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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
September 20, 2022**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessi Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; Danny 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: Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel

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Also in Attendance: Tracy Clark, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce & Louisa Forward Foundation; Casey Hollins, Secretary for the Chamber of Commerce and Managing Director of Communications and Public Relations for Rappahannock Electric Cooperative; Vicky Harte, town resident at 311 Club Road

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

Mayor Nuckols called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Vicky Harte, town resident at 311 Club Road, stood before Council to express the following concerns: she is unable to obtain private flood insurance due to a clause regarding water runoff; Tanyard Subdivision does not have regular recycling pickup like the rest of town; and the culvert pipe on Route 33 near the motel hasn't been cleaned of trash and debris which is causing the road to flood.

CONSENT AGENDA

1 Mayor Nuckols asked if there was any changes to the agenda.
2

3 Mrs. Nelson reported the need to add the Thrasher engineering
4 services contract for the water infrastructure project to the
5 agenda as item no. 2 under New Business. Mrs. Nelson informed
6 Council that she had included the contract in the supplemental packet
7 for their consideration.
8

9 Council member Carter made the motion to approve the amended
10 agenda. Council member Purcell seconded the motion. The vote
11 went as follows: 5-0 in favor.
12

13 **OLD BUSINESS**

14 15 **1) Discussion/Action: Louisa Forward Foundation & Main Street** 16 **Initiative - Grant Consideration for EV Charging Stations** 17

18 Tracy Clark, Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce &
19 Louisa Forward Foundation, gave an update on the EV charging
20 stations project. Ms. Clark reported that over the course of the past
21 month, they have selected Bob Sweeney (from their board) to serve
22 as the lead on the project, and that the Louisa Forward Foundation
23 has accepted a proposal made by REC wherein REC will be the
24 owner/operator of the EV stations (beyond being just the contractor
25 for installation) which will allow more flexibility in regards to when the
26 project has to be completed and where the EV charging stations will
27 be located. Ms. Clark stated that they are no longer pursuing the
28 Dominion rebate due to the time constraints, etc. Ms. Clark and Ms.
29 Hollins stated that REC is still running numbers to know where the
30 best suited locations will be, but will keep the town updated as more
31 information is made available.
32

33 **NEW BUSINESS**

34 35 **1) Discussion/Action: Maturing Certificate of Deposit and** 36 **Investments** 37

38 As noted in her memo to Council, Mrs. Nelson recommended that
39 staff transfer the funds from United Bank to LGIP due to the current

1 market and the availability of funds, if needed, without penalties for
2 withdrawal. Mrs. Nelson noted that LGIP's Average monthly Rate is
3 2.213%.

4
5 Council member Dulaney made the motion to approve the fund
6 transfer from United Bank to LGIP. Council member Rigsby
7 seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

8
9 Mrs. Nelson also stated that after we receive the final audit report in
10 the coming months, we will look into transferring money from the
11 water and general funds (savings and money market accounts) to
12 earn higher yields with LGIP.

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14 **2) Discussion/Action: Thrasher Engineering Services Contract**

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16 Mrs. Nelson introduced the contract and deferred to Mr. Robins for
17 more information.

18
19 Mr. Robins reported that the water infrastructure project is set up in a
20 task oriented format, and getting the contract signed will allow for us
21 to move forward with design, construction, surveying, etc. to produce
22 plans which will then meet the requirements of our funding agency.

23
24 Mrs. Nelson stated that the Water & Sewer Committee recently met
25 and discussed the project and contract. There are four lines that will
26 be replaced during this project: Cammack St.; Ellisville Dr.;
27 Fredericksburg Ave.; and West St. Mrs. Nelson clarified that the
28 project has been ongoing for some time, but due to engineering
29 turnover, the project had been stalled until recently and now they are
30 ready to move forward.

31
32 Council member Purcell made the motion to approve the contract and
33 move forward with the project. Council member Rigsby seconded the
34 motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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36 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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38 **Water & Sewer / Streets & Sidewalks:**

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1 Mr. Purcell echoed the report given by staff in the previous discussion
2 on the water infrastructure project and added: they reviewed sidewalk
3 project plans and are waiting on more information; and they are still in
4 discussions with Piedmont Metals about the entry signs and what
5 would be the best cost effective materials.

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7 **STAFF REPORTS**

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9 **Police:**

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11 Chief Buckley made mention of the following during his report:

- 12
- 13 • The department has open positions and are reviewing
14 applications; they have conducted one interview with an applicant
15 who has experience in the field.
 - 16 • The Chief did a media release for the mental health grant they
17 were seeking through VRSA. The department will participate in
18 annual training in October/November and then continual training
19 every 6 months.
 - 20 • The Chief also noted that they did a media release for the Lights
21 on Program – the department is the first in the state to
22 adopt/participate (only 16 others across the country participate).
 - 23 • Officers will be going around town to personally notify citizens
24 about the risks of email/phone fraud.
 - 25 • The department is down to 11 remaining standards.
- 26

27 Council member Dulaney took a moment to thank Mrs. Vicky Harte
28 and her Girl Scout troop to attending the National Night Out event
29 and for their assistance in holding down tents during the brief rain
30 storms and for handing out ice cream to attendees.

31
32 **Project Manager:**

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34 Mr. Robins had nothing further to report.

35
36 **Legal Counsel:**

37
38 No report.

1 **Clerk/Treasurer:**

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3 No report.

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5 **Manager:**

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7 Mrs. Nelson reported the following:

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9 Mrs. Nelson reported that she met with Ian Baxter to discuss the
10 town's comprehensive plan and his willingness to help guide staff and
11 the Planning Commission in reviewing and updating the plan in the
12 coming months.

13
14 Mrs. Nelson stated that she is happy to have help from Council in
15 planning for the 150th anniversary of the town. We need to put
16 together a committee and begin brainstorming.

17
18 We received praise from our auditors during the exit interview with
19 them on the 8th. They stated that we had a perfect audit, and they
20 hope to be here in October/November to present the final audit
21 report.

22
23 **COMMUNICATIONS**

24
25 Council member Dulaney suggested to Mrs. Nelson the possibility of
26 incorporating the assistance of the EDA while planning for the town's
27 150th Anniversary.

28
29 Mrs. Nelson stated that she would reach out to them.

30
31 Council member Dulaney questioned the recycling concern brought
32 up by Mrs. Harte during the public comment period.

33
34 Mrs. Nelson stated that Tanyard Subdivision has the same recycling
35 services as the rest of the town. She stated that she is aware of
36 recent service interruptions and was informed by Updike that it is due
37 to staffing changes/shortages, but noted that several people in that
38 neighborhood (and throughout town) were given recycle cans by the
39 company based on their regular monthly recycling habits over the

1 course of the town's initial 5 year contract with Updike. Mrs. Nelson
2 stated that she would look into the matter further.

3
4 Mayor Nuckols made mention of the assistance the town received
5 over the weekend with grass cutting. Mayor Nuckols reported that
6 the contractor who cuts Hillcrest Cemetery for the town was in town
7 on Saturday to lend a hand in cutting several areas that the Public
8 Works Department has not been able to get to due to a staff
9 shortage. Mr. Nuckols thanked Mrs. Nelson for arranging the help.

10
11 Mrs. Nelson echoed Mayor Nuckols, and reported that we have been
12 very shorthanded over the past year and a half to two years, and
13 noted that we have a couple of interviews scheduled in the coming
14 days and hopes to be able to fill the positions.

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16 **ADJOURNMENT**

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18 Council member Dulaney made the motion to adjourn the meeting at
19 6:34 p.m. Council member Purcell seconded the motion.

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21 _____
22 Mayor

_____ Clerk

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