

TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING  
PUBLIC HEARINGS  
APRIL 4, 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 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022 at 7:00 pm.

— Attendance:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Present  
Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Present  
Councilman G. W. Adkins-Present  
Councilman Bradley Doughty-Absent  
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 – MARCH 7, 2022:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of March 7, 2022, regular Town Council meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING – ORDINANCE NO. 219 – TRASH COLLECTION FEES:

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Greer opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Duer explained that Ordinance No. 219 is an Ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 124 to increase trash fees by \$1.00 per trash can.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

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

PUBLIC HEARING – FY 2022-2023 BUDGET:

— Mayor Greer opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Duer noted this is a recap of the budget. He said the budget balances with \$2,114,928 in both revenue and expenditures. There is a surplus in of \$48,000 in the Capital Improvement Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No comments.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to close the Public Hearing. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Gregory Johnson, of the New Road Community, addressed the Mayor and Council regarding gun violence, the declining of a few apartments and the neighborhood in general. He stated that he feels threatened and unsafe. The property manager has told him that he will speak to the tenants about this, but there have been no improvements. Mr. Johnson said that living in this area is unacceptable and asked for help from the Mayor and Council. Mr. Duer noted that this would be addressed in following reports.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer stated that there are no anniversaries this month, but Mrs. Wert's retirement date is April 26<sup>th</sup>. He said that there will be a luncheon for Mrs. Wert on April 25<sup>th</sup> and invited the Mayor and Council to attend.

The new and improved website is up and running.

Mr. Duer said that there has been no official word from Richmond on the delegation of funds, but the funds are still in the budget.

CSB will be showing a movie in the Park on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Ava Wise is hosting an event in the New Road Community on April 18<sup>th</sup>. Congresswoman Luria and other delegates will be attending to award the \$500,000 grant.

Little Hands Little Feet has requested a crosswalk at the intersection of Grayson Avenue and Main Street. Mr. Duer noted that VDOT needs a resolution from the Town before they can install the crosswalk. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt a Resolution to provide a pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of Grayson Avenue and Main Street for Little Hands Little Feet. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz.

The residents on Crowne Avenue want VDOT to clean and maintain the ditches on Crowne Avenue. Mr. Duer said that we need a resolution requesting VDOT improve the drainage on Crowne Avenue. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt a resolution requesting VDOT improve and maintain the ditches on Crowne Avenue. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer mentioned that election forms are available to anyone who is interested. They must be turned in to the Voter Registrar's office no later than June 21, 2022.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

MARCH FINANCIALS:

Mr. Duer reported the income for the month of March was \$184,143 and expenses were \$200,021 leaving the Town with a net loss of \$15,878.

YTD SUMMARY:

The year-to-date income is at \$1,864,128 and expenses are \$1,725,065 for a net income of \$139,063.

NEW BUSINESS:

TOWN ATTORNEY:

Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that our Town Attorney is ceasing to operate. He said that he has reached out to other attorneys but has not heard back from them yet.

HANDS-FREE DRIVING POLICY:

Mr. Duer stated that we wish to add a mandatory hands-free driving policy to our employee handbook. He said that it states that at no time shall an employee be using a phone while operating a Town vehicle. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the mandatory hands-free driving policy. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

REVISION OF ORDINANCE NO. 147:

REQUIRING WATER AND SEWER HOOKUPS – MR. DUER & MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that we would like to hold a Public Hearing next month to pass the mandatory water and sewer hookup ordinance. The Council was in agreement.

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

Mr. Dukes noted that the plans for the new sewer project have to be approved before going out for bid. He is anticipating the project will go out to bid by mid-summer.

LOAN/GRANT STATUS:

Mr. Dukes stated that there are additional funds available for infrastructure. Mr. Duer said that our goal is to borrow no more than 3 million dollars.

**POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:**

Chief DiMartino said that all of the officers are doing well. He reported 4 crashes last month and said that red light runners are part of the cause of the crashes.

The new handguns have arrived and will be issued next week after the officers qualify.

There are problems at the blue apartments and management says they will help. Mr. Duer noted that the A-NPDC usually meet annually and he will reach out to them to find out when they are due to be in Exmore.

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

Mr. Dukes noted that the Public Works crew are doing well. They have been working on several water leaks. He said that they are working on running the sewer lines to the 4 homes on Occohannock Road.

**ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:**

Mr. Dukes reported that Officer Little is doing a great job on talking to citizens about cleaning up their property. He said that he reached out to the Town Attorney, prior to his resignation, to write an ordinance to regarding abandoned vehicles.

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

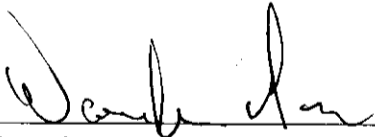
None.

**SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:**

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING - MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis. 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