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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
March 15, 2016**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Matthew L. Kersey, Vice-Mayor; Mary Jane Clarke; Warren D. Gehle, A. Daniel Carter, Andrew G. Wade Council Members; Tom Filer, Town Manager; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk; Elizabeth T. Nelson, Treasurer; M. Brad Humphrey, Public Works Director; Ronnie Roberts, Chief of Police

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Absent: None

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Also in Attendance: Deana Meredith, The Central Virginian

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

Mayor Nuckols called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council member Kersey made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Kersey, for; Clarke, for; Gehle, for; Carter, for; Wade, for.

PRESENTATION

Cyberability - Town of Louisa Website

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2 Irene Karedis Borys, Business Development Project Manager, and
3 John DePasquale, CEO & Thought Leader, of Cyberability presented
4 the Town of Louisa Website Redesign.

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6 Ms. Borys spoke at length about the redesign and pointed out the
7 many differences and improvements to the site. Ms. Borys noted that
8 the site is very user friendly and asked Council and staff to visit the
9 site and report back any changes or suggestions before its official
10 launch.

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12 **PUBLIC HEARING**

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14 **Sign Ordinance**

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16 Mayor Nuckols opened the public hearing at 7:30 p.m. Hearing no
17 response, he closed the public hearing at 7:31 p.m.

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19 **OLD BUSINESS**

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21 **1) Discussion/Action: Sign Ordinance**

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23 Mayor Nuckols called for discussion on the matter.

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25 Mr. Filer reported that he had received two emails earlier in the day,
26 one from Jeff Brown, owner of Louisa Hardware (True Value), and
27 the other from Jade Lorenzo, owner of Obrigado restaurant. Mr. Filer
28 read both emails aloud for public record. Mr. Filer stopped
29 momentarily while reading Ms. Lorenzo's email to respond to her late
30 notification comment. Mr. Filer stated that the public hearing was
31 advertised in the newspaper, as required, for two consecutive weeks.

32
33 Council member Wade then made the motion to strike the word
34 "fluttering" from Section 134-6A and B. Council member Carter
35 seconded the motion. Mayor Nuckols then called for discussion.
36 Council and staff then spoke at length regarding the term "fluttering"
37 and the prohibition thereof. At the conclusion of the discussion,
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2 Council member Wade amended his motion to adopt the resolution
3 prepared by the Town Attorney to strike Section 134-6A from the
4 ordinance and have the Town Attorney and the Town Manager
5 conduct further research for potential conflicts elsewhere in the
6 ordinance. Council member Carter also amended his motion
7 seconding Council member Wade's amended motion. The vote went
8 as follows: Gehle, against; Kersey, for; Wade, for; Clarke, for; Carter,
9 for (4-1 in favor).

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11 **NEW BUSINESS**

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13 **1) Discussion/Action: Louisa Young Life 5K Race – Permit**

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15 Mr. Filer reviewed the application and map that was included in the
16 packet for the Louisa Young Life 5K Race before going on to review
17 both the application and map for the Louisa Gators proposed 5K
18 Race so that Council could hear the specifics for both races before
19 making their decision.

20
21 Council member Carter then made the motion to approve both race
22 applications. Council member Kersey seconded the motion. The
23 vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

24
25 **2) Discussion/Action: Louisa Gators 5K Race – Permit**

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27 *See action taken above.*

28
29 **3) Discussion/Action: Water Fund Certificate of Deposit
30 Reinvestment**

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32 Council member Kersey made the motion to reinvest the Water Fund
33 CD with Essex Bank for 6 months at .75%. Council member Clarke
34 seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Carter, abstain;
35 Kersey, for; Clarke, for; Gehle, for; Wade, for (4-1 for).

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37 **4) Discussion/Action: Buckingham Branch Rail Preservation
38 Grant Support**

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2 Mr. Filer reviewed the memo to Council in the packet, and stated that
3 he felt if the town showed support for Buckingham Branch, the town
4 in turn, could benefit from it in the long run.

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6 Council member Gehle questioned where we stood with our request
7 with CSX regarding the sidewalks on Church St. Mr. Filer stated that
8 our request had been denied. Council discussed the matter further
9 before taking the following action regarding the BB Rail Preservation
10 Grant:

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12 Council member Kersey made the motion to approve the Buckingham
13 Branch Rail Preservation Grant Resolution, and asked that Council
14 continue to pursue the ROW for the improvements to the Church
15 Street sidewalks, and noted that we are thankful for what they have
16 done at the depot. Council member Gehle seconded the motion.
17 The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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19 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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21 Police Department:

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23 (Please refer to the Police Department report.)

24
25 Chief Roberts reviewed the Police Department's report and fielded
26 questions from Council.

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28 Police Committee:

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30 No report.

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32 Water & Sewer Department:

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

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36 Mr. Humphrey read aloud from his report, highlighting areas of
37 interest, and added that we received notice today from the VA Dept.
38 of Conservation and Recreation that the U.S. National Park Service
39 has denied our request for exemption for developing the well within

1
2 the park, and would like us to enter into a land exchange. Mr.
3 Humphrey then referred to Mr. Filer and Mr. Gore for further
4 elaboration.

5
6 Mr. Gore reviewed the process that the town had to follow in order to
7 obtain an exemption for developing the well within the park, and then
8 explained that although we did not get the exemption we did receive
9 some good news. Mr. Gore reported that the Director and staff of the
10 DCR spoke directly with the Health Dept. and expressed to them that
11 they are satisfied with a land conversion in order to move forward.
12 Mr. Gore noted that the land conversion can be lengthy and costly,
13 but allows the town to continue to move forward.

14
15 Mr. Filer stated that Senator Tim Kaine's office has been very helpful,
16 and Congressman Dave Brat's office has extended their hand in
17 helping us move forward with the project as well. Mr. Filer and Mr.
18 Gore stated that they would continue working on getting the
19 necessary help to move forward, and start the paperwork process for
20 the land conversion.

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22 Litter Committee:

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24 No report.

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26 Streets & Sidewalks

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28 No report.

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30 Cemetery

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32 No report.

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34 **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

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36 Counsel

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38 No report.

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Clerk

No report.

Treasurer

No report.

Manager

Mr. Filer made mention of the following:

- We are looking for a Farmer's Market manager/leader. The previous gentleman will not be returning this coming year.
- The National Day of Prayer is scheduled for Thursday, May 5, 2016 at 12:00 noon on the Courthouse lawn.
- Tanyard Property Assoc. has purchased two new street lights and is working with Rappahannock Electric to have them installed.
- VDOT is repairing and replacing sidewalk on Woolfolk Ave.
- The Public Works Dept. recently installed 80+ radio read meters.
- We are working on figuring out the cost to replace the two handheld meter readers and upgraded software because ours are no longer supported and are obsolete.
- The Louisa County Water Authority recently met and approved their budget for the coming year. The water rates will remain the same.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Nuckols reported that he and the Town Manager met with Jamie Glass of VDOT in regards to the pedestrian crossings in front of Obrigado on Main St. as well as the crossing at the intersection of Main St. and Courthouse Rd. due to safety and timing of the lights.

Mayor Nuckols also stated that he had distributed a copy of a letter from the American Legion requesting sponsorship to send a high school senior to State Trooper Camp.

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Council member Wade questioned if bids from Commercial Trash Service providers had been received yet, and Mr. Filer replied that he had not received them all just yet, and reported that he has scheduled meetings with a couple of the companies this week.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:36 p.m., Council Member Carter made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council member Wade seconded the motion.

Mayor

Clerk