

TOWN COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
(SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY)
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 2, 2020
7:00 PM

At a Public Hearing and 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 March 2020, at 7:00 pm.

Attendance:

Mayor Douglas Greer-Present
Vice-Mayor Thomas Lewis-Present
Councilman G. W. Adkins-Absent
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, Officer Gonzalez, Joshua Killmon.

CALL TO ORDER:

The Town Council meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Greer with the majority in attendance reciting the pledge of allegiance.

INVOCATION:

The Invocation was given by Mayor Greer.

Mr. Duer asked to amend the agenda to introduce the Towns' newly hired Public Works Supervisor and to allow members of the 911 Commission to speak. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to amend the agenda. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

Mr. Duer introduced Joshua Killmon as the Towns' newest Public Works Supervisor.

Jeff Flournoy read and presented a Resolution to Mr. Duer honoring him for his service on the 911 Commission, representing Northampton County.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:

(SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY)

Mayor Greer opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Dukes described the property as a vacant lot on Pecan Lane that is approximately 150' x 10'. He stated that there is an individual who is interested in purchasing the property.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no one interested in commenting.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 3, 2020:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Town Council meeting of February 3, 2020 with a correction. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

BUDGET WORK SESSION – FEBRUARY 24, 2020:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Budget Work Session of February 24, 2020. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

There was no one who wished to speak.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer commented that Mrs. Wert will reach 8 years with the Town this month. He noted that he has been working on succession planning. Mr. Dukes and Mr. Killmon are part of a succession plan and Chief DiMartino is working on his succession plan. Mr. Duer said that with limited staff there is no one in training to succeed Mrs. Wert with her job as billing and collection of taxes and no successor for Mrs. Parks as the Town Clerk. The annual audit has been received and forwarded to the appropriate agencies. There has been no word from DEQ regarding the funding assistance. Shore Little League will hold their annual Oyster Roast on March 7 at the Town Park. There is rumor around the A-NPDC and other agencies about building a bike trail in and around Exmore. Mr. Duer noted that he has asked about liability, ownership, maintenance and policing the bike trail, but has not received an answer. The on-line payment system will be live soon.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

FEBRUARY 2020 SUMMARY:

Mr. Duer noted that BB&T Bank has been overcharged for the bank franchise tax for several years. After petitioning the courts for reimbursement of the prior taxes, Exmore's liability is \$23,453. The 30-60-90 day utility report shows no problems. Income for February was \$177,476 and expenses were \$39,791 for a net income of \$137,685.

YTD SUMMARY:

The year-to-date income is at \$1,564,806 and expenses are at \$1,413,819, which gives us a net income of \$150,986.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that he, Mr. Duer and Ron Matthews met with the VHDA to discuss the revitalization of the downtown area. He said that it was an informative meeting with very positive remarks.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino stated that the department is doing well. They are focusing on the Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 4th at 11:00 am. He reported three crashes in February. Officer Hinman is currently helping the Cub Scouts with one of their requirements. Officers Little and Parks attended Intox School last week and the State will reimburse the Town for the expenses.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Killmon noted that he has installed shelving and a work bench in the Emergency Leak Trailer, moved some meters around, washed the signs on the highway and moved several flagpole brackets. He said that the mowers are ready for grass cutting season. Mr. Duer mentioned that Mr. Killmon has been working to organize the inventory also.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that we pumped 3.4 million gallons of water in February. He noted that the new water system will be turned over to the Town within the next 60 days. New meters for Exmore Village and Holiday Inn have been ordered.

NEW BUSINESS:

SALE OF TOWN PROPERTY:

Mr. Duer noted that there were no comments on the sale of the Town property during the Public Hearing and the next step is to advertise for sealed bids. Mr. Dukes stated that the Town could possibly use that property for the new sewer in the future. After brief discussion Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to table the sale of the property for the present time. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

REVITALIZATION RESOLUTION:

Mr. Duer explained that the resolution is a preliminary step towards obtaining a grant to assist in revitalizing the downtown area. He said it lists properties that would be part of the grant process. Mr. Matthews added that there is some grant funding available and a portion of it is State loan funds, at low interest to develop land and restore homes or businesses. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the Revitalization Resolution. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

RESCINDING ORDANCE NO. 162:

Chief DiMartino explained that Ordinance No. 212 addresses the removal of inoperable/junk vehicles. He noted that Ordinance No.'s 130, 135 and 162 allow inoperable vehicles by means of purchasing a \$50 decal for them. He said that in order to enforce Ordinance No. 212, the previous ordinances must be rescinded. Councilman Heaster made the Motion to rescind Ordinance No.'s 130, 135 and 162. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Sturgis and was passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

2021 BUDGET:

Mr. Duer noted that the second draft of the FY 2020-2021 budget is included in the packets for review. He said that the next step is to advertise for a Public Hearing possibly during the May Council meeting and then it can be voted on during the June Council meeting.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that ANEC is setting the pole to bring power to the water plant. He said that the test startup begins on March 20th. The generator should be delivered in the later part of April or the beginning of May and the plant will be up and running before the generator gets here.

PROJECT EXPENDITURES:

Mr. Duer noted that to date we have paid \$1,941,000 on the Well Project with more to come.

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

Mr. Duer explained that the resolution he gave to the Council is a resolution from USDA authorizing him to sign on behalf of the Town. He noted that the resolution authorizes him to sign for a \$30,000 search grant for the new sewer project. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the resolution. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN/COUNCIL COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

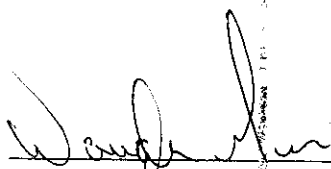
Mayor Greer stated that he appreciates each and every employee and all they do. Mr. Duer added that we have a good team keeping everything going.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, APRIL 6, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster. The Motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.



Douglas Greer, Mayor



Ethel Parks, Town Clerk