

Minutes

Town Council Meeting

September 11, 2023

The Town Council held its monthly meeting on Monday, September 11, 2023, in the council room of the Town Hall. Those joining the assembly were Brian Laine, Mayor; Oscar E. Parker, III, Council President; Michael Kessinger, Dennis Mason, Darlene Whiting, Brian Wills Council Members; Pat Bowden, Fire Chief; Robyn Croft, Treasurer; Bonita Meyers, Clerk.

Call to order: The mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, leading all those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call and Adoption of Agenda: The clerk called the roll; all members were present except Frances Chamber.

Mrs. Whiting moved to adopt the agenda as presented, and Mr. Kessinger seconded; the Council voted unanimously by raised hands to accept the motion.

Announcements:

Minutes: Mr. Parker moved to dispense with the reading of the August minutes and to approve them as presented; Mr. Mason seconded; the Council voted unanimously to accept the motion.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Croft presented the treasurer's report as follows:

Balance on hand in the General Fund as of August 31, 2023 - \$193,278.05

Bills presented for payment as of August 31, 2023 - \$28,466.30

Mr. Kessinger made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented, Mr. Mason seconded the motion, and the Council voted unanimously by raised hands in favor of the motion.

Citizen Statements: None

Committee Reports:

Fire Department: No Report

Sussex Service Authority: No Report

Airport: An airport committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 26th, at 6:30 pm.

Ballpark/Recreation: The mayor asked Mrs. Croft to buy two metal, round trash cans (40-50 gallons each) for the ballpark as we only had one can left.

Budget/Finance: No Report

Cemetery: The mayor asked Mr. Wills to get a quote for removing the holly trees.

Emergency Services/Safety: Mr. Kessinger reviewed the report from Blue Line Solutions regarding the February traffic study.

Personnel: No Report

Planning Commission: No Report

Property Maintenance: Mrs. Croft, as the Town of Wakefield's representative, attended Civil Court today for the Property Notice of Violations regarding the properties located at 110 Pine St., 127 E. Main St., and 220 E.

Church St. The judge has postponed the decision for an additional 60 days to see if the property owners comply with the requirements.

Streets/Beautification: No Report

Utilities: No Report

Vehicle Maintenance: No Report

Zoning: No Report

Events: Mr. Hellyer provided an update on the final arrangements for the Peanut Harvest Festival that will be hosted by the Town of Wakefield and the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce. The festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 23, 2023, from 5 to 9 pm in the parking lot of the Virginia Diner. Flyers and t-shirts were distributed to all the workers and volunteers, and the Chamber members will be responsible for scheduling the workers for the event.

Legal: No Report

Old Business: No Report

New Business: The Sussex Green Machine Football Program requested a donation of \$50.00 per player for five players from the town. Mr. Kessinger proposed a motion to donate \$250.00 to support these players. Mrs. Whiting seconded the action, and the Council unanimously voted in favor of it by raising their hands.

Executive Session: On a motion by Mr. Parker, the Council moved into Executive Session at 7:43 pm to discuss Investment Public funds under Section 2.2-3711 A.29 of the Code of Virginia. The Council reconvened at 8:42 pm, all members certifying to the best of their knowledge that only lawfully exempted public business matters for which this executive session was called were heard, discussed, or considered in private.

Mr. Parker motioned to accept the Blue Line Solutions contract. Mrs. Whiting seconded the motion. The Council voted unanimously in favor of the contract.

Mr. Wills made a motion to accept Recor's proposal to start the process of purchasing two 500kW parallel generators. Mr. Parker seconded the action, and the Council voted unanimously by raised hands in favor of the motion.

Mr. Parker motioned to have Bobby Thomas of Progressive Engineers and Lane Chambers, Utilities Committee Chair, coordinate the purchase of the generators. Mr. Wills seconded the motion, which the Council unanimously approved through raised hands.

Adjourn: With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Brain M. Laine, Mayor

Bonita JC Meyers

Bonita Meyers, Clerk