

Town Council Meeting

September 8, 2020

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The Town Council of Victoria, Virginia met on September 8, 2020 in the Victoria Lunenburg Community Centre, 1421 6<sup>th</sup> Street building with the Honorable Allen D. Smith, Mayor, presiding: Councilmember's in attendance were Ronald Mattox, Johnnie Brame, James G. Elam, Jr., Christopher Garrett, Sandra Jones and Chris Gill. Also attending were Town Manager Rodney Newton, Treasurer Diane Harding, Clerk Vickie McDaniel, Corporal Matthew Gatling and Assistant Fire Chief Chris Garrett.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Gill to go in to Public Hearing on the sale of property located at 1700 Needham Drive in accordance with VA Code 15.2-1800. Motion carried.

No comments were made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to come out of Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to go in to Public Hearing to solicit input on local community development and housing needs in relation to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding for a project in our community.

No comments were made.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to come out of Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Mayor Smith called the meeting of the Town Council to order.

The invocation was given by Councilmember Brame followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Mayor Smith asked if there were any additions to the meeting. There were none.

Mayor Smith asked if there were any Conflicts of Interest on matters being discussed on the agenda. No comments.

Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Garratt to accept the August 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Garratt to accept the Treasurer's report for August 2020. Motion carried.

Corporal Matthew Gatling gave the Police Report. Corporal Gatling stated they had another busy month with 79 calls, 15 citations and 4 arrests. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Garratt to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Garrett gave the Fire/Rescue Department Report. He stated they had 33 calls at Station 7 and 88 calls at Station 2 totaling 121 calls. There were no questions regarding the budget. Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to approve the Fire Department report as presented. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

- a) Town Manager Rodney Newton advised the property at 1700 Needham Drive was acquired by the town as a Deed of Gift. We currently have less than \$3,000 invested in clearing and cleaning up the property. Mr. Newton advised of a potential purchaser of the property in the amount of \$14,000.00. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to proceed with the sale of property at 1700 Needham Drive. Motion carried.
- b) Mr. Newton requested approval of resolution for CDBG for the STEPS building allowing Mayor Smith to be able to authorize Mr. Newton to submit paperwork for grant before

the end of September 2020. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Brame to approve the resolution. Motion carried.

- c) Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Gill to request a second Public Hearing for CDBG for STEPS Building on Wednesday, September 16, 2020 to submit to the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development for renovations of the 300 Court Street facility. Motion carried.
- d) Mr. Newton discussed with recent changes for members of the Industrial Development Authorities (IDA) to submit statements of economics interest annually and participate in conflict of interest training every two years, they are down to only three members. They are Mike Walker, Chairman, Greg Elam and Jay Dayton. Mr. Newton advised they are still looking for members. Mr. Newton recommended to council to reduce our IDA to five members. This would require action by the General Assembly. Goochland County has been allowed to reduce the number of members to five. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to reduce the members of the IDA from seven to five and reduce the required quorum from four to three except for leasing and selling of property. Motion carried.

Town Manager Update:

- a) Mr. Newton updated council on the work session on August 24, 2020 regarding the PER report and conference call with DEQ with Councilmember Brame and Wastewater Supervisor Grayson Townsend. They were very open and cooperative with the town and Councilmember Brame also added they were very positive. Mr. Newton advised we have bought the smoke test equipment and mapped out the pump stations. Mr. Townsend is talking with B&B Consultants about renting equipment to install the smoke testing so we can start monitoring. Mr. Newton also spoke with Jeff Reynolds with DEQ and was very positive to see the momentum the town has going into this project. Mr. Reynolds is willing to work with the town and fix problems along the way and not waste money. Mr. Newton advised we need to figure a timeframe once we identify the problems and corrective actions to fix. He recommended initial smoke testing until the end of 2020 then 2021 start fixing and monitoring the rain. By 2022, we should be able to negotiate possibly combining the two wastewater plants. Mr. Newton stated our contracts expire for both plants in 2024 and foresees by the end of 2023 and first quarter 2024 as our goal to see if we need to combine the two plants. Council agreed to start negotiations with Mr. Reynolds at B&B Consultants.
- b) Mr. Newton advised of another blighted property at 422 Court Street. After reviewing the situation, Mr. Newton made an offer and the town bought the property for \$3,000.00.
- c) Mr. Newton discussed the first phase of the dam inspections with A. E. Com was finalized last week for our Probable Maximum Precipitation. As A. E. Com interprets DCR's regulations, we will not have to re-do the inundation zone maps. This will save the town \$54,000.00. A.E. Com will be here September 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 24<sup>th</sup> to perform a physical inspection of each.
- d) Mr. Newton advised per Treasurer, Diane Harding, DMV was still busy for the month of August. We had a \$40,000.00 increase from July.
- e) Mr. Newton and Ms. Irene Wilkinson discussed Autumn Days prior to the meeting. The plans are to still have Autumn Days however, Ms. Wilkinson only has one inside vendor and Sue Behler, Events Coordinator currently has two outside vendors and the bar-b-q cook-off has been cancelled. Mr. Newton stated they will still have the Truck/Tractor Pull on October 10, 2020 but will evaluate further if this year's 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Autumn Days Festival will be cancelled.
- f) Mr. Newton advised Grayson Townsend, Wastewater Supervisor, completed his Virginia Waterworks Class 4 license through Virginia Tech. Mr. Townsend is also licensed Chief Operator for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting.

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September 8, 2020

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Vickie McDaniel, Clerk

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Allen D. Smith, Mayor

Approved October 13, 2020

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Rodney Newton, Town Manager