

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

June 28, 2022

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on Tuesday, June 28, 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, Robert L. Barker

Council Members Absent: Bobby D. Greene, Kathryn S. Wittman

Town Manager: Patricia K. Lewis

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 May 24, 2022, regular meeting. Mr. King, seconded by Mr. Barker, made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2022, meeting. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for May 31, 2022. Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to approve the May 31, 2022, financial reports. The motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Lewis reported that she, Mayor Cosgrove, and Councilman Watson attended the Montross Art Center's Grand Opening on June 1, 2022. She stated that it was fabulous and very well attended. She stated that they are open Thursday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on First Fridays until 9:00 p.m. She encouraged everyone to pay a visit.

Mrs. Lewis reported that she and Councilman Watson had the pleasure of attending the Westmoreland Volunteer Fire Department Auxiliary's 50th Anniversary on June 3, 2022. Councilman Watson presented the Council Resolution again to the Auxiliary as most of the members were not able to attend the last Town Council meeting.

Mrs. Lewis announced that a brewery, a dance studio, and a sandwich shop are coming to town. The brewery will be located at the Carrot Cottage Building, the dance studio will be in the old Western Auto building, and the sandwich shop will be next to Miss Lora's Flowers & Gifts.

Mrs. Lewis announced that the grand opening of the new Westmoreland High School is scheduled for July 30, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to attend.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Lewis stated that she made an adjustment to the proposed budget that was originally presented. She received the cost of insurance the week prior, and the amount was just over the budgeted amount of \$8300. She adjusted the amount to \$8500. Mayor Cosgrove asked for a motion to adopt the June 30, 2023, budget. Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to adopt the budget as proposed. Mayor Cosgrove asked for a roll call vote: Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Watson, aye; Mr. King, aye; Mr. Barker, aye. The motion unanimously carried.

Mrs. Lewis stated that she met with Deputy Smith regarding the Neighborhood Watch program for the Town. Deputy Smith and I thought the best way to get citizens to participate in the program is to have a table set up at the National Night Out event, which is August 2, 2022, from 5 p.m. – 8 p.m. at Stan's Skateland. There is no cap on how many can participate in the program. We can also spread the word through social media. Once we have people sign up, we will hold a meeting and elect a block captain. Deputy Smith will be holding a "BUSINESS WATCH" program meeting on June 29, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office for any businesses that want to participate in the program

Mayor Cosgrove gave an update on the proposed pickle ball court, town parking lot, and town park. He stated that he felt a little defeated at the last meeting he attended because of the survey that came back on the potential pickle ball area near the water tower. He stated he thinks we've found the land again. Mayor Cosgrove stated the surveyor said he found a bunch of markers and he was going to have to take the information back to his shop to plot it all out. Mayor Cosgrove stated that he will follow up with Herlong Associates as soon as we get the revised survey to get a design and pricing for the pickle ball court and present that to the public. Mayor Cosgrove stated that we are going to press ahead and try to schedule a meeting to talk to a pavilion company to get some pricing. He stated that he has been in contact with two recreation companies for playground equipment. Mayor Cosgrove stated that we are still waiting on the survey for the parking lot. Once we get that we will get pricing and present that to the public as well.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the next Fall Festival meeting is scheduled for July 13, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall. She stated that the committee is still looking for volunteers to help. She also asked council to let her know if they knew of any farmers in the county that should be recognized as a Grand Marshal.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the next First Friday is July 1, 2022. Hard to Tell is the featured band. She stated that a lot of vendors have signed up to be there.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Lewis presented two applications for the Business Development Incentive Grant. One application was submitted by Butch Filkoski on behalf of Montross Brewing Company. The other application was submitted by Janice Jones on behalf of J. Jones Art Consulting/ dba The Art Center of Montross. Mrs. Lewis stated the Grant Committee recommended approval of both applications. After review of the applications, Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to approve the grant application that was submitted by Ms. Jones in the amount of \$625 per month/\$7,500 for one year. Mayor Cosgrove asked for a roll call vote: Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Watson, aye; Mr. King, aye; Mr. Barker, aye. The motion unanimously carried.

Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, then made a motion to approve the grant application that was submitted by Mr. Filkoski in the amount of \$625 per month/\$7500 for one year. Mayor Cosgrove asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Barker, aye; Mr. King, aye; Mr. Watson, aye; Mrs. Carlson, aye. The motion unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Larry Hinson asked where the new brewery would be located. Mr. Filkoski replied that it will be located at the Carrot Cottage building. Mr. Hinson then asked what was happening with the park. Mayor Cosgrove stated that we became ineligible for the USDA grant because the town does not own the property. The plan of development that we had for it is too expensive for the town to pursue. The town is pursuing other options that are more affordable.

Mr. Filkoski stated that the town's insurance policy would need to be updated once the Carrot Cottage property changes hands. Mayor Cosgrove said that the Greater Montross Partnership carries an umbrella policy and that it would not be a problem.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

There were no comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Patricia K. Lewis
Town Manager

Terry A. Cosgrove
Mayor