TOWN COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 7, 2022 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 7th day of November 2022 at 7:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

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 ATTENDANCE:

Robert Duer, Ethel Parks, Taylor Dukes, Chief DiMartino, Officer Hinman.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Greer.

PLEDGE

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

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - OCTOBER 3, 2022:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the October 3, 2022 regular Town Council meeting. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT - MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer announced the following anniversaries for November;

JOE SOMMERS – 12 YEARS ON NOVEMBER 15

ROBERT DUER - 9 YEARS ON NOVEMBER 18

LYNN SHERWOOD - 9 YEARS ON NOVEMBER 25

Mr. Duer noted that the Parks bathrooms are now closed for the winter.

Northampton County has notified us that personal property tax information will not be available to us any time soon. Mr. Duer asked the Mayor and Council if they still wanted a December 5, deadline on payment of the taxes.

The CD at Edward Jones will come due for renewal this month. The Mayor and Council were in agreement to authorize Mr. Duer to use his best judgement to either roll it over or transfer the funds to the investment pool.

Mr. Dukes will be discussing the retention of an attorney to handle the financial responsibilities with USDA-RD.

FINANCIAL REPORT - MR. DUER:

OCTOBER FINANCIALS:

Income for the month of October was \$255,622 and expenses were \$227,625. Net income for the month was \$27,996.

YTD FINANCIALS:

The year-to-date income is at \$1,591,268 and expenses are at \$750,592 for a year-to-date net income of \$750,592.

NEW BUSINESS:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to extend the personal property tax deadline to January 5, 2023. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

CAMPERS AS RESIDENCES – NO REPORT:

No Report.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT - MR. DUER:

LOAN/GRANT STATUS:

Mr. Dukes explained that USDA requires us to retain an attorney who can attest that we have taken all the necessary steps to obtain the easements we need for the sewer hook-ups. He noted the bond counsel highly recommended Mr. James Cromwell. It was the general consensus of the Mayor and Council to retain Mr. Cromwell.

Mr. Duer stated that Ordinance No. 225 outlines the due date, penalty amount and service disconnection in Section 3. He said that the rate changes in Section 1 do not apply at this time. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to approve Ordinance No. 225 striking Section 1 at this time. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

RATE SCHEDULE:

Mr. Duer noted that USDA requires the Town to advertise and hold a Public Hearing noting the rate schedule for sewer. The Public Hearing will be held on Monday, November 14, 2022, at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Dukes said that he, Mr. Duer and Mrs. Ward met with DHCD. He is hopeful that DHCD will move forward with the grant without 100% signed easements.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino noted that all the officers are doing well. He said that calls for service are down. He said that the Blue Wave Campaign was a success. Lt. Lewis from the Northampton County Sheriff's Office did a good job organizing the campaign and they will be conducting it again. The Car Show, Oyster Roast and Halloween went well. Chief DiMartino noted 2 reportable crashes in October.

PUBLIC WORKS/WATER/SEWER REPORT – MR. DUKES:

No report.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT - MR. DUKES:

Previously reported.

ZONING REPORT - MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that the Town had an ordinance years ago that addressed derelict and dangerous structures. He said that we will need to either re-adopt this ordinance or re-write it. The ordinance should be available for review at the December meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE NO. 225 – PROPOSED SEWER RATES – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2022 (VETERAN'S DAY)

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – THURSDAY & FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24 & 25 (THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY)

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY DECEMBER 5, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Ethel Parks, Town Clerk