

**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
October 20, 2009**

Present: James S. Artz, Mayor; Vice-Mayor Mary Jane Clarke; A. Daniel Carter; H. I. Dulaney, Council Members; 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: David DesRoches, the Central Virginian; Garland Nuckols, town resident, 110 Patrick Henry Drive;

Absent: Council members Matthew L. Kersey and Warren D. Gehle.

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

Mayor Artz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council member Clarke gave the invocation.

Mayor Artz noted that Council members Kersey and Gehle would not be attending the meeting as they were at the VML Conference.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. Garland Nuckols, town resident, stood and addressed Council expressing his concerns. Mr. Nuckols began by stating that he felt that there was no need for the DOT program in Louisa because such inspections would cause safety issues for vehicular traffic and because history has shown that accidents caused in this area by faulty equipment are very few and far between. Mr. Nuckols then addressed a concern that he had mentioned at a previous town

meeting. Mr. Nuckols stated that he still felt it was unnecessary and an added expense for town citizens when the town employs officers who live out of the county or several counties away. Mr. Nuckols stated that the distance adds unnecessary mileage, and that he felt such officers should be required to drive their personal vehicle to help reduce costs.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Dulaney made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING

The town anticipates submitting a grant application to the Virginia Department of Transportation for the funding of a Transportation Enhancement Act (TEA 21) project to construct a sidewalk along Lyde Street from Main Street to the Jouett Square Apartments.

Mr. Marks updated Council stating that a requirement of the application is that the town holds a public hearing to receive public input regarding the TEA 21 grant project.

Mr. Marks stated that the new sidewalk would allow pedestrians to safely travel to and from Main Street which is something that citizens in that neighborhood have been requesting for quite some time.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the TEA 21 grant application. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Adoption of Loan Resolution for USDA funding of the WWTP

Mr. Marks stated that adopting the resolution is just a formality. Council would simply be approving the resolution in its terms for the WWTP expansion.

Council member Carter made the motion to adopt the Loan Resolution. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointments of the Town of Louisa Planning Commission

Mr. Marks informed Council that Mrs. Kavanagh's and Mrs. Munford's term on the Town of Louisa Planning Commission had expired. Mr. Marks informed Council that he spoke with both members about serving another 4 year term, and reported that both ladies agreed to serve again.

Council member Clarke made the motion to reappoint Mrs. Kavanagh and Mrs. Munford for another term on the Town of Louisa Planning Commission. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

Authorization for Traditional Halloween Events

Council member Carter made one motion to approve Trick-or-Treating in town on Saturday, October 31, 2009 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for children 12 years of age and younger; and also approved the Louisa Baptist Church's Trunk-of-Treats request. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

Christmas Parade

Mr. Marks informed Council that Ms. Shellhorse, of Parks and Recreation, has submitted an application for the Christmas Parade that is to take place on December 5, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. Mr. Marks

reported that Chief Batten and Ms. Shellhorse have met several times to iron out the details of the new route.

Chief Batten began by recommending that Council approve the application. Chief Batten went on to report that both he and Ms. Shellhorse have spent quite a bit of time working on the new parade route which will keep all floats that involve children off the roadway. Chief Batten informed Council that the staging area will be at the Louisa Little League ball field, where all floats involving children can be contained within the fenced in area. All floats will travel from the ball field to line up on Cutler Avenue via Patrick Henry Drive. The entrants will travel down Main Street towards Kip Killmon Ford and turn left on to Fredericksburg Avenue. The parade will end at the entrance to the fairgrounds.

Council member Dulaney made the motion to approve the parade application. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police Department:

(Please refer to the Police Department report.)

Chief Batten addressed the DOT issue that Mr. Nuckols mentioned during the beginning of the meeting by reiterating what he had written in his report. Chief Batten stated that he felt the matter should be tabled and discussed at a later date.

Council member Dulaney then requested that Council discuss whether they would like to have the Police Department continue to issue warning tickets.

After a lengthy discussion between Council, the Town Manager and the Chief of Police, Mr. Dulaney made a motion to continue issuing warning tickets with the current citations until the new and redesigned

citations arrive. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

Council member Dulaney then requested that Council revisit the DOT issue and collectively discuss and decide whether they would like to proceed with the program or take it off the table.

Mr. Dulaney discussed the matter at length, and ended in saying that he felt the program should be taken off the table due to: the lack of support; the abundance of opposition; and the fact that there have been no real problems of this nature in the past.

Mr. Dulaney then made the motion to take the DOT matter off the table until brought back to Council by both the Town Manager and the Chief of Police. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

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.

Litter Committee:

No report.

Streets & Sidewalks:

No report.

Cemetery:

Mr. Marks reported that we will not be able to go forward with the current plans due to the cost of the project. Mr. Marks stated that the Cemetery Committee will have to meet again and re-evaluate the plans to make them more cost effective. Mr. Marks simply stated that

there is just not enough money in the budget to move forward with this set of plans.

Personnel Committee:

No report.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Counsel

No report.

Clerk

No report.

Treasurer

Tax bills will be mailed out on Friday, October 23, 2009.

Manager

Mr. Marks reported the following:

- Mr. Marks informed Council that the town and county are working together on a joint agreement that originated in 1983, but needs to be updated as required by USDA for the WWTP expansion.
- Mr. Marks enrolled the town to work with the Thomas Jefferson Planning District on the Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- Mr. Marks reported that a court case presented by the Town regarding peddlers in the town limits has been thrown out due to the ordinance not being tight enough. The Commonwealth Attorney informed Brian that the ordinance needs to be revised. Mr. Marks stated that, with Council's authorization, he would draft the revisions and report back during the required public hearing next month.

Council member Carter made the motion giving Mr. Marks authorization to draft the revisions to the ordinance and report back during the public hearing next month. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

- The Virginia Cooperative Extension is asking stakeholders for thoughts at their Dialogue on November 17, 2009.
- Mr. Marks will be attending the Water and Sewer Rate Commission meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2009.
- Mr. Marks reported that several of the Christmas wreaths are not working due to faulty polls. Lakeside Electric gave a quote which was higher than expected. Brian informed Council that he asked the KS Club to help with the cost.

Council member Clarke made the motion to authorize the Town Manager to repair the electric polls. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

- Mr. Marks reported that the town received a grant in the amount of \$5,977 with a zero match for the Police Department. Mr. Marks requested authorization to accept the grant.

Council member Dulaney made the motion to accept the grant. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

- Mr. Marks reported that a special achievement award was given to the Public Works department for repairs done to a 6 inch water line that required the crew to work overnight. The crew then stayed to work a full day.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council member Dulaney requested a press release regarding Halloween safety.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:30 p.m., Council Member Dulaney made the motion to continue the Louisa Town Council meeting to October 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 3-0 in favor.

Mayor

Clerk