

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
JULY 6, 2020
4:00 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 6th day of July 2020, at 4:00 pm.

Attendance:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Absent
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.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Council meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm by Vice-Mayor Lewis.

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to move the Pledge and Invocation to #7. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

READ INTO CLOSED SESSION:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to convene to Closed Session to:

Conduct Closed Session in accordance with Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia of 1950, as amended:

(C) Paragraph 5: Discussion concerning a prospective business or industry or the expansion of an existing business or industry where no previous announcement has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating or expanding its facilities in the community.

The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed by the roll call vote of:

Vice-Mayor Lewis-Aye; Councilman Adkins-Aye; Councilman Doughty-Aye; Councilman Heaster-Aye; Councilman Metz-Aye; Councilman Sturgis-Aye and Mayor Greer-Absent;

CERTIFY CLOSED SESSION:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to certify the Closed Session, stating that only matters described in Councilman Sturgis' original Motion to convene to Closed Session were discussed. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Doughty and was passed by the roll call vote of:

Vice-Mayor Lewis-Aye; Councilman Adkins-Aye; Councilman Doughty-Aye; Councilman Heaster-Aye; Councilman Metz-Aye; Councilman Sturgis-Aye and Mayor Greer-Absent.

RECESS (IF CLOSED SESSION IS COMPLETE)

Vice-Mayor Lewis recessed the meeting until 7:00 pm.

RECONVENE – 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, Capt. Zieger, Officer Gonzalez, Officer Hinman.

Mayor Greer reconvened the Town Council meeting at 7:00 pm

SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILMEN – CLERK OF COURT, TRACI JOHNSON:
The newly elected Councilmen took their oath in front of Ms. Johnson via video before the meeting was called to order.

PLEDGE:

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

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

PRESENTATION ON ANNUAL AUDIT – A. ROHM, SMITH & COMPANY

THERESA ROHM:

Ms. Rohm explained that their audit of the Town is an opinion audit. It is an unqualified opinion, which is the highest form of opinion that we can get. She said that the financial statements are fairly stated in all material respects. Ms. Rohm stated that they look at internal controls and test the staff with the controls, they look for any abnormalities, there were no material adjustments made and no disagreements with management. She noted that from an audit standpoint, this is as positive as it gets. Ms. Rohm agreed that the audit is clean and went very well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – JUNE 1, 2020:

Mr. Duer noted the omission of Chief DiMartino and Capt. Zieger’s attendance at the June 1st Council meeting.

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Town Council meeting of June 1, 2020 as amended. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that Chief DiMartino marks 15 years this month with the Town. The Park has reopened despite the fact that the Public Works crew remains a bit behind schedule due to illnesses. He said that Exmore’s share of the Covid Relief Funds from Northampton County is \$118,000, but he has not received notice of how to disperse the funds.

Mr. Duer noted that Mr. Dukes deserves a public “thank you” for his management of the new well project.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

JUNE 2020 SUMMARY:

Mr. Duer stated there are many water accounts that are not being paid and we cannot turn them off. The Governor has extended disconnection of utilities until August 31st. He pointed out that Meals Tax, Sales Tax, Police Fines and Water Sales are down due to the pandemic. Interest rates on our investment income has also dropped significantly. Total income for June was \$126,473 and expenses were \$68,100 for a net income of \$58,373.

YTD SUMMARY:

Year-to-date income is \$2,270,018 and expenses are \$1,985,520, which gives us a year-to-date net income of \$284,498. Mr. Duer noted that overall, we did very well with the budget.

BUDGET AMENDMENTS:

WELL PROJECT THROUGH JUNE 2020:

Mr. Duer stated that the budget needs to be amended to approve \$2,496,107.17 in expenses on the well project and \$1,792,204.46 in appropriations as follows; Draper Aden-\$1,489.53; Virginia Resource Authority-\$1,609,607; Community Development Block Grant-\$481,107.93

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to accept the budget amendments regarding the well project. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

2021 BUDGET AMENDMENTS

VRSA

OTHER ITEMS

Mr. Duer stated that \$55,848 is budgeted for liability insurance, but VRSA increased the premium by \$15,413 and Sanitation Payroll Taxes in the amount of \$3,000 was omitted. He noted that \$15,000 in Wastewater Penalties and Interest needs to be added as well.

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to accept the budget amendments of \$15,000 in income for Wastewater Penalties and Interest, the expense of \$3,000 in Sanitation Payroll Taxes and \$15,413 for the additional VRSA premium. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer asked the Mayor and Council to keep in mind that the insurance premium may increase again if we have to build our own sewer plant.

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that the demolition of the building at the water tower and filling the old wells should be completed this month.

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

PER PROGRESS:

Mr. Dukes reported that the P.E.R. has been submitted for review and approval pending the final decision of the treatment plan. The application for DEQ Revolving Loan Fund was submitted last week.

CONNECTION COSTS:

No Report

PPEA:

No Report

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino noted that all the officers are doing and remaining cautious about close contact with the public. He reported that the demonstration/protest that was held on June 6th was very peaceful. All officers attended a training on June 30th that was presented by VRSA on restraint. Chief DiMartino said there were three reportable crashes in June. He stated that speeds are up in the range of 70's to 90's and they are traveling these speeds during daylight hours as well as nighttime.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that all the guys are doing well. He said that trash, as well as brush and limbs have increased. They are painting the fire hydrants.

UTILITIES REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported 2 leaks in June. He noted that they are doing the street repairs in house. Water sales have been down for a few months.

ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:

The Verizon 5G tower has been installed behind the Plaza.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):


None.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

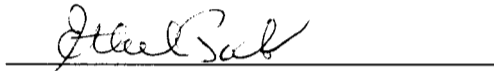
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

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.



Douglas Greer, Mayor



Ethel Parks, Town Clerk