

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
AUGUST 3, 2020
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 3rd day of August 2020, 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, Taylor Dukes, Chief DiMartino, Capt. Zieger, 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 6, 2020:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Town Council meeting of July 6, 2020 with corrections. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Ken Dufty noted that he is happy to have his business open again and appreciates the Town giving them a break with the utility bill. He thanked the Mayor and Council and Town employees for all that they do. Mr. Dufty spoke in opposition of HRSD, stating that their customers are obligated to repay a \$23,000,000 debt.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING:

ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER AND SEWER BOND NOT TO EXCEED \$225,000:

Mayor Greer open the Public Hearing.

Mr. Duer explained that this is an ordinance authorizing the issuance of a General Obligation Bond, not to exceed \$225,000. He noted that the funds are from DEQ at .5% for 20 years.

There was no one from the public who wished to speak.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:

Mayor Greer closed the Public Hearing.

Mr. Duer stated that he would like to give the financial report before the Town Manager's report.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

JULY 2020 SUMMARY:

Mr. Duer noted that July was not a good month with three payrolls and assured the Mayor and Council that we continue to move forward. The COVID relief for utility customers is, to date since April, at \$19,241.38. He said that there are 60 accounts with a balance of over \$15,000 that should be cut off but can not be due to the Governor's restrictions. Transient Occupancy Tax revenue has decreased \$15,000 from last year, Sales and Meals Taxes are down as well, and Police Fines are down due to the Courts being closed. Total income for July was \$134,618 and expenses were \$180,614 for a net loss of \$45,996.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer noted that Mrs. Parks will celebrate 19 years with the Town this month.

Due to the impending storm, trash pickup has been moved to Wednesday this week. Mr. Duer said that now that the water project is complete, the old wells need to be decommissioned and we need to close on the bond. He noted that the old generator is of no use to the Town now and asked the Mayor and Council's opinion on auctioning it by sealed bid. It was the general consensus of the Council to auction the old generator. Mr. Duer made the recommendation to wait until spring and revisit the donation to the Spay/Neuter Organization. There is an individual who wants to bring a railroad car to Exmore from Cape Charles. Mr. Duer noted that we already have one railroad car, the train station and the bathrooms that we need to do something with. He said that the Town does not own the property and we need to decide what to do with the buildings and the car. There was no interest in the extra railroad car. We have been given a 10% reduction in our VRSA premiums for the safety program that we have started.

The sewer P.E.R. is complete. Mr. Duer stated that although he has asked the County if the CARES Act funds can be used for utility bills and business licenses, he has not received a response. We continue to have issues at the Park with vandalism.

NEW BUSINESS:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER AND SEWER BONDS OF THE TOWN OF EXMORE:

Councilman Sturgis read the Covering Certificate For Ordinance. The Ordinance was adopted with a unanimous, affirmative vote with the Mayor and all Councilmen present.

RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE, SALE AND AWARD OF A TAXABLE GENERAL OBLIGATION WATER AND SEWER BOND, SERIES 2020, OF THE TOWN OF EXMORE:

Mr. Dukes read the Covering Certificate For Resolution. The Resolution was adopted with a unanimous, affirmative vote with the Mayor and all Councilmen present.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Previously reported.

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

P.E.R. OF JULY 23, 2020 FROM BOWMAN CONSULTING:

Mr. Dukes reported that the total estimated cost for the combined collection system and treatment plant will be \$17,255,000 and the annual O & M cost will be \$208,346. The monthly sewer rate is a proposed tier rate at \$45.00 for usage up to 4,500 gallons.

CONNECTION COSTS:

The proposed connection cost will be \$2,000 for existing users and \$4,500 for new users in the first year and \$8,000 for new connections thereafter.

PPEA:

No report.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino said that all the officers are busy and doing well. Heriberto Diaz has been hired to fill the 7th Officer position and will be attending the academy in October. He reported 2 crashes in July. Chief DiMartino stated that speeds on the highway (45 mph) have climbed into the 80's and 90's and even some over 100. He said that they have served a homeowner with a notice to clean up their property and another has been issued a summons.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. DUKES:

UTILITIES REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that they repaired five leaks in July. He said the amount of trash has increased. The new pump station at New Road is working very well. We pumped almost 5 million gallons of water in July.

ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes stated that they demolished a house in New Road and a new home will be built to replace it.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

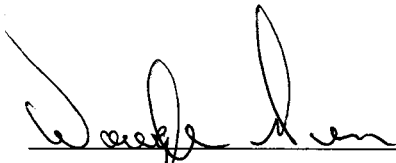
SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2020 (LABOR DAY)

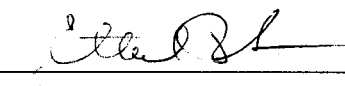
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

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