

**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
September 16, 2008**

Present: James S. Artz, Mayor; Mary Jane Clarke, Vice-Mayor; A. Daniel Carter, Warren D. Gehle, Matthew L. Kersey, 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: Mrs. Pam Stone, 306 Club Road, Louisa; Mrs. Meredith Simms, owner of Solid Grounds Coffee House, Louisa; Mr. Tom Dunn of O'Brien & Gere Engineering

Absent: None.

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.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Mrs. Meredith Simms stood before Council and spoke of a request for the placement of tables and chairs outside of the coffee house during hours of operation. Mrs. Simms presented Council with a petition that was signed by approximately 500 citizens in favor of the request as well as photos of the tables and chairs.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

PRESENTATION

Mayor Artz presented a framed resolution to Mrs. Pamela Stone on behalf of the Town Council for her years of service on the Louisa Town Council. Mayor Artz read the resolution aloud to be entered into the minutes.

PUBLIC HEARING

1) A proposed amendment to Chapter 154 of the Louisa Town Code. This amendment proposes to: Update section 154-23 regarding fees; change the procedures for collection of the License Tax for Motor vehicles as outlined in section 154-26; delete the requirement of section 154-29 to display decals; and provide a method and timeline for the implementation of the changes.

Mayor Artz opened the public hearing at 7:10 p.m. asking if there was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the proposed amendment to Chapter 154 of the Louisa Town Code. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:11 p.m.

2) A proposed addition to Chapter 113 of the Louisa Town Code entitled False Burglar Alarms. This ordinance is being considered to reduce the number of false alarms and thereby protect the public safety by minimizing the unnecessary use of the town's limited law enforcement resources. The proposed ordinance would govern the burglary and robbery alarm systems within the town, establish service fees, and provide a system of administration for the ordinance.

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 proposed addition to Chapter 113 of the Louisa Town Code. Hearing no response, Mayor Artz closed the public hearing at 7:13 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion: Final report and recommendations of Disinfection Byproducts Study

Mr. Tom Dunn, of O'Brien & Gere Engineering, presented a detailed final report with an executive summary regarding the disinfection byproducts study. Mr. Dunn also included in his summary a few cost effective recommendations to consider. Mr. Dunn handed out copies of his presentation which can be found following the minutes.

Action/Discussion: Vehicle Decals

Following a lengthy discussion, Mr. Maupin stated that he would like to amend the language in Section 154-23. Mr. Maupin informed Council that he would recommend omitting the set fee and replace it with language that would allow the Council to adjust the fee accordingly (on a yearly basis). Mr. Maupin suggested that in order for Council to move forward, they would need to choose one of the five presented options.

Mr. Marks stated that option number 5 is the most practical and fair option for the tax payers.

Council member Kersey stated that he thought number 5 was a fair option too, but also brought up the notion of doing away with decals and any associated fees all together.

Collectively, Council decided not to take any action at this time and simply move forward to hold a public hearing for public comment and further discussion.

Action/Discussion: False Burglar Alarms

Following a short discussion, Council member Kersey made the motion to adopt the False Burglar Alarm Ordinance. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

**Action: TEA21 Downtown Pedestrian Improvements Phase II
Engineer contract acceptance**

Mr. Marks updated Council informing them that it is time to enter into a contract with Dewberry & Davis, Inc. for engineering services for Phase II of the Downtown Improvements Project.

Council member Clarke made the motion enter into a contract with Dewberry & Davis, Inc. for engineering services for Phase II of the TEA21 Downtown Pedestrian Improvements Project giving the Town Manager the authorization to execute the contract. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

**Action/Discussion: Proposed change to October 2008 Town
Council Meeting Date**

Mr. Marks stated that he advertised the change in case it was necessary due to the meeting being held at the same time as the VML conference. Mr. Marks stated that he felt since the Town of Louisa received an Achievement Award for the Town Hall and Arts Center, and it would be presented at the conference, that at least two representatives should be present to receive the award in person. Mr. Marks went further to explain that the change of date for the meeting was advertised just in case Council decided to hold the meeting on a different night since at least two Council members would not be present for the meeting. Mr. Marks then explained why he chose Mrs. Clarke and Mr. Kersey to attend the conference and receive the award on behalf of the Town of Louisa.

Council member Carter made a motion recommending that Council member Clarke and Council member Kersey attend the VML conference. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Clarke, abstain; Gehle, for; Dulaney, for; Carter, for; Kersey, for.

Mr. Marks stated the meeting will be held as planned.

**Action/Discussion: Consideration of Special Event Application:
Tent Revival**

Council member Clarke made a motion authorizing the tent revival. Council member Kersey 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 had nothing further to add to his report.

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 the Cemetery Committee met following the last Council meeting on August 19, 2008 to visit the proposed Columbarium site and review the request for proposal. The community volunteer component of the Cemetery Committee met on August 21, 2008 to review the schedule and procedures that need to

be followed. A memo of summarization can be found following the minutes.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Counsel

Mr. Maupin stated that a sewer line easement from Epworth Manor United Methodist Housing Corporation needed to be properly executed by the town.

Council member Kersey made a motion authorizing the Town Manger to execute the easement on behalf of the Town of Louisa. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Mr. Maupin then stated that Council's authorization would be needed in order to enter into a lease with William A. Cooke Incorporated in order to use a vacant lot behind 300 W. Main Street for parking.

Council member Carter made the motion authorizing the Town Manager to execute the lease with William A. Cooke, Incorporated on behalf of the Town of Louisa. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

After a brief discussion regarding an incident in town involving towing and storage fees, Mr. Maupin suggested that the individual be reimbursed both fees.

Council member Kersey made a motion authorizing the reimbursement of towing and storage fees to the individual involved in the incident. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Carter, for; Clarke, for; Gehle, against; Dulaney, for; Kersey, for.

Clerk

No report.

Treasurer

No report.

Manager

Mr. Marks made mention of the landfill accepting #1 and #2 plastics as well as cardboard boxes, cereal boxes, etc. Mr. Marks stated that a note on the matter was placed in the packets for Council's information.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council collectively decided to send the request for tables and chairs outside the coffee house to the Streets & Sidewalks Committee for their review.

ADJOURNMENT

Council Member Carter moved to adjourn the September 16, 2008 meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk