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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
January 18, 2022**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessi Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; A. Daniel Carter, Bud Dulaney, John J. Purcell IV, Sylvia Rigsby, Council members; Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel; Elizabeth T. Nelson, Town Manager; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk/Treasurer; Craig Buckley, Chief of Police; John Robins, Project Manager

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Absent: None.

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Also in Attendance: None.

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

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Mayor Nuckols called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Nelson noted that the Special Called Meeting minutes from January 6, 2022 were included in the packet for approval. Mrs. Nelson and Mayor Nuckols dually noted the need to re-appoint members to the EDA, and requested to add the matter to the agenda as item no. 5 under New Business.

Council member Lassiter made the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Action/Discussion: Resolutions of Appreciation

Mrs. Nelson read the resolutions of appreciation aloud. The resolutions express the town’s gratitude for the service and commitment of all the utility companies who worked many hours during and following winter storm Frida.

Council member Dulaney then made the motion to adopt the resolutions. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

2) Action/Discussion: CARES Funding

Mrs. Nelson provided a detailed explanation via the memo she included in the Council packet. In brief, Mrs. Nelson explained the updated guidance handed down from the Dept. of Treasury, and also explained that that the Virginia Dept. of Accounts did not offer the same revision, therefore, the town would not be eligible for reimbursement for any unfinished work or materials not already supplied. Mrs. Nelson stated that: as a result, eligible hazardous duty salary and benefit packages were reviewed and submitted for reimbursement with CARES Act funding; and the outstanding balance of \$48,572, that was originally appropriated from CARES Act funds, would need to be allocated from the salary savings in the General Fund.

Council member Carter made the motion to approve the appropriation and expense. Council member Lassiter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

3) Action/Discussion: Police Department Grant Award Approval

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2 Chief Buckley stated that the police department was awarded funds
3 from the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding as well as
4 the Department of Criminal Justice Services Block grants in early
5 January. The grants do not require matching funds, and in brief,
6 Chief Buckley plans to use the funds for IT and PPE – a detailed plan
7 including costs, can be found in the memo he provided in the Council
8 packet.

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10 Council member Lassiter made the motion acknowledging the grant
11 funding and to approve the expenses. Council member Purcell
12 seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

13 14 **4) Action/Discussion: Budget Planning**

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16 Mrs. Nelson and the Finance Committee stated that they would like to
17 set up a couple of initial meetings to go through the budget before
18 bringing it to Council for review. The finance committee and staff
19 agreed to schedule meetings and report back.

20 21 **5) Action/Discussion: EDA Appointments**

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23 Mrs. Nelson reported that Brian Gilbreth and Matthew Kersey's terms
24 on the EDA expired on December 31st, however both have agreed to
25 serve again.

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27 Council member Rigsby made the motion to re-appoint Brian Gilbreth
28 and Matthew Kersey for another term on the EDA. Council member
29 Lassiter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

30 31 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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33 None.

34 35 **STAFF REPORTS**

36 37 **Police:**

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39 Chief Buckley stood and briefed Council on a few things that the

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department has been working on since his last update at the December Council meeting. Chief Buckley reported:

- 126 standards of accreditation have been completed and approximately 40 remain to be completed.
- Breanna is transitioning well into full-time status.
- The monthly crime report appears to indicate an increase, however the higher numbers are actually indicative of better reporting. The department is able to tweak reports and make improvements.
- They are currently working on custody/contact forms.
- There were 46 storm related calls for service during winter storm Frida; and officers went door to door at Epworth Manor and McDonald Street Apartments doing welfare checks. As a result, some residents were transported to the warming shelter while others remained in their homes and got assistance via supplies. Officers also offered to take electronic devices back to the department to charge so that residents could keep in touch with family, etc.
- Craig also read aloud a thank-you letter that the department received from Carolyn Oliver in response to the department's level of dedication and service to the town during the winter storm. *(A copy of the letter was provided for the minutes.)*

Council member Dulaney echoed Chief Buckley's comments, and thanked him and the police department for their assistance and dedication to the town.

Project Manager:

Mr. Robins reported that he has been in communication with VDOT in regards to the sidewalk project, and also with DEQ in regards to water quality as it effects the project. He is still waiting to hear back from Thrasher before he can provide further information.

Clerk/Treasurer:

No report.

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Manager:

Mrs. Nelson reported:

- Staff members from all departments were instrumental during the recent snow storms. Mrs. Nelson stated that we have been very short staffed for quite a while now, but all pitched in and did the best we could.
- It was recently discovered that the generator at town hall is not as effective as it should be as it only operates emergency lights and one outlet on the ground floor. Mrs. Nelson stated that she will be looking into getting quotes to see what can be done to bring more applications on board when the power is out.
- The batteries at the pump station on Ellisville Drive died and the system went down as a result of the lengthy power outage. There was a small amount of overflow that was cleaned up and promptly reported to the appropriate departments.
- Daniel Lauro, with Botkin Rose, and David Rose, with Davenport, are interested in assisting the town with debt savings, if possible, and have planned to meet with staff to discuss the possibilities.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Council member Carter made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk