TOWN COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 2, 2025 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 2nd day of June 2025 at 7:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Present
Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Present
Councilman G. W. Adkins-Present
Councilman Bryon Heaster-Present
Councilman John Metz-Present
Councilman Chase Sturgis-Present
Councilwoman – Claudia Andrews-Present

STAFF ATTENDANCE:

Taylor Dukes, Pam Ward, Chief DiMartino, Capt. Zieger, Sgt. Hinman and Officer Hipple.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Greer established a quorum and called the Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PLEDGE:

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

INVOCATION:

The invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

Mayor Greer wanted to recognize Chief Angelo DiMartino as Officer of the Year on the Eastern Shore.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Damien Geist wanted to recognize the completion of the sewer project by presenting Town Manager Taylor Dukes with a plaque.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – May 5, 2025:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to change the date from May 5, 2025 to June 2, 2025 and then approve with correction. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUKES: Mr. Dukes stated starting July 1st VRBO & Air BNB's will no longer have to pay transient occupancy tax. Also, any booking agent online for hotels won't pay the tax. This will certainly affect our budget. Public Works has as opening for a supervisor. We will be running an ad in the E.S. Post for the next couple of weeks. Mr. Dukes stated that the Public Works team has been using their own phones. This could open them up to FOIA requests. Mr. Dukes mentioned that there are radios that can be used for Public Works employees with one in the office at a cost of about \$1000. Mr. Dukes asked Council if they would agree to the purchase. The council has agreed to the purchase of the radios. Mr. Dukes mentioned that there is a 4" water main in need of repair from Main Street to Mapp Ave. back to Pasco. To fix the main we would need 600' of pipe and will cost just under \$5,000 with labor costing about \$12,000 for a total of \$17,000. Mr. Dukes stated we could use ARPA Funds. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to replace the main. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously. Brandon Parks has his 7-year anniversary the 20th of this month. Lastly, Mr. Dukes announced that Capt. Zieger will be the replacement Chief of Police for Chief DiMartino.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUKES: MAY FINANCIALS:

Mr. Dukes stated we started the month with a cash balance of \$6,732,736.04 and ended the month with \$7,022,611.32. 10- General Funds Account Budgeted Revenues of \$1,672,262.00 with Year to Date \$1,944,858.33 for a variance Net Profit of \$272,596.33. Budgeted General Funds Expenses were \$1,664,583.00 with Year to Date being \$1,175,425.43 leaving a variance profit of \$489,157.57. 20 – Enterprise Funds Revenues were \$981,600.00 with a Year to Date of \$1,047,444.37 leaving a Net Profit variance of \$65,844.37. 20 - Enterprise Funds Expenses were \$889,515.00 with a Year to Date of \$(14,120.08) leaving a Net Profit variance of \$903,635.08. This is actually showing a Net Profit of \$837,790.71. Keep in mind that we received an extra \$701,000 cash from USDA. If you take that \$701,000.00 out it leaves a Net Profit of \$211,717.07.

YTD FINANCIALS:

Discussed in the financial report

NEW BUSINESS: MR. DUKES

BUDGET FY 25-26

Mr. Dukes went over the balanced budget showing estimated General Fund Revenues of \$2,670,363 and estimated Expenditures of \$2,670,363. However, there is money set aside for the sewer pumps. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the budget as proposed. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION - CHANGE REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Dukes stated that the resolution to change the date of the regular meetings has been received from the attorney and has been put in the local paper. This needs to be approved by Council. Councilman Adkins made the Motion to approve moving the council meetings to the second Monday of each month. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

ORDINANCE 215- TRAFFIC FINES

Mr. Dukes explained that this ordinance will need to be approved each year in order to collect fines. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt Ordinance 215 once section 2 line 6 is amended to read enforce on July 1, 2025. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS - MR. DUKES:

Nothing to report

POLICE REPORT - CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino noted that all Officers are doing well, and Angel Mateo will graduate the Police Academy next Tuesday. There was 1 reportable crash. It was a Hit and Run at Occohannock Rd. and Rt 13. The cameras captured video of the vehicle. Chief DiMartino reported the grants and fines are on track. Lastly, Chief DiMartino noted that the guys nominated him for the Officer of the Year award. However, he couldn't have gotten the award without the support of the Town Council, the Town Manager and the best team of officers. Chief DiMartino mentioned that all officers with 2 years of service are General Instructors, Capt. Zieger is an Instructor in RADAR-LIDAR and Taser, Lt. Gonzalez is an Instructor in RADAR-LIDAR and Taser, Sgt, Hinman is an Instructor in RADAR-LIDAR, and Cpl. Diaz is an Instructor in RADAR-LIDAR and Defensive Tactics. Chief DiMartino stated that Sgt. Hinman and Sgt. Parks will be trying to qualify to go to the Police Academy to become Firearms Instructors. Chief DiMartino stated that Capt. Zieger has been sitting with him to learn about Grants and has given him notes on the position.

PUBLIC WORKS - MR. DUKES:

No Report

WATER AND SEWER REPORT - MR. DUKES:

No Report

ZONING REPORT - MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that there are a lot of developers looking at Exmore and we need to be very cautious with what we allow to come to Town and how big we allow Exmore to grow. Too much growth would require more Public Works employees and Police Officers. With that growth there are developers already looking at buying property and wanting to change the zoning. Planning Commission can't change the vote of the Zoning Administrator. We will need 5 people for Zoning Appeals. They will need to be appointed by a Judge. Mr. Dukes reminded the Council that they need to remember that if we grow too much the sewer rates will increase. Mr. Dukes stated that we need controlled smart growth.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER): None

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & CLOSINGS: TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, JULY 14, 2025 @ 7:00 pm CLOSINGS – July 4, 2025 FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Douglas Greer, Mayor

Pam Ward, Town Clerk