Welcome” signs at the north and south ends of Town are in disrepair. He pointed out examples of a few different designs in their packets.

Vice-Mayor Lewis made a Motion to amend the agenda to discuss Shore Little League. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously. Mayor Greer and the Councilmen spoke in favor of helping Shore Little League by donation. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to contribute \$7,500 to Shore Little League this year. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster. After more discussion, Councilman Sturgis withdrew his Motion, along with Councilman Heaster withdrawing his second to the Motion. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to donate \$10,000 to Shore Little League for the next three years, starting this year, contingent upon funding. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that he met with members from Draper Aden along with Mr. Richardson and Kathy Plant from the Health Department. He was informed that we cannot add any commercial buildings or begin any projects requiring Town sewer. He said that the only connections that we can add are residential and only if the existing ones are failing. He said that they have a letter to send out to residents who currently are not connected to the Town sewer. Mr. Duer, Mr. Dukes and the Council discussed the current sewer connection cost of \$6,500. Mr. Duer said that he would talk to Draper Aden further about the connection costs and if it can be deleted from the survey letter. Mr. Dukes stated that the cost of the new sewer plant will be between \$5,000,000 and \$8,000,000.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that the well project design is 95% complete. They are currently testing the soil for the drain fields.

NEW BUSINESS:

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that the proposed Zoning Ordinance is with our attorney for review.

POLICE REPORT – DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino commended the officers for their hard work. He reported 6 crashes between March 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 and 8 crashes between January 1, 2016 and March 21, 2016 involving drivers not paying attention at red lights. He said that he and Mr. Dukes are working with VDOT to find a solution to make drivers more aware of the red lights.

Chief DiMartino estimated collected fines at \$500,000 by the end of June. E-ticket funds are coming in on schedule. Grants are on schedule. He stated that the body cams they currently use are sufficient but they need better ones and he is applying for a grant to purchase them. Sgt. Campbell was called to a residence for a disturbance and had a shotgun pulled out on him. Officer Brady was called to residence where the subject was stabbing themselves with a knife and another subject jumped on him. These two incidents were recorded on their body cams. He said they received the rifles that they purchased on a grant. The Toyota was sold and the funds were deposited to the Police Seizure account. He purchased sights for the rifles out of the funds. He explained that the Toyota was a drug seized vehicle and the money could not go to the General Fund. He discussed purchasing new tasers. The Mayor and Council agreed to purchase 6 new tasers. Chief DiMartino thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported that they had 44 service calls in March that included 7 turn-offs, 3 leaks, 5 sewer calls, 5 re-reads, 11 Miss utility calls, 1 emergency call, 7 turn-ons and 2 pressure tests. The fire hydrants on the end of town were flushed on March 28th. They picked up furniture and appliances on March 10th and picked up brush and limbs on March 17th. Trash averaged 21,000 pounds. They read 714 water meters and installed 40 additional new meters, which totals 394 new meters installed.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that we pumped 3.5 million gallons of water in March. He commended the Public Works crew saying they are the best water repair crew we have ever had.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. thanked the Mayor and Council for their support of Shore Little League.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016 @ 6:30pm

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, MAY 2, 2016 @ 7pm

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, MAY 30, 2016 – MEMORIAL DAY

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