

## Town Council Meeting

November 9, 2021

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The Town Council of Victoria, Virginia met on November 9, 2021 in the Town Municipal 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, Town Treasurer Diane Harding, Town Clerk Vickie McDaniel, Police Chief H. Keith Phillips and Assistant Fire Chief Chris Garrett.

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. Councilmember Garrett asked to speak about the Ordinance of Enforcement. Mayor Smith added Councilmember Garrett as item (d) under Information Items. Town Manager Rodney Newton requested to speak about surplus property. Mayor Smith added Mr. Newton as item (e) under Information Items. Mr. Newton also recommended with approval from council to move item (a) Dog Permit request under Information Items until the December council meeting as Mrs. Rachel Green was unable to attend.

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

Councilmember Jones requested to change her roll call vote for the charter amendment at the October meeting from no to yes. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Jones to accept the amended October 2021 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to accept the Treasurer's report for October 2021. Motion carried.

Chief H. Keith Phillips gave the Police Report. Chief Phillips stated they had 65 calls, 2 citations and 2 arrests. Chief Phillips advised we had one applicant of interest for the full-time Police Officer position. However, after speaking with them about the job, they declined the position. Chief Phillips stated they have recently hired a PT Police Officer and he is doing well. Mr. Newton stated he met with the Personnel Committee and are advertising for an uncertified candidate. This will have an effect on our law enforcement in town as they will have to attend the academy for six months. Mayor Smith discussed being under staffed and small communities all over with modifying shifts and recommended going to the General Assembly. He described with the recent law changes and inconveniences that the citizens are dealing with, we need to go and stand up for our community. Mr. Newton mentioned in the VTC magazine, they will advertise their lobby date. Councilmember Brame volunteered to go with Mayor Smith. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Jones to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Assistant Fire Chief Chris Garrett gave the Fire/Rescue Department Report. He stated they had an average month at Station 7 with 43 calls. Station 2 in Victoria had 93 calls. Also the Financial Report reflects the recent Truck-n-Tractor Pull fundraiser. Assistant Chief Garrett stated the numbers were down but was expected due to the weather. There were no questions regarding the Financial Report. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to approve the Fire/Rescue Department report as presented. Motion carried.

### Informational Items:

- a) Mayor Smith moved the Dog Permit request to the December council meeting.
- b) Mr. Newton provided council the Inoperable Motor Vehicle ordinance. Mr. Newton advised the case we had in court the past few months was dismissed because of change in state code and cannot be brought back to court. Mr. Newton also had recommendations from our Town Attorney for a new ordinance. We are also looking at the junk, debris and grass ordinances to make sure all are in compliance with state code. Mr. Newton discussed a probable draft ordinance with some significant changes for next month's

council meeting for the Inoperable Motor Vehicle ordinance. Councilmember Elam and Councilmember Garrett will assist Mr. Newton with a rough draft of the ordinance.

- c) Mr. Newton presented council with the employee compensation for 2021. Both the Finance and Personnel Committee's reviewed the recommendations. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Elam to accept the employee compensation for 2021. Motion carried.
- d) Councilmember Garrett discussed the Ordinance of Enforcement and with the police department being shorthanded perhaps finding a certified PT officer to only enforce the ordinances. Mr. Newton advised we used to pay someone to do this and got no results. Since then, Mr. Newton has become Property Maintenance certified. Mr. Newton stated you have to be Property Maintenance certified and police certified. Mr. Newton advised Councilmember Garratt if he knows of someone who may be interested, we can look into it but they will have to have certain credentials.
- e) Mr. Newton recommended to council two items to be declared surplus items:
  - 1. Cannon 2870 copy machine replaced with the Southern copier in the town office on GovDeals
  - 2. XBlue Telephone system that was replaced and has no monetary value. This will be disposed of properly.Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Elam to surplus the property items. Motion carried.

Town Manager Update:

- a) Mr. Newton advised Trunk-R-Treat was a huge success with approximately 430 participants and 12 to 15 citizens giving out candy with most of them running out before 7pm.
- b) Mr. Newton updated on the Marshall Sewage Pump Station generator project. The transfer switch has been mounted to the pump station, conduits in, concrete poured and will be set in place tomorrow with Kenbridge Industrial finishing. Carter Cat will then come do the initial start-up and the unit will be in service. Mr. Newton anticipates the project to be finished in January 2022.
- c) Mr. Newton updated council on the Wastewater Consent Order. Town crews did find a severed service line between West 8<sup>th</sup> Street and West 9<sup>th</sup> Street that was dumping into a hole in a sewer line and that's why it never showed itself above ground. We are estimating between 10,000 to 20,000 gallons of water a day were lost. Mr. Newton stated we are still getting increased flow due to rain. They re-smoked the area again but didn't find as much as they thought. They did find a 1 ½ inch pipe at an unoccupied residence that was rusted and we plugged the pipe. Mr. Newton mentioned with the next hard rain they are going to one other place that we were getting smoke from at a water meter on West 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Newton said there is a lot of runoff in this area.
- d) Mr. Newton advised the end of October, we picked up the influent monitor from B&B Consultants that was reinstalled at the west facility. The data was pulled from October 25, 2021 until November 8, 2021. With only two rain instances and after we fixed the other leak, it should give us a good idea of what our baseline will be. Mr. Newton stated after two days of fixing the leak on West 9<sup>th</sup> Street, we gained a foot and a half overnight of what was being used out of the elevated tank. There was another bad leak on Virginia Avenue that was repaired today. As far as the consent order, we have to report our inflow at both east and west facilities and repairs that have been done starting January 1, 2022. Beginning June 1, 2022, we are required to have our plan and schedule submitted of what we are going to do. Hopefully within the next 45 days, we will be able to tell more about our inflow with a couple of places at the east facility that need repaired and some more rain. Mr. Newton advised this all has to be completed by December 31, 2023.

Town Council Meeting

November 9, 2021

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- c) Mr. Newton advised the restrooms in the park are still closed and under evaluation. He is looking at some options and trying to keep the restrooms open year round without having the police go by and lock them at night.
- d) Mr. Newton advised the trail is now completely open after a few volunteers helped clean-up the trail.
- e) Mr. Newton advised the Southern Dominion Health Dental Clinic located on 6<sup>th</sup> Street is now open. They moved from the existing building across from the Lunenburg Medical Center.

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

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Vickie McDaniel, Clerk

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Allen D. Smith, Mayor

Approved December 14, 2021

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Rodney Newton, Town Manager