

TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
AUGUST 1, 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 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, Chief DiMartino, Capt. Zieger, Sgt. Gonzalez, 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 Councilman Adkins.

— **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – JULY 11, 2022:**

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of July 11, 2022 , regular Town Council meeting as presented. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously, with Councilman Adkins abstaining.

**CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):**

J. R. Bishop addressed the Mayor and Council with concerns regarding the new sewer system. He asked questions about billing, construction, project management and maintenance, among other inquiries.

Brenda Bailey asked if she would be required to hook up to Town water as well as the sewer. Both Mr. Bishop and Mrs. Bailey voiced their concerns about the affordability of the sewer connection and monthly fees. Mr. Duer noted that Exmore has been diligent in seeking funding for the new system so that no current resident will have to pay to connect to the new system. He said that he has no information on the affordability of the monthly rate because the project has not gone to bid yet.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:**

— Mr. Duer noted three anniversaries this month: Officer Diaz, 2 years on the 5<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Parks, 21 years on the 9<sup>th</sup> and Officer Little, 3 years on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Duer said that the benches have been shipped and the message board should be up next week. The second installment of the ARPA funds, \$711,736 have been deposited. The lights in front of the Town Office need to be replaced. Mr. Duer stated that he has received a bid for the lights for \$3,100.

The water leaks have not been repaired because the road patch material has not been available.

We have received a quote for some shade areas in the Park at \$8,000 each. There are grants available to help fund this.

The first batch of easement letters have been mailed. Mr. Duer noted that they have been working hard to get the letters out.

The Town's Facebook page currently has 3,000 fans, with 500 of those being from Exmore. Daddy's Little Dress Shirts was featured on the Today Show this morning.

**FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:**

**JULY FINANCIALS:**

Income for the month of July was \$914,329, which includes the ARPA funds of \$711,736 and expenses were \$234,069. The net income was \$680,259.

**YTD FINANCIALS:**

Same as July's totals.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION: VIRGINIA HOUSING AUTHORITY – NEW ROAD:**

Mr. Duer explained that the Resolution to include the New Road area as a revitalization area is necessary to help Ava Wise move forward with the project. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the Resolution. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

**WATER HOOK-UP FEE INCREASE – ORDINANCE NO. 223**

Mr. Duer noted that the water hook-up fees need to be increased due to the price increase of materials. He recommended to strike the sewer hook-up fee until we get closer to completing the project. He said that Ordinance No. 223 lists the new hook-up fees. Councilman Sturgis noted that Section 4, which lists the trash rates, needs to be amended to reflect the current rates. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve Ordinance No. 223, striking the sewer hook-up fee and correcting Section 4. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**CAMPERS AS RESIDENCES:**

Mr. Duer noted that the draft ordinance states that residents building or remodeling their home are permitted to reside in campers for up to 12 months with zoning approval with a possible 6 month extension.

**TOWN ATTORNEY:**

No report.

**UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUER & MR. DUKES:**

Mr. Duer said that they are trying diligently to get to bid and now they have to explain why the cost has increased from the original P.E.R. He noted that there will be a project manager on the project. Mr. Duer said that all existing tanks will be abandoned. There will be a summer rate to compensate for the water used to wash cars, water gardens, etc.

**LOAN/GRANT STATUS:**

Mr. Duer noted that we will receive an additional \$3,500,000 from the state, which DEQ will administer, and we have the \$1,500,000 in ARPA funds

**POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:**

Chief DiMartino noted that all officers are doing well and staying busy. He said there were several noise complaints over the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend from fireworks. Crashes have increased as well.

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

No report.

**WATER AND SEWER REPORT – MR. DUKES:**

No report.

**ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:**

No report.

**CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):**

J. R. Bishop said that if the sewer hook-up fee is too costly for businesses and residents, it may stop them from coming to Exmore. He noted that we need an incentive to draw new businesses and residents


**SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:**


**TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2022 – LABOR DAY**

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING & PUBLIC HEARING(S) - MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 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.

  
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Douglas Greer, Mayor

  
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Ethel Parks, Town Clerk