

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
JUNE 6, 2016
6:45 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 6th day of June, 2016, at 6:45 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, Sgt. Zieger, Officer Brady, Taylor Dukes.

The Mayor decided to open the meeting without Mrs. Johnson and she can swear in the newly elected Councilmen when she arrives.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 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.

Mr. Duer asked to amend the agenda to add a Resolution to New Business. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to amend the agenda. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING – MAY 2, 2016:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Budget Public Hearing of May 2, 2016 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - MAY 2, 2016:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular Town Council meeting of May 2, 2016 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILMEN– CLERK OF COURT, TRACI JOHNSON:

Traci Johnson, Clerk of Court, read the Oath of Qualification to John Metz, Thomas Lewis and Chase Sturgis as being duly elected Councilmen of the Town of Exmore with their terms to commence on July 1, 2016 and expire on June 30, 2020.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

There was no one signed up to speak.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that the new banners have been put up throughout Town.

Mr. Johnson's new truck has arrived and the 2001 F-150 is for sale by closed bid. Mr. Duer said that they agreed to spend no more than \$30,000 for the new truck and the cost of the truck is \$29,500. He said that it needs a rack in the back and running boards and he would like their approval to spend approximately \$800 on the two items. The Council agreed.

The new signs for the north and south ends of town should be in place soon. The ESO sign at the New Road intersection will be moved further south. Mr. Duer asked Mr. Dukes to obtain quotes to clear the thicket area just below the intersection. The Council agreed to spend no more than \$3,500 for clearing the lot.

Mr. Duer stated that he has applied for the Tourism Grant through Northampton County. He said that he has asked for \$5,000 to help with the stage in the Park.

The new Dollar General is expected to break ground any day and there has been no new word from Tractor Supply.

Mr. Duer stated that he has contacted the Town Attorney regarding the past due accounts of the Sage Diner and he has recused himself from legal proceedings.

Mr. Duer noted that the increase in the delinquent water accounts is due mainly to the penalties. He said that the actual delinquent accounts are less than 3% of our customers.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer stated that the 30-60-90 day balance in the water accounts show no significant changes. He reported our current assets are \$1,777,232. We moved another \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Money Market account, bringing it to \$702,000.

Mr. Duer asked for a budget adjustment for May in the Police Uniforms. He said that the new tasers are what pushed it over the budgeted amount. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to approve the budget amendment. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that we have received the Bank Franchise fees for this year. Our net income for May was \$102,690 and \$367,808 for the year-to-date.

Mr. Duer created a spreadsheet to show the cost per citizen in some of the Towns on the Shore. He pointed out that Exmore's cost is \$1,320 per citizen per year, which is significantly lower than many other Towns.

OLD BUSINESS:

2017 BUDGET APPROVAL:

Mr. Duer noted that residents in Exmore will receive a property tax cut this year due to the fact that we did not equalize our rates. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to approve the 2016-2017 Budget. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty and was passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 202 – LARGE TRASH REMOVAL:

Mr. Duer noted that Ordinance No. 202 gives the Town the authority to deal with furniture and large item removal. After brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to table any further discussion until the Work Session.

ABANDONED VEHICLED ORDINANCE:

Mr. Duer stated that they could address the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance in August.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT:

Mr. Dukes reported that the preliminary engineering report is complete. It is ready for review by Rural Development and then to the design phase. He noted that he will be touring other wastewater plants to see how they work and if they would be viable for Exmore.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT:

Mr. Dukes noted that the Well project design is approximately 95% complete and is being reviewed by the Office of Drinking Water.

NEW BUSINESS:

DISCUSSION OF RENTAL HOUSING GUIDELINES AND INSPECTIONS:

Mayor Greer stated that a work session is in order to discuss the rental housing guidelines in depth. After some discussion of the guidelines, The Council agreed to hold a work session on June 13, 2016 at 6:30 pm.

MEDIA PRESENCE PROGRAM & PERSONNEL:

Mr. Duer stated that Ken Dufty has been in contact with Clarice MacGarvey, a professional writer, to help promote Exmore through our website and Facebook. Ms. MacGarvey expressed her excitement to get started as Exmore's Marketing Director.

WATER PAD FOR THE PARK:

Mr. Dukes noted that a water pad for the Park, 20' x 30' concrete pad with 20 sprinklers and a soft pad will cost the Town approximately \$35,000. He said that many Towns and Parks & Recreations are installing water pads for children to play in during the summer months. The Mayor and Council asked Ms. MacGarvey to research the water pads in other towns and report back to them.

RESOLUTION:

Mr. Duer explained that Kris Tucker is in the process of obtaining a grant in the amount of \$40,000 to see if anything can be done with the old Middle School. Mr. Tucker has asked for a Resolution supporting the grant. Mr. Duer noted that there is no expense to any citizens. Councilman Doughty made the Motion to adopt a Resolution supporting the grant. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that there will be a Public Hearing for the proposed Zoning Ordinance on June 20, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Dukes has addressed several property owners about cleaning up their property.

Owners of the Exxon on Rt. 13 are adding a 30' x 45' addition to the existing building to make it large enough for a convenience store/eatery.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino commended the officers for their outstanding performance. The tasers are in and Sgt. Campbell recertified as a Taser Instructor and will train the other officers. The Town Office now has cameras throughout the building. The cameras were purchased through a Byrne Grant. He noted that the collected fines are on schedule. There were two reportable crashes in May. The driver fled from one crash and the other was at the intersection of Broadwater Road and Rt. 13. Chief DiMartino stated that he met with VDOT and they advised him that they are upgrading the traffic light and installing reflective bodies on the lights.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that Mr. Johnson was called in to help repair a water leak earlier and would not be in attendance to give his report. He said that the Public Works Department is managing very well. There were no new meters installed in May but they have received 60 more new ones today. Mr. Johnson is elated with the new truck.

UTILITY REPORT:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.6 million gallons of water in May. He stated that there are some issues with the wastewater system and asked anyone who sees a red light on to call and report it.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Stevon Sample informed the Mayor and Council that he has completed an 8 ½' x 14' mural at Perdue. He attended a business summit at Eastern Shore Community College. He will be hosting an art event at his home on York Circle on July 9, 2016 at 2:30 pm.

Bob Meyers stated that the Northampton County Board of Supervisors appointed John Pavlik to the Joint Industrial Development Authority to represent Exmore. He said the County is proposing to float a \$10 million bond for an assisted living facility in Williamsburg, James City County. Mr. Meyers is concerned that if they default, the County will have to pay. He urged everyone to attend the Public Hearing on June 21, at 4:00 pm in the County building.

Ken Dufty thanked the Mayor and Council for bringing Ms. MacGarvey to Exmore to help with tourism and marketing. He also thanked them for the new banners and signs and the Police Department for keeping Exmore safe. Mr. Dufty welcomes the Vape Shop to the community.

Donald E. Kellam, Jr. thanked the Mayor and Council for the tax break and commended the Town employees for doing an excellent job.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

WORK SESSION – JUNE 13, 2016 @ 6:30 pm

PUBLIC HEARING @ NORTHAMPTON COUNTY – JUNE 21, 2016 @ 4:00 pm

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, JULY 4, 2016 – INDEPENDENCE DAY

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016 @ 7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. 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