

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
JANUARY 10, 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 10th day of January, 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-Absent
Councilman Chase Sturgis-Present

STAFF ATTENDANCE: Robert Duer, Ethel Parks, Taylor Dukes, Chief DiMartino.

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 Mayor Greer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

— TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – DECEMBER 6, 2021:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 6, 2021, regular Town Council meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed by the vote of Councilman Sturgis, Councilman Doughty, Councilman Heaster and Vice-Mayor Lewis in favor. Councilman Adkins abstained.

SPECIAL MEETING – DECEMBER 20, 2021:

Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2021, special Town Council Meeting. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Scott Hines, owner of Eastern Shore Outfitters, addressed the Mayor and Council about parking issues at his business. He stated that the patrons of the food truck next to his property have destroyed his parking lot. Mr. Hines said that he has asked them repeatedly not to use his driveway and parking lot. He said that there have been drivers spinning wheels, and the increased traffic has caused the end of his parking lot (driveway) to become rutted and muddy. Mr. Hines noted that he has had his vehicles blocked by the food truck patrons who refuse to move them. He is concerned that someone will slip or fall on his property. A town employee has been to the food truck patrons asking them not to park on Mr. Hines property and they do not listen. He asked the Mayor and Council for any help and/or advise they could give him to help resolve the issue.

— Damien Geist noted that the railroad tracks will be taken up throughout Exmore in a few weeks. He said that he found one section that is dated 1922 and has worked it out with Canonie and the scrappers to reserve this section. He said that it will be cut up into smaller sections and he will make sure the Town receives one of the sections. Mr. Geist stated that he continues to work closely with the Rails to Trails committee.

Ken Dufty thanked the Mayor, Council and employees for their hard work and dedication to the Town and citizens.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – MR. DUER:

Mr. Duer announced one anniversary this month. He said that Captain Zieger will hit the 10-year mark on the 16th. The 2 clerk positions have been offered and accepted. One will begin on the 19th and the other at the end of this month or February 1st.

Both trash trucks have been repaired and are operable.

Congresswoman Luria's office has contacted us with meaningful results that will be discussed in the Sewer Report.

We have ordered the police car (Dodge Charger) that will replace the wrecked Impala.

FINANCIAL REPORT – MR. DUER:

DECEMBER FINANCIALS:

Total income for the month of December was \$207,135 and the total expenses were \$224,485 for a net loss of \$17,350.

YTD SUMMARY:

The year-to-date income is \$1,299,895 and expenses are \$1,127,091 for a net year-to-date income of \$172,804.

NEW BUSINESS:

2023 BUDGET:

Mr. Duer noted that the FY 2023 budget is complete, and we need to schedule a work session. The work session is scheduled for February 15 at 7:00 pm.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

Mr. Duer noted that a letter from the USDA Rural Development confirms our approval for loan funds in the amount of \$3,200,000 and grant funds in the amount of \$6,337,000. Congresswoman Luria has spoken to Governor Northam and was able to have \$5,000,000 in grant funds budgeted for Exmore. Mr. Duer urged the Mayor and Council to call our representatives regarding the budgeted grant funds.

LOAN/GRANT STATUS:

Mr. Dukes noted that in order to receive the \$3,000,000 loan from the USDA, we have to make connections to the new sewer system mandatory. He said that we have to pass an ordinance regarding the mandatory connections for all property owners in February to keep this project moving forward.

Mr. Dukes explained that the User Agreement must be signed by all property owners. He noted that we need to schedule community meetings to educate the public on what to expect when the new system goes live. Mr. Dukes said that we will have to file 800 easements with the County. He said that there is a 10' wide blanket easement on all properties.

GRINDER PUMP AGREEMENT:

Mr. Duer asked the Mayor and Council to review the agreement.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino noted that December was a good month. The Secret Santa raffle made it possible to help 10 families in Town with \$200 gift cards.

The Fireman's Parade went well with no incidents.

Chief DiMartino reported that they have been awarded several equipment grants. He said that they have purchased body cam bluetooths and new street cameras with the grants. He said 4 of the new cameras are license plate readers.

There were 2 reportable crashes in December.

Mr. Dukes noted that we need to adopt the USDA RD ERRR as a substitute for the DHCD Environmental Report. Councilman Sturgis made the Motion to adopt the USDA RD ERRR as a substitute for the DHCD Environmental Report. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Heaster and was passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that the Christmas lights are down and there are a few leaks to fix. He said that once it warms up some they will begin repairing them.

WATER AND SEWER REPORT – MR. DUKES:

No Report.

ZONING REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that the Zoning Ordinance allows the food truck by right. He said that the ordinance also states that they are required to have one parking space per 1,000 feet of gross area of the building. And since the business is a trailer and not a building, they are only required to have one parking space. Chief DiMartino noted that Mr. Hines needs to put some signs up designating “Parking For ES Outfitters Only”.

Mr. Dukes stated that there is an individual interested in re-writing the Chesapeake Bay Act portion of the Comp Plan to satisfy DEQ. He said that they have found a grant that will cover the cost 100%. It was the general consensus of the Council to table this until the February meeting in order to find out the actual cost.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

None.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

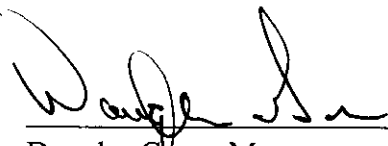
TOWN OFFICE CLOSED – MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022 – MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

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

TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION – FEBRUARY 15, 2022 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis. The Motion was passed unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned.



Douglas Greer, Mayor



Ethel Parks, Town Clerk