

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

February 28, 2023

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on January 24, 2023, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall, 15869 Kings Highway, Montross, VA.

Council Members Present: Joseph P. King, Carolyn K. Carlson, Kathryn S. Wittman, Aaron Hooks

Council Members Absent: Terry Cosgrove, Clinton A. Watson, Jr., Bobby D. Greene

Town Manager: Francine G. Taylor

REGULAR MEETING

Vice-Mayor King 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. Mrs. Taylor shared that Council member Greene has had some recent health concerns and should remain in our thoughts and prayers.

APPROVAL PRIOR MINUTES

Vice-Mayor King asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting. Hearing none, Mrs. Carlson, seconded by Mrs. Wittman, made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Vice-Mayor King asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for the January 24, 2023. Mrs. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Hooks, made a motion to approve the January 24, 2023, financial reports as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Taylor reported that she and Shelby are processing the final real estate payments that were due December 5th, as well as gaining more knowledge of the software program via tutorials and upgrades.

Mrs. Taylor shared that she and Mayor Cosgrove attended a quarterly luncheon with the managers of Tappahannock and Warsaw, who are able to share information about water system upgrades that they've experienced. They will be able to provide information of software options as we face installation of new meters in the future.

Mrs. Taylor reported that a long-standing water break on Carver Street has been repaired at a

cost of \$5585. Another break occurred on Ames Drive near the new park site, which is the same site as a previous break last year. It will be repaired over the next few days.

Mrs. Taylor also learned of the Volunteer Assistance Program executed by local Town Members, including members of Town Council, and is very impressed with the system in place to offer care and assistance in cases of extreme weather or emergencies. Kudos to those volunteering to watch over our neighbors and friends.

OLD BUSINESS

Vice-Mayor King shared that the various projects are in various stages of planning, including the pickleball courts, the proposed parking lot, the park, which is coming together nicely, the playground, which is already being utilized even before the park is finished, electrical service is still being evaluated. The waterline project is in process, and the construction company laying the pipe is committed to cleaning up as they go, and many town residents have expressed their appreciation of a job well done. The bid for new meters was advertised this week.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Taylor shared information on both computer system proposals, and the costs and services provided by CodeBlue Technology seem to offer the Town the needed upgrades at a reasonable cost. Mrs. Wittman, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to appropriate funds for the CodeBlue proposal. Vice-Mayor King asked for a roll call vote: Mrs. Wittman, aye; Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Hooks, aye; Mr. King, aye. The motion unanimously carried.

Mrs. Taylor reported a recent meeting about the Historic District nomination for Montross that she and Mayor Cosgrove attended. It is an honorary designation and our nomination will go before a hearing of the Virginia State Review Board for consideration.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Larry Hinson complimented the Town on the new park.

Resident Bobby Reamy asked about how extensive the new water system is. Mrs. Carlson shared that we are getting a new well system, in addition to water pipe upgrades in areas that have smaller diameter piping. This will aid in fire protection for the Town. Mrs. Taylor did share that the project engineer has been asked for cost estimates for extending the system further out Route #3. Mrs. Carlson added that total funding was not available to fund the entire water system throughout the Town, though that would have been the desire.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Francine Taylor
Town Manager

Terry A. Cosgrove
Mayor