

**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
May 19, 2009**

Present: James S. Artz, Mayor; Vice-Mayor Mary Jane Clarke; Matthew L. Kersey; A. Daniel Carter; Warren D. Gehle; H. I. Dulaney, Council Members; Ronald M. Maupin, Attorney; Brian W. Marks, Town Manager; Donna L. Pinter, Treasurer; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk; M. Brad Humphrey, Project Manager; Stan Batten, Chief of Police

Also Attending: Greg Dorazio, the Central Virginian

Absent: None.

All copies including: reports, handouts, and documents can be found following the minutes.

Mayor Artz called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Council member Kersey gave the invocation.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mrs. Pam Stone, President of the Louisa Downtown Development Corporation, took a moment to thank Council for all their help with the closure of the LDDC loan.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Kersey made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Gehle seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Enacting a Transient Lodging Excise Tax: an addition to Article VI of Section 147 of the Louisa Town Code

Mr. Marks reported that the public hearing was advertised properly in the Central Virginian for two weeks.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:07 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the Transient Lodging Excise Tax. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:08 p.m.

Suspending the Vehicle Tax: an amendment to Section 154 of the Louisa Town Code

Mr. Marks reported that the public hearing was advertised properly in the Central Virginian for two weeks.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:12 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the Vehicle Tax Suspension. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

FY 2009-2010 Budget

Mr. Marks reported that the public hearing was advertised correctly in the Central Virginian for two weeks.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:14 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the 2009-10

proposed Budget. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:15 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion/Action: Town Hall Space Utilization Plan

Mr. Marks reported that the County of Louisa is no longer interested in renting the two available rooms on the second floor.

Mr. Marks stated that he has been actively trying to rent out the space, but has been unsuccessful. Mr. Marks also stated that he has concerns with the current layout of the Clerk, Treasurer, and Project Manager. Mr. Marks then requested guidance from Council asking them how they would like to use the space.

Council member Clarke suggested that Council give the Town Manager authority to use the space as he sees fit. Mayor Artz stated that he was in agreement with Council member Clarke and then asked if all of Council was in agreement on the matter. All members stated that they were in agreement. Mayor Artz then directed Mr. Marks to use the space as he sees fit.

Discussion/Action: Transient Lodging Tax Implementation

Mr. Marks stated that there was a typo and a grammatical error in the document.

Mr. Maupin stated that the effective date of the ordinance would be July 1, 2009.

Council member Clarke made the motion to adopt the Transient Lodging Tax Implementation. Council member Gehle seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Discussion/Action: Vehicle Tax Suspension

Council member Kersey made the motion to adopt the Vehicle Tax Suspension effective April 15, 2010. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion/Action: Retirement of Eros, Louisa Police Department Canine

Mr. Marks reported that the canine's term of service is coming to an end. Mr. Marks stated that the dog's certifications expire June 11, 2009, which Mr. Marks and the Chief of Police feel is an appropriate time to retire Eros. Mr. Marks added that the dog's handler, Lt. Steve Irving, has requested that Eros be retired to him so that the dog could then live out the rest of his life as a pet. Mr. Marks informed Council that he and the Chief of Police both feel the dog should be retired to his handler, Lt. Irving.

Mr. Maupin stated that he has researched the retirement of police canines and has been unable to find a written policy on such a matter. Mr. Maupin requested that Chief Batten have Lt. Irving retrieve a copy of the Virginia State Police policy involving the proper procedure to retire a police dog. Mr. Maupin then requested that Council give the Town Manager and himself authorization to conclude the matter so that on June 11, 2009 the dog can be retired and given to Lt. Irving. Mr. Maupin added that Lt. Irving will have to sign a document stating that he accepts the dog as is, and that he will be responsible for the dog from that day forward.

Council member Kersey made the motion to authorize the Town Manager and the Town Attorney to follow the proper procedure to retire the police dog to his handler on June 11, 2009. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Department:

(Please refer to the Police Department report.)

Chief Batten stated he had nothing further to add to his report, but did point out a page that he had included in his packet for their review.

Water & Sewer Department:

(Please refer to the Water & Sewer Department report.)

Mr. Humphrey stood before Council and read aloud from his report, highlighting areas of interest.

Council member Clarke congratulated Mr. Humphrey on a job well done.

Litter Committee:

No report.

Streets & Sidewalks:

No report.

Cemetery:

Mr. Marks stated that the Cemetery Committee met on the 5th and submitted comments and suggestions to the columbarium company to review.

Personnel Committee:

Mr. Marks stated that the ad for the Town Sergeant's position will run in the newspaper through June 2, 2009. Mr. Marks requested that the Mayor select a member from the Police Committee and the

Personnel Committee to join himself and the Chief of Police in reviewing applications, interviewing applicants, and recommending an individual to Council for the Town Sergeant's position.

Mayor Artz appointed Council member Dulaney from the Police Committee, and Council member Clarke from the Personnel Committee to serve with the Town Manger and Chief of Police on the Police Sergeant's Position Committee.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Counsel

No report.

Clerk

No report.

Treasurer

No Report.

Manager

Mr. Marks reported the following:

- Bank of Louisa will be hosting a Legislative Day on May 20, 2009
- The VFW will be hosting a Memorial Day ceremony at the courthouse on Monday, May 25, 2009 at 11:30
- The Planning Commission will be meeting on Tuesday, May 26, 2009
- Fletcher Jones, a boy scout who helped with the Town Hall plantings and landscaping, will be inducted on May 30th, 2009 as an Eagle Scout here at the Town Hall building at 6:00 p.m. in the conference room.

- The Louisa Town Council and staff have been invited to the Masonic Lodge picnic at Windwood Cove on June 7, 2009
- The Louisa Historical Society will be holding a meeting at here at Town Hall on June 7, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.
- The installation and training of the new handheld water meter equipment will take place on June 16, 2009
- The Town of Louisa, The Lions Club and & The Rotary Club will be co-hosting a viewing of the Road Trip to History film here at the Town Hall on June 19, 2009 at 5:30 p.m.
- The LDDC will take over the interim loan as of May 20, 2009
- The Book Mobile may be making stops at the Town Hall Park once a week.
- Mr. Marks informed Council that he met with Rural Development today to work on loan papers for the WWTP. Mr. Marks stated that he is hoping that we can lock in at 2.75% before July 1, 2009.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Clarke made the motion to adjourn the May 19, 2009 Louisa Town Council meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk