

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
AUGUST 1, 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 1st day of August, 2016, at 7:00 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Absent
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, Mike Johnson, Carroll Taylor.

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Vice-Mayor Lewis. Vice-Mayor Lewis established a quorum.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by the majority in attendance.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Councilman Adkins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 11, 2016:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the regular Council meeting of July 11, 2016 as presented. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed by a majority vote of 5-1. Councilman Metz stated that he was absent from the July 11, 2016 meeting and he abstained from voting.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Roy Ballard reported that the 20th annual Town-Wide Yard Sale is scheduled for September 17, 2016. The streets will be closed from 8:00 am until 3:00 pm. Spaces are \$75.00 for food vendors and \$15.00 for others. He announced that the antique car show is scheduled for October 15, 2016.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that the multipurpose building at the Park is going up and should be complete in the next ten days. The Town now has two Facebook pages. Mr. Duer encouraged everyone to review The Town of Exmore and Visit Exmore pages. The ESO has not removed their sign on Route 13 as yet but we will install our sign. There are concerns from the aquaculture industry about the location of the sewer plant and we need to consider moving it to another area in Town. John Pavlik's appointment to the IDA has expired. Mr. Duer recommended that we nominate Mr. Pavlik to continue serving on the IDA. Councilman Doughty made the Motion to nominate John Pavlik to serve on the IDA. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously. Mr. Duer noted that one of the requirements for accepting the Tourism Grant is that the project must be completed by December 31st. It will cost approximately \$20,000 to move the caboose and prepare the site for it. A stage can be built for approximately \$7,000. It was the general consensus of the Council not to move the caboose. The stage was previously approved. We are researching the probability of using an online service for

customers to pay their utility bills online. The Council agreed to move forward with the online bill pay and to charge the customer the fee.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that the checking and savings balances are at \$1,741,000 Tax collections are at 84% and the Utility balance report is mostly bad debt. Total expenses for July was \$197,065 and total income was \$183,285 for a net loss of \$13,779. The loss for the month was due largely to the purchase of the new police car, audit fees and the building at the Park.

OLD BUSINESS:

ABANDONED VEHICLED ORDINANCE:

Mr. Duer stated that the Abandoned Vehicle Ordinance is being reviewed by our attorney and we should have it ready and finalized to hold a Public Hearing before the next Council meeting. The Council agreed.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the sewer information session held on July 21st was attended by several citizens. He said that due to the aquaculture industry's concerns, we are looking into moving the sewer plant to the west side of town on property that Exmore owns.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that Draper Aden is moving forward with the well project and hopes to have it complete by May 2017.

WATER/SEWER RESPONSIBILITY:

Mr. Duer noted that there is nothing new to report.

CIGARETTE TAX:

Mr. Duer reported that the town attorney is working on the details.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Duer informed the Council that Holiday Day Inn is delinquent with their business license and property taxes. Our attorney is reviewing this case.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that he has received a letter from New Road Community Group giving authorization to remove a derelict building in the New Road area. He said also that our attorney can have the Sage Diner building and property cleaned up but needs authorization from the Council. The Council agreed.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino stated that all the officers are doing well. The fines and e-summons are on track and the grants are up to date. He reported 4 reportable crashes in July with two of them being red light violations. Ace hardware is offering 5% of all Yeti purchases to local law enforcement. Chief DiMartino stated that he has ordered protective shields and helmets and thanked the Council for their support.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Mr. Johnson reported that Public Works responded to 57 service calls in July. Furniture and appliances were picked up on July 14 and the brush and limbs were picked up on July 21. He noted that they have installed 470 new water meters.

UTILITY REPORT:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.3 million gallons of water in July bringing the year-to-date total to 25 million gallons.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Brenda Bailey asked if the sewer hook-up fee would change if the sewer plant is moved. Mr. Dukes said he could not be certain until things are finalized. Melissa Potter asked about the proposed fee to pay her utility bill online. Mr. Duer noted that the fee is charged by the provider and it will be passed on to the customer. A citizen asked for an explanation of “Abandoned Vehicles”. Mr. Duer said it would be a vehicle without tags or a valid inspection. Roy Ballard told the Council that they made the right decision not to move the caboose.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2016 (LABOR DAY)

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2016 @ 7pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster. The Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

Thomas Lewis, Vice-Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk