

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2023
7:00 PM

At the 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 9th day of January 2023 at 7:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

- Mayor Douglas Greer-Present
- Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Lewis
- 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, Capt. Zieger.

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 Councilman Adkins.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

— **TOWN COUNCIL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING – DECEMBER 5, 2022:**

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 5, 2022 regular Town Council meeting and Public Hearing. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Joe Andrews addressed the Mayor and Council with concerns as to how the emergency water shut-off and boil water advisory was handled. He said that there needs to be another way to notify citizens other than Facebook.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

ANNIVERSARIES:

ADAM ZIEGER - 11 YRS – JAN. 16th; PAMELA WARD – 1 YR – JAN. 19th; KRIS BRANCH – 1 YR – JAN. 31st.

Mr. Duer announced that Capt. Adam Zieger will be employed by the Town 11 years on the 16th, Pamela Ward-1 year on the 19th and Kris Branch-1 year on the 31st.

The tax situation with the County has been a disaster this year. Many residents that do not have cars are being billed, old addresses are showing up and many other issues. They purchased new tax software that is not compatible with ours and it has been a challenge.

Mr. Duer noted that a citizen wants to donate a gazebo to the Town. He said that it is valued at an estimated \$20,000 and would cost \$5,000 to \$15,000 just to move it. He noted that they can discuss it further during New Business.

— Mr. Duer stated that all but approximately \$17,000 in real estate taxes has been paid. Second notices will go out next week.

Thanks goes to Councilman Sturgis and Mr. Dukes for attending the check presentation in Onley last week with Congresswoman Luria.

A work session needs to be set in order to work on the 2024 budget.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

DECEMBER FINANCIALS:

Income for the month of December was \$263,000 and expenses were \$158,766 for a net income of \$104,234.

YTD FINANCIALS:

Year-to-date income is \$2,073,868 and expenses were \$1,088,684 which gives the Town a net income of \$985,183.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was brief discussion regarding the donation of the gazebo. It was the general consensus of the Council to inform the citizen that the Town is not interested at this time due to location and cost.

2024 BUDGET:

Mr. Duer stated that the 2024 budget is complete. He said that he has included a \$1.00 per hour or 4%, whichever is greater, raise for all employees at July 1, 2023 plus the additional \$500 or 1% at the first of the month following their anniversary date. This can be reviewed at the work session. The date for the budget work session is February 13, 2023 at 7:00 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

CAMPERS AS RESIDENCES – NO REPORT:

No Report.

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUER:

LOAN/GRANT STATUS:

Mr. Duer stated that with the \$23,700,000 in funds secured from multiple entities, we will need to borrow approximately \$6,500,000.

Mr. Dukes noted that the new sewer rates ordinance was received by USDA, through our attorney, and they are saying that we can go to bid in 30 – 45 days.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that they were able to purchase 16 - \$200 gift cards for Exmore residents through the Secret Santa Raffle. He said that they were able to help 11 families this year.

All the grants are on track and reimbursements are coming in. Chief DiMartino said that crashes are up, noting 4 in December.

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

Mr. Dukes responded to Mr. Andrews’ previous concern about emergency shut-off and boil water notifications. He said that we have a system in place through our billing system and we are in the process of collecting phone numbers and emails and learning to use the system. He said that 2 samples of water were taken and both came back negative for bacteria.

ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:

No report.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

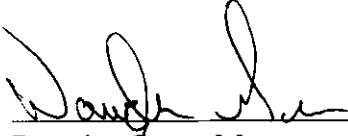
TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, JANUARY 16, 2023 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY FEBRUARY 6, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

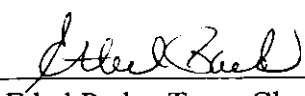
TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSESSION – MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2023 @ 7:00 pm

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