**Town of Louisa**

**Special Called Meeting**

**October 25, 2018**

**Present:** R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessie Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; A. Daniel Carter, James S. Artz, Bud Dulaney, John J. Purcell IV, 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

**Absent:** Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel

**Also in Attendance:** None

*All copies, including: reports, handouts, and documents*

*can be found following the minutes.*

**The Mayor of the Town of Louisa called a special meeting of the Louisa Town Council at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 25, 2018 at Louisa Town Hall located at 212 Fredericksburg Ave, Louisa, VA 23093.**

**The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the following: 1) Old Business – Parade Permit; 2) New Business – Town Sewer Plant Discussion**

Mayor Nuckols called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Discussion/Action: Parade Permit**

Council member Dulaney began the discussion asking for more detailed information than what was provided on the parade permit.

Mr. Filer reported that VDOT approved the road closure for 45 minutes.

Chief Roberts stated that he had not received any new information since the verbal conversation he had with Mr. Harvey (who is hosting the event) prior to the last Council meeting on the 16th of October. Chief Roberts went on to state what he had been told: the event would take place at the courthouse (on the front lawn); there would be 40-50 motorcycles riding in the parade; the event would begin at 11:00 a.m. and should conclude at 11:30; and the parade would then leave that location heading East on Main Street to Mineral.

Chief Roberts then voiced his concerns with the event stating that because they are requesting to have Main Street closed to all traffic that he would not like to see large commercial carriers or eighteen wheelers travel through residential neighborhoods. He stated that he felt large commercial trucks driving West bound on Main Street should be held and only allow passenger vehicles to traverse down Fredericksburg Avenue to Cutler onto West Main Street and allow East bound traffic, including large commercial trucks be diverted down Elm Avenue to Route 208.

Council and staff then discussed: road closures for any events other than the Christmas Parade and the Fireman’s Parade in July; noise caused by motorists during the annual ceremony at the courthouse; and the length of time that the street would be closed.

Council member Carter commented that he felt the ceremony is very nice and is supportive of the event, but is concerned with the road closure and the holding/diversion of traffic.

Council member Dulaney echoed Mr. Carter’s concerns then made the following motion:

Council member Dulaney made the motion to approve the parade permit with the stipulation that the Chief of Police has the authority to coordinate with VDOT, the Sheriff’s Department, and Mr. Harvey to discuss and approve the traffic diversions and timely release of

traffic to keep all involved safe while showing respect for veterans. Council member Lassiter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-1 in favor (Purcell, for; Artz, for; Lassiter, for; Dulaney, for, Carter, against).

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Mayor Nuckols informed Council that Mrs. Donna Pinter’s husband, Al Pinter passed away last night. Mayor Nuckols stated that Mrs. Pinter served as Town Treasurer for several years and felt that it would be a kind gesture of the Council to provide a food tray for the gathering being held at the Arts Center following the funeral service.

Without a vote, all of Council verbally agreed to purchase a food tray for the gathering.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Discussion/Action: Town Sewer Plant Discussion**

Mr. Filer began by stating that, at the last Louisa County Water Authority meeting, a discussion was held regarding the current ownership status of the Regional Waste Water Treatment Plant - that the town and county jointly own the plant 50/50. Mr. Filer went on to say that in recent months, the WWTP failed an inspection conducted by OSHA and has consulted with an engineer to have the necessary work done to rectify the issue. The estimated cost from the engineer is approximately $190,000 wherein the town would be responsible for half of that amount. Additionally, the WWPT has expressed displeasure with their current SCADA system and have priced out a new system at a cost of $250,000 wherein the town would also be responsible for half that amount.

Mr. Filer continued, making note of the projects that the town has undertaken, and those that still need to be conducted in the future, then expressed his concern that the town lacks the funds necessary to pay for our endeavors as well as those of the county. Mr. Filer

stated that he has no solution to the problem, but felt that Council needs to explore its options to see what is in the town’s best interest. Mr. Filer stated that nothing had to be done today, as the problem has existed since the agreement was drawn up between the two entities years ago, but conveyed that the town needs to begin discussions on how to remedy the problem.

Council and staff then carried on a lengthy conversation. Many questions were asked, and several options were discussed. Council member Purcell stated that he questioned the engineer’s estimates (based on his work experience and opinions of his colleagues) and suggested that the town could request that the WWTP petition the OSHA violation.

No action was taken on the matter by Council. Council did, however, direct Mr. Filer, Mr. Gore, and Mr. Humphrey to meet and discuss the current contract between the town and the county and possible amendments/solutions and report back to Council.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:10 p.m., Council member Carter made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

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Mayor Clerk