

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

October 25, 2022

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on October 25, 2022, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall, 15869 Kings Highway, Montross, VA.

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

Council Members Absent: Kathryn S. Wittman

Town Manager: Patricia K. Lewis

REGULAR MEETING

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

Mrs. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Greene, made a motion allowing Mr. King to join the meeting electronically (remote access). The motion unanimously carried.

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 September 27, 2022, regular meeting, the October 5, 2022, special meeting, and the October 6, 2022, special meeting. Mrs. Carlson, seconded by Mr. Barker, made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2022, October 5, 2022, and October 6, 2022, meetings. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for September 30, 2022. Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to approve the September 30, 2022, financial reports. The motion unanimously carried.

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Lewis reported that the crew putting in underground lines on Polk Street nicked our marked water line on October 18, 2022. Ricky Landon and Brian Saunders have repaired it.

Mrs. Lewis reminded everyone that trick or treating in town would be October 3, 2022, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Moose Lodge would have trunk or treating from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Westmoreland Volunteer Fire Department will be handing out treats from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. And Providence United Methodist Church would also have a trunk or treating from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Cosgrove stated the pavilions are scheduled to be installed in November 2022. The playground equipment has been ordered and is scheduled to be installed in mid-December 2022.

Carville Landscape will be pouring the pads for the pavilions. Mrs. Lewis stated that the town did receive the building permit from the county. Mrs. Lewis stated that an account has been opened where donations will be deposited. She stated that we have already received \$5,120 in donations. Letters have been mailed out to all town water customers and businesses asking for donations for the park.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that he heard from the owners of the Blue Ridge Bank and their offer still stands to sell the parking lot to the town. Mayor Cosgrove stated he has received one verbal estimate for paving. He would like to get one or two more estimates. The estimate to pave, take the trees out, and improve the parking area with curbing so we don't have to do stormwater management is \$48,000. Mayor Cosgrove stated he is still a fan of the project. The dance studio has had a soft opening, a sandwich shop is going in the old Westmoreland News building and we are rapidly coming into tax season. He stated that not many businesses meet the zoning parking requirements. He stated it would be good to supply that to the town so we can be more supportive of businesses and encourage new growth.

Mayor Cosgrove stated that he needs to go back to the architects and let them know that two pickleball courts are preferred. He stated that there is more work to be done on that project.

Mrs. Lewis reported that Charlie Riedlinger with Resource International had a pre-bid conference at Town Hall on October 4, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Bids were supposed to be opened on October 18, 2022. However, there has been a lot of interest in the project, so the bid opening has been extended to November 3, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at Town Hall. Mayor Cosgrove stated he wants to be sure that we have included the right kind of meters and software and anything that would help automate the billing process.

Mrs. Lewis reported that Fall Festival was postponed to October 29, 2022, because of the weather forecast relating to Hurricane Ian. She stated that over forty market vendors are expected to be there, as well as over forty parade participants. The next Fall Festival meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Lewis reported that planning for the Spirit Fest has begun. Spirit Fest is scheduled for the first weekend in December. Letters have been sent to the businesses in town asking what they are planning to do. Churches are going to be invited to participate and serve cookies, hot chocolate, and hot apple cider.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mayor Cosgrove introduced the newly hired Town Manager, Francine Taylor. He stated that council was looking forward to working with her. He stated that council will miss Mrs. Lewis, her energy, and smiling face. Mrs. Taylor stated that she was looking forward to it.

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

Patricia K. Lewis
Town Manager

Terry A. Cosgrove
Mayor