

Town Council Meeting

January 12, 2021

The Town Council of Victoria, Virginia met on January 12, 2021 in the Victoria-Lunenburg Community Centre with the Honorable Allen D. Smith, Mayor, presiding: Councilmembers in attendance were Ronald Mattox, Johnnie Brame, James G. Elam, Jr., Sandra Jones and Chris Gill. Also attending were Town Manager Rodney Newton, Treasurer Diane Harding, Town Clerk Vickie McDaniel, Police Chief H. Keith Phillips and Assistant Fire Chief Chris Garrett. Absent was Councilmember Christopher Garratt.

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

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

Mayor Smith asked if there were any additions to the agenda. Town Manager Rodney Newton asked to speak about a Conditional Use Permit. Mayor Allen added Mr. Newton as item 10(c).

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

Motion was made by Councilmember Jones and seconded by Councilmember Brame to accept the December 2020 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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

Chief H. Keith Phillips gave the Police Report. Chief Phillips stated they had a slow month with 45 calls, 1 citation and no arrests. Chief Phillips advised they continue to work on inoperable vehicles. Chief Phillips also advised council Officer Tonya Jones will be leaving the department effective February 1, 2021. Officer Jones has accepted a position at Liberty University. Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Garratt gave the Fire/Rescue Department Report. He stated they had another busy month with a total of 168 calls. Station 2 had 105 calls and Station 7 had 63 calls. Asst. Chief Garrat advised they had 1,594 calls for FY2020. Councilmember Brame questioned was this more calls than last year. Asst. Chief Garratt advised they had a little more calls this year. There were no questions regarding the budget. Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to approve the Fire/Rescue Department report as presented. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

- a) Mr. Newton presented council with a potential donation of property from landowner Mr. John Underwood located along the old Virginia Railway main line on Nutbush Road. It is approximately 9.6 acres with some timber on site. Mr. Newton discussed the property could be developed in the future as a trail head and adding another two miles to the existing trail. Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to contact Mr. Underwood and move forward with property donation. Motion carried.
- b) Mr. Newton advised the Housing Study Presentation was postponed from December 14, 2020 due to COVID concerns and is tentatively rescheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2021 at 6pm. This will be a virtual presentation however no specifics have been decided at this time. Mr. Newton will pass along any information before the presentation. Mr. Newton stated this is to help entice more development in the area.
- c) Mr. Newton received a Conditional Use Permit Application to operate a general business office on 14th Street from an out building located on the property. This will be used for general business office purposes and dispatching loads for long haul truck drivers. Mr. Newton recommended a joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission for the February 9, 2021 council meeting. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Brame to schedule the Public Hearing next month. Motion

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carried. Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to schedule a joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission. Motion carried.

Town Manager Update:

- a) Mr. Newton updated council on the recent Cares Act Fund recently awarded to the town for lost revenue during March 1st through December 20th due to COVID-19. The town applied for just under \$10,000.00 and was awarded \$5,921.29. These funds will have to go through the county first and then they will send the monies to us. Mr. Newton advised as of today, January 14, 2021, we have recouped all the funds. We still have other accounts with delinquent water bills. Those who come in and fill out an application will be numbered and if more funds become available, we will apply accordingly. Councilmember Jones questioned if the public was aware of the Cares Act assistance. Town Manager Newton advised it wasn't a public notification as accounts have to meet certain criteria.

- b) Mr. Newton updated council on recent wastewater facilities. We have completed the smoke testing on the west facility. Mr. Newton advised we have received the materials for the West 7th Street/Lunenburg projects. This was pushed back due to mechanical problems with the town dump truck and then issues with a 12" line toward the west plant facility. Mr. Newton advised this became a higher priority than the West 7th/Lunenburg project. He mentioned there is also activity on an 18" line towards the west plant with storm water. They will continue to monitor this. Once we have completed the West 7th/Lunenburg project, we are going back to the west facility to start looking at the influent levels to see how much we have reduced by taking care of those two streets. Mr. Newton received a letter from Mr. Jeff Reynolds at DEQ. The consent order has come off this period and Mr. Reynolds will be sending the final draft in the next few weeks.

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

Vickie McDaniel, Clerk

Allen D. Smith, Mayor

Approved February 9, 2021

Rodney Newton, Town Manager