

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 22, 2022

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on Tuesday, March 22, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 15869 Kings Highway, Montross, VA.

Council Members Present: Terry A. Cosgrove, Joseph P. King, Clinton A. Watson, Jr., Carolyn K. Carlson, Bobby D. Greene, Robert L. Barker, Kathryn S. Wittman

Council Members Absent:

Town Manager: Patricia K. Lewis

Water Works Operator:

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Cosgrove called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL PRIOR MINUTES

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the February 22, 2022, regular meeting. Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Watson, made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2022, meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for February 28, 2022. Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Wittman, made a motion to approve the February 28, 2022, financial reports. The motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Lewis reported that the sign that was damaged at the west end of town has been replaced.

Mrs. Lewis reported that water break and fire hydrant at the east end of town have been fixed.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the Virginia Department of Transportation will be coming through town in the near future to freshen up parking lines and lines at the crosswalks.

Mrs. Lewis congratulated the Washington and Lee High School basketball team for making it to the state championship. They didn't win, but they fought hard. It was great to see the support from town businesses and residents. People decorated with blue and gold, stood out by the streets as the team went by, and the stands at the game were packed with people from all over the Northern Neck.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Cosgrove stated that Mrs. Lewis provided Council with three sanitation bids – Doggett Disposal Systems, American Hauling Services, and Republic Waste Services. After review and discussion of the bids, Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Watson, made a motion to accept the bid from Doggett Disposal Systems, Inc., and enter into a contract with them. Mayor Cosgrove asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Greene, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Mrs. Wittman, aye; Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Watson, aye; Mr. King, aye. The motion unanimously carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Cosgrove stated that last year the town had paid for and installed three vertical pedestrian crosswalk signs. All three signs were ultimately crushed by vehicles. Mrs. Lewis stated that the town got the signs with the safety grant. Mayor Cosgrove asked Council if they would like to continue with the safety feature. Mr. King stated that he sees the same signs when he's traveling, and they are banged up. Mrs. Carlson stated that she didn't think the sign on the corner was placed where it would help. Mrs. Wittman stated that the pedestrian sign at the post office caused some issues, and she could see why it got hit. She stated on the flip side of that it does make you slow down. Mayor Cosgrove stated that one of the things we are working on to hopefully solve the business district problem of crosswalks and speed would be to install speed flashers possibly near Blue Ridge Bank and maybe at the bottom of the hill coming into town. He stated that Port Royal has them. Mayor Cosgrove stated he was making an attempt to fit that into some potential tourism grant money. Mr. King stated that he thought the flashing speed signs would be a big help. Mr. Watson stated he thought the flashing speed signs would be more effective. Mr. Greene stated that some places have an "event" sign when they have a big event. He said he thought VDOT put that up. Mayor Cosgrove stated that the town purchased a speed cart several years ago and gave it to the Sheriff's Office. He stated it is effective. After more discussion, it was decided to table the issue.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that George Runkle's term on the Planning Commission would expire on May 30, 2022, and that Mr. Runkle has agreed to serve another term. Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to re-appoint Mr. Runkle to the Planning Commission. The motion unanimously carried.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that Bonnie Chandler's term on the Board of Zoning Appeals would expire on June 30, 2022, and that Mrs. Chandler has agreed to serve another term. Mrs. Wittman, seconded by Mr. Barker, made a motion to recommend Mrs. Chandler's re-appointment to the Judge of the Circuit Court. The motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Cosgrove stated that the main street group has decided to have First Fridays starting in May through September this year. Fall Festival is October 1st. Because the band that was supposed to play at the October 7th First Friday, the main street group has decided to do an October Fest, which will be Saturday, October 22nd, time to be determined.

Mr. King thanked Mrs. Lewis for putting the blue and yellow light in the town hall window to show support for Ukraine.

Mr. Greene asked what the vendor fee is for First Friday's this year. Mrs. Lewis stated the fee is \$25 this year.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Patricia K. Lewis
Town Manager

Terry A. Cosgrove
Mayor