

TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017
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 11th day of September, 2017, at 7:00 pm

Present:

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 PRESENT: Robert Duer, Ethel Parks, Chief DiMartino, Taylor Dukes, Mike Johnson, Sgt. Campbell.

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.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

WORK SESSION – AUGUST 7, 2017:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2017 Town Council Work Session. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz and was passed unanimously

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – AUGUST 7, 2017:

Councilman Heaster made the Motion to approve the Minutes of the August 7, 2017 Town Council Meeting with the correction made. The Motion was seconded by Vice-Mayor Lewis and was passed unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENT (LIMIT OF 3 MINUTES PER SPEAKER):

Elsie Bowen addressed the Mayor and Council about drainage issues in her neighborhood (Adron St.). She noted that she has had to leave her home in the past due to hard, on-going rain and she has had recent problems with drainage due to the rain as well. She asked the Mayor and Council to help find a solution to the drainage problems.

Linda Spence also spoke about the standing water on Adron St. She stated that the water will not drain and she has had ankle-deep water standing in her yard from the rain. There was discussion about how costly it would be to obtain easements and dig ditches. Mayor Greer assured them that the Town will look into trying to find a solution.

Ken Dufty stated that in the past the Town-Wide Yard Sale was managed by the Town and local businesses. For the last few years it has been managed by GEBCA with Town employees helping out. Mr. Dufty said that GEBCA is now regrouping, donating its funds to the Town to be used for the Park. He noted that they are partnering with the Town to promote and help it grow. Mr. Dufty commended the Public Works crew and Police Officers for responding to and repairing the major water main break on Main Street.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

Mr. Duer reported that GEBCA donated \$4,330 to the Park. He said that the Park needs benches. The Council agreed to purchase the benches with GEBCA's donated funds.

Mr. Duer informed the Mayor and Council that the Northampton County Board of Supervisors will hold a Public Hearing tomorrow at 7:00 pm to hear public comment on changing the name of Sojourner Truth Road to Ruth Wise Road. He invited all to attend.

Mr. Duer noted that invitations for Shakespeare in the Park have been sent out.

The new Town website is moving forward.

There is nothing to report on the project west of Exmore. Mr. Duer noted that he will be meeting with A-NPDC later this month to discuss more on the project.

The agreement for the 2017 audit has been signed and it should be completed by December 31.

The Town-Wide Yard Sale is this Saturday, September 16th.

The Yellow Duck building has been sold and a restaurant is scheduled to open in the building in January.

Poulson's Cleaners and the equine supply store have closed.

Mr. Duer addressed Mayor Greer about the recommendation of merit raises. He said that merit raises are based on goals. We currently have position descriptions and we have goals to meet those descriptions. Employees are evaluated annually.

Mr. Duer stated that his mission for Exmore is for Exmore to become a benchmark town.

FINANCIAL REPORT – ROBERT G. DUER:

AUGUST SUMMARY:

The net income for the month of August was \$42,054 and the year-to-date income was \$67,723.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE ON SEWER PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the current sewer system is plagued with problems and their focus is to repair the system as efficiently and inexpensively as possible.

UPDATE ON WELL PROJECT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that he has received the plans on the new well project and they have been sent to the Office of Drinking Water for review. We are in the final stage of the easement purchase that has to be acquired for the backwash force main.

NEW BUSINESS:

UTILITY RATES:

Mr. Duer noted that a copy of an ordinance that reflects the proposed water rates is in their packets. The rate increase has to go to Public Hearing. Vice-Mayor Lewis made the Motion to hold a Public Hearing for the proposed increase in water rates. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Adkins and was passed unanimously.

ZONING – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes noted that there will be a Joint Public Hearing on October 2nd at 6:30 pm regarding the Zoning Ordinance. He said they continue to work with some residents to clean up their yards, cut the grass and remove or license the old vehicles.

POLICE REPORT – CHIEF DIMARTINO:

Chief DiMartino reported that the 2010 Crown Vic is out for sealed bid with a reserve of \$4,000. There were two bids at \$4,000 and the bidders will have to flip a coin to find out who is awarded the car. The grants and reimbursements are all on track and current. He said that the department has been busy, yet successful. Chief DiMartino noted that the Virginia State Police are recruiting new troopers. They are targeting Town and County officers and offering an 8 week abbreviated training with a starting salary of \$48,000.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – MR JOHNSON:

Mr. Johnson reported 34 service calls which include 15 turn-offs, 7 re-reads, 5 Miss Utility calls, 2 emergency calls and 5 pressure tests. They did not flush the hydrants last month but the blow-offs instead. Brush and limbs were picked up on the 24th and we are averaging 20,000 pounds of trash every week. They read 714 water meters and installed 4 new meters, bringing the total of new water meters installed to 509.

UTILITY REPORT – MR. DUKES:

Mr. Dukes reported that the Town pumped 4.2 million gallons of water in August. He noted that they meet with the Town attorney regarding a business in Town and their sewer problems.

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

Clarice MacGarvey reported that she has seen much excitement about Shakespeare in the Park and hopes to continue bringing other arts and educational events to Exmore.

Ms. Bowen thanked the Police Department for keeping Adron Street safe and quiet.

Mr. Duer agreed to write letters to VDOT, the Senator and Congressman to address the drainage issues in Exmore.

SCHEDULED MEETINGS AND CLOSINGS:

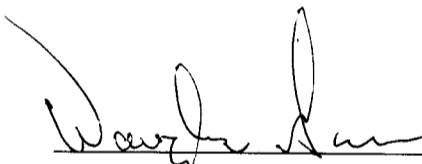
PUBLIC HEARING – (ZONING ORDINANCE) – MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017 @ 6:30 pm

PUBLIC HEARING – (UTILITY RATES) – MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017 @ 6:45 pm


TOWN COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2017 @ 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilman Adkins made the Motion to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was seconded by Councilman Metz. The Motion was passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.



Douglas Greer, Mayor



Ethel Parks, Town Clerk