

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 21, 2020

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 21, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Kevin Allgood, Vice-Mayor Mike Sizemore, Chris Clarke, Carolyn Hite, Tammy Mulchi, and Danny Pittard. Council member Bruce Woerner was absent. Staff Members present were Town Manager Jeff Jones, Treasurer/Clerk Tara Murphy, Town Operations Director Richard Elliott, and Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson.

Call to Order

Mayor Allgood called the meeting to order and provided the invocation.

Vice-Mayor Appointment

Town Manager Jones stated that after an election, a Vice-Mayor needs to be appointed. Council member Hite stated she felt Mike Sizemore did a great job and would like to nominate him for Vice-Mayor. Council member Hite motioned to appoint Mike Sizemore as Vice-Mayor, seconded by Council member Pittard and approved by all.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 16th, 2020 regular meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Vice-Mayor Sizemore, seconded by Council member Hite, and approved by all.

The minutes of the June 16th, 2020 special meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Vice-Mayor Sizemore, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Presentation of List of Vendors Paid

The list of vendors paid for June 2020 was presented to Council. Council member Clarke motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for June 2020, seconded by Vice-Mayor Sizemore, and approved by all.

Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements for June 2020 were presented to Council. Council member Clarke motioned to approve the financial statements for June 2020, seconded by Vice-Mayor Sizemore, and approved by all.

Committee Assignments

Mayor Allgood presented a list of Committee Assignments. He stated that if any Council member had any issues with the assignments to let him know. Vice-Mayor Sizemore motioned to accept the Town Council Committee assignments as presented, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Emergency Ordinance

Town Manager Jones stated that in May, the Council passed an ordinance to allow the continuity of the Town government as well as it enabled the Town Council to meet electronically during the COVID-19 emergency. He stated that the ordinance expired July 5, 2020. He stated that now that Virginia is in Phase 3, the Town plans to resume the normal meetings as long as the Town can maintain the proper social distancing and meet the restriction. Town Manager Jones stated that he feels the Town Council should pass another ordinance to enable the continuity of government and to meet electronically if the pandemic spiked and the Governor's reopening plan reversed. Town Manager Jones stated that the ordinance will remain in effect until the Town Council repeals it or the expiration of a period not exceeding 6 months from the conclusion of the declared disaster.

Council member Hite motioned to extend the term of the emergency ordinance, seconded by Vice-Mayor Sizemore, and approved by all.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Town Operations Report

The Town Operations report was presented to Council.

Director Richard Elliott informed Council that a sewage pump in Colleen's Cove station came loose. He stated that the parts to fix the pump are discontinued but they found parts to retrofit it. He stated that Harman Saunders Construction performed the work at a cost of \$7,500 because this job required dedicated time to make the repair. He stated that the same pumps were used but the mechanism was replaced with stainless steel. Director Elliott stated that 4th Street, 5th Street and Rose Hill Avenue were paved in the repair spots. He informed the Council that VDOT replaced the gravel on the shoulder of the roadway in the Cemetery. He stated that the Police Department and the Chamber of Commerce roofs are complete. Council member Hite stated that the grate in the Cemetery is fixed. Vice-Mayor Sizemore thanked the staff for the hard work in the heat.

Police Activity Report

The Police Activity Report was presented to Council.

Police Chief Wilkinson stated that a motor has to be replaced in one of the Dodge Chargers. He stated that the Chargers with excess of 150,000 in mileage are having motor problems. Vice-Mayor Sizemore questioned the motor problems. Chief Wilkinson stated that there are weak points in the valves and they run hot. Town Manager Jones stated that there are funds in the current budget to replace two cars. Chief Wilkinson stated that the e-citation program has not started yet as they are still waiting to complete the training due to the COVID. He stated that the printers are installed and ready. Chief Wilkinson stated that on 7/4/20, the Chamber held a boat parade and there was a great turnout of approximately 200 boats. He stated that Officer Drew Jenkins has been meeting with the soccer kids and working with them and discussing Police oriented situations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Property Maintenance

Town Manager Jones stated that the staff has sent 59 notices of nuisance and 37 have been addressed so far. He stated that the Blue-Collar Cafe is in probate which can hold up any progress. 22 properties have not been addressed and I is partially done. He stated that Loftis Appliance is still working on the bricking and cleanup.

Upcoming Events

Town Manager Jones stated that the farm fresh market place is still the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month. He stated that the Wine Festival is still scheduled for 8/29/20 and the Lake Life Live has not been changed yet. He stated that Lake Fest is still scheduled for September 18-19 and a Lake Life Live on 9-20. Town Manager Jones stated that Harvest Day is scheduled for 10-3-20

Small Business Recovery Assistance Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Southside Planning District Commission held the two public hearings electronically and live in the Mecklenburg County Supervisors Chambers on June 17, 2020 and July 1, 2020. He stated the SPDC submitted the application for \$550,000 to DHCD on 7/07/20. He stated that once DHCD approves the grant and the funds are secured, eligible businesses can apply online. He stated that the funds will be available on a first- come, first-served basis and the CARES Act funds is not an issue as these funds will have to be used for a different purpose. He stated that each business that qualifies will be able to get up to \$10,000. Town Manager Jones stated that the eligible expenses are any retooling and technology activities in order to conduct business as well as assistance with mortgage payments or rent and utilities since March 12th when the State of Emergency was declared. He stated that the information regarding this program will be on the Town website as well as the Chamber of Commerce site.

NEW BUSINESS

CARES Fund Resolution

Town Manager Jones stated that Mecklenburg County is the administrator for the Federal Cares Funds and the Town's portion is \$102,766. He stated that these funds can be used to reimburse for expenses related to the COVID 19 such as PPE, sneeze guards and construction, remote connectivity and broad band access. He stated that the office will receive guidance from the Treasurer's office. He requested the Town Council approve the CARES Fund Resolution as well as the rules and regulations.

Vice-Mayor Sizemore motioned to approve the CARES Act resolution as well as the rules and regulations associated with the program, seconded by Council member Hite and approved by all.

Renewal of Corp of Engineers Lease

Town Manager Jones stated that the Town has been working with the Corps of Engineers to renew the marina lease early and for a longer period of time. He stated that the Corps of Engineers has agreed to renew the lease to become effective August 1, 2020 until July 31, 2045, for 25 years. He stated that with this longer lease period the Town will be in a better position to bid out the sublease for the Marina for a long-term arrangement. Town Manager Jones stated that the new lease renewal includes the approval by the Corps for the construction of a new bath-house and office building. Council member Hite questioned if the lease had been renewed by the attorney. Town Manager Jones stated that the attorney did make some changes and approves the enclosed document. He stated that the time is near to bid for a marina operator. He stated that as part of the sublease, the Town will construct the new marina facility and the operator will pay the debt. Council member Mulchi questioned if the new lease will change the area of the marina or would it stay the same. Town Manager Jones stated that the marina area will be the same. Town Manager Jones requested the approval of the lease with the Corps of Engineers.

Council member Hite motioned to approve the new lease with the Corps of Engineers, seconded by Council member Pittard, and approved by all.

PER Results & Recommendation – Sewer & Water

Town Manager Jones reminded the Town Council that the Town was awarded a \$30,000 SEARCH grant through Rural Development to study and develop a plan of action to address the issues with the UV System at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and also to formulate a solution for the carbon room at the Water Treatment Plant. He stated that Dewberry Engineers created a preliminary engineering report for both plants and the Utility Committee is making the following recommendations to the Town Council:

1. Approve the PER recommendations for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Water Treatment Plant;
2. Approve for staff to work with Southside Planning District Commission to pursue funding acquisition for the project through Rural Development grants & loans;
3. Approve for staff to work on a plan to develop interim financing for the Design & Engineering portion of the project which is estimated to be \$231,000. The design documents will be needed to pursue the grant and loan funds. The Town can request reimbursement for the interim financing for the Engineering and Design after the grant/loan is awarded.

Vice-Mayor Sizemore motioned to approve the Utility Committee's recommendations, seconded by Council member Pittard, and approved by all.

Old Caroline Street

Town Manager Jones stated that there are issues involving the paper street, Old Caroline Street. He stated that the staff has researched the ownership of the paper street and the history of the area. He stated that back in 2006, the Town Council did not transfer ownership of the paper street, but did grant a resident on 4th Street access for their dock and also to construct a walking path beside the paper street to access the dock. He stated that some concerns and complaints have been voiced. He requested that the Streets & Sidewalks Committee review the issues and bring a recommendation to the Town Council. Council member Pittard asked if VDOT had any dealings with the paper street. Town Manager Jones stated that the street was owned by the Town and not VDOT. Mayor Allgood stated that the Streets & Sidewalks Committee will work with the property owners and address any questions about the issue and bring a recommendation back to the Town Council.

Adjournment

With no further business, Mayor Kevin Allgood adjourned the meeting.

Kevin Allgood, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk