

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
AND
PUBLIC HEARING
MARCH 6, 2017
7:00 PM

At a Public Hearing and 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 March, 2017, at 7:00 pm

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-Absent
Councilman Chase Sturgis-Present

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Duer, Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino, Sgt. Zieger, Taylor Dukes, Mike Johnson.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Council meeting came to order at 7:00 pm with the majority in attendance reciting the pledge of allegiance.

IVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Councilman Adkins.

Mr. Duer noted that Mr. Hogg could not attend tonight's meeting to report on the survey at the new wastewater facility site and asked that the agenda be amended to allow Kerry Allison to speak about the E. S. Tourism Commission. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to amend the agenda to allow Ms. Allison to speak. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Greer opened the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – CDBG FUNDING:

Mr. Dukes stated that tonight's Public Hearing is the second one to allow citizens the opportunity to comment on the Town's plans to obtain grant funding for a new wastewater facility. He gave a brief overview of the CDBG funding. There was one signed up to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to close the Public Hearing. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

JOINT PUBLIC HEARING – FEBRUARY 6, 2017:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2017 Joint Public Hearing (No Quorum). The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING & REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 6, 2017:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 6, 2017 Council meeting. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Ken Dufty furnished the Council with information regarding some of the issues with commercial chicken houses on the Eastern Shore, such as how the chicken houses might contribute to air pollution and how they could affect the quality of our ground water.

~~REPORT ON SURVEY AT NEW WASTEWATER FACILITY SITE — GRANVILLE HOGG (AMENDED)~~

E. S. TOURISM COMMISSION – KERRY ALLISON:

Kerry Allison, Director of the Eastern Shore Tourism Commission reported that there has been an increase in tourism on the Eastern Shore in recent years. She noted that their website cites an increase of younger visitors interested in where to visit on the Eastern Shore. Mayor Greer presented Ms. Allison with a check for the Tourism Commission.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted the Public Works department will attend Flagger training on March 15th on Chincoteague and OSHA training for supervisors here on March 16th. The light tower has been delivered and the PA system has been obtained. Shore Little League will be hosting an oyster roast in the Park this weekend and the Juneteenth Celebration is moving forward on schedule. Mr. Duer said that we need tables and chairs for the building at the Park, which cost approximately \$1,500 and security cameras for approximately \$600 - \$700. The Council agreed. Mr. Duer noted that he was advised by the water bond commission not to pay off the existing water bond. He said that there would be an early pay-off penalty in the amount of \$4,000. Declaration Network has asked for a letter of support from the Town for the USDA. The Council agreed to authorize Mr. Duer to forward the letter of support. They also need an easement from the Town to have ANEC run electric lines to the water tower. The Council gave consent for the easement.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that the Town has a healthy fund balance. Mrs. Sherwood has begun writing off some of the bad debt from the water/sewer/trash accounts and Mrs. Wert continues to collect delinquent taxes. Our net income year-to-date at the end of February was \$375,509.

FEBRUARY SUMMARY:

2017 – 2018 BUDGET OVERVIEW:

The budget overview was discussed during tonight's work session.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

SURVEYS:

Mr. Dukes noted that the sewer project continues forward and we still need 150 more completed surveys to submit for the grant. He said that he will be submitting the grant application, for \$1,000,000 to the DHCD on March 29th.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Hogg has completed approximately 95% of the survey for the new wells. The next step is the plans for the design for the backwash.

NEW BUSINESS:

BOND COUNSEL FOR VDH REVOLVING LOAN FUND:

Mr. Duer and Mr. Dukes reviewed the bond counsel agreements with the Mayor and Council. After brief discussion, Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to retain Hunton & Williams to handle the bond for the new wells. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that we are in need of a few new members on the Planning and Zoning Commission. He said that the updated zoning ordinance cannot go into effect until the Commission and Council have met for a Public Hearing and votes to approve it. Mr. Dukes urged the Mayor and Council to help find interested persons to serve on the Commission.

Mr. Dukes noted that some abandoned cars have been removed and they are working with property owners to remove others.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that all of the officers are doing well. Sgt. Zieger attended Occohannock Elementary School for Career Day, giving the students information on Law Enforcement. He said that Sgt Campbell spends time with the students as well. Chief DiMartino reported the DMV audit, with Dwight Jenkins went well and Mr. Jenkins was impressed with our recordkeeping. He reported two crashes in February and the crashes at the intersections have decreased drastically since the installation of the reflective backing plates on the traffic lights. He noted that they have received the new laser.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 55 service calls in February. They read 714 water meters and have installed a total of 490 new meters. Fire hydrants were flushed on the 3rd, brush and limbs were picked up on the 22nd and trash is averaging 20,000 to 22,000 pounds each week. Mr. Johnson noted that he is happy to see such great morale with his men.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that they have installed two new sewer connections on Monroe Street. He is working with New Ravenna to get their system cleaned up. Mr. Dukes assured the Mayor and Council that the broken fire hydrants will be repaired soon. We pumped 2.9 million gallons of water in February.

CITIZEN/COUNCIL COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Mayor Greer stated that his goal for the Town is to focus more on the Park. He conveyed that he would like the Business Association and the Fire Company to each hold some sort of an event each year in the Park to bring out residents and visitors. He noted that a Farmer's Market would do well also.

Councilman Sturgis and Mr. Duer discussed the possible purchase of a new police car and two new lasers. The Council was in agreement to order the new car and two lasers.

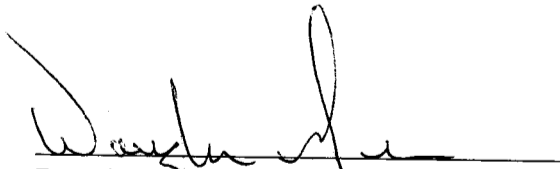
SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

WORK SESSION – MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 @ 6:30 pm

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

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



Douglas Greer, Mayor



Ethel Parks, Town Clerk