

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 20, 2023

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on Thursday, July 20th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Bruce Woerner, Vice-Mayor Danny Pittard, Rick Buchanan, Chris Clarke, Robert Dennis, and Alexander Rawles. Council member Tammy Mulchi was absent. Staff members present were Town Manager Jeff Jones, AP Clerk Lori Humphries, and Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson.

Call to Order

Mayor Bruce Woerner called the meeting to order and provided the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the May 23rd, 2023 regular meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Vice-Member Pittard, seconded by Council member Buchanan, and approved by all.

The minutes of the June 8th, 2023 special meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Dennis, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

The minutes of the June 20th, 2023 regular meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Clarke, seconded by Vice-Mayor Pittard, and approved by all.

Presentation of the List of Vendors

The list of vendors paid for June 2023 was presented to Council. Vice-Mayor Pittard motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for June 2023, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements for February 2023 were presented to Council. Council member Rawles motioned to approve the February 2023 financial statements, seconded by Council member Dennis, and approved by all.

Opportunity for Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation of Town Operation Reports

The Town Operations report was presented to Council.

Town Manager Jones thanked Chief Wilkinson and Public Works Director Terry for all the hard work to prepare the Town for Lake Fest. He also thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the first responders and the State Police for the help with Lake Fest. He informed Council that there were two water leaks on Virginia Avenue and Marshall Drive. He stated that the termite backhoe was repaired and back in service. He stated that from the various storms, there has been increased brush pick up. He stated that the Hwy 15/58 lift station is under repair and the by-pass pump is there until the repair is complete. He stated that the pump issues are being addressed at Rose Hill lift station and Forest Hill lift station. Town Manager Jones stated that confined space training for the staff is planned next week.

Presentation of the Police Activity Report

The Police Activity Report was presented to Council.

Chief Wilkinson stated that the events went well. He stated that National Night Out is August 1st in Chase City and they are joining them for that event. He stated the Officer Jenkins is looking to change the movie nights to August 25th or September 22nd. He stated that Officer Jenkins and Officer Andy Elliott really helped with the preparations for Lake Fest this year. He stated that there are 4 rescue squads coming Saturday and 2 for Sunday. Chief Wilkinson stated that the Clarksville Fire Dept. held a mass casualty training event Monday night and a couple of the officers participated with that event. He stated that all of the officers complete firearms training and Officer Elliot instructed the Narcan training. Chief Wilkinson informed Council that 2 of the 3 flock cameras have been installed. He stated that the cameras help the department track gang activity.

Economic Development Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Tara Tuck could not be here tonight, but there is a handout in the packet. He stated that she is going to make a presentation on the historic downtown steering committee of Patricia Charles, Heather Garnett and herself. He stated that Tara is busy working on updating the Town website and the tourism website.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marina Lease Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the building design is complete. He stated that there has been preliminary approval of the erosion control plan. He stated that VDOT has to approve the 4th Street entrance.

Sewer Plant Improvement Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Rural Development has awarded the Town of Clarksville with additional loan and grant funds to enable the Town to move forward with awarding the sealed bids that were opened May 17th. He stated that the Town received \$2,260,000 in additional grant funds and \$948,000 in grant funds. Town Manager Jones stated that the staff executed the letter of intent to meet the conditions document and the request for obligations to secure the funds awarded. He stated that the Town Council will need to approve the Rural Development loan/grant resolution and award the bids to the contractors, WACO and J. Harman Saunders. He stated that the attached pre-developed minutes for the Sewer Improvement portion have to be approved to meet the letter of conditions. Town Manager Jones stated that the staff will then submit all of the approved document to Rural Development for review and approval so that closing instructions can be released for final signatures and enable the Town to provide the notice and permission to proceed to the contractors. He stated that at the August meeting, the Town needs to hold a public hearing concerning the additional \$948,000 debt, approve the bond resolution, and authorize the Mayor, Town Manager, and the Treasurer to proceed with the execution of the related documents. He stated that no additional interim financing will be needed. He stated that Rural Development has reviewed and approved the bids and the contractors, and Dewberry has received written approval from both contractors to extend the bid proposal date past the 60 days until July 31, 2023.

Mayor Woerner asked for a motion to approve the Rural Development loan/grant resolution. Council member Dennis motioned to approve the Rural Development loan/grant resolution, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Mayor Woerner asked for a motioned to award the bid for the Kinderton Pump station to J. Harman Saunders Construction. Council member Dennis motioned to award the bid for the Kinderton pump station to J. Harman Saunders Construction, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Mayor Woerner asked for a motion to award the bid for the sewer improvement project portion to WACO Inc. Council member Dennis motioned to award the bid for the sewer improvement project portion to WACO Inc., seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Update Search Grant – Water Plant Expansion

Town Manager Jones stated that Dewberry, the Utilities Committee, and Microsoft are working on the water and sewer line replacement part of the project and the pump station upgrades. He stated the design for the water tank farm is 80% complete. He stated that the Hwy 58 bridge utility replacement will take 18 months. He stated that the group will have a kick-off meeting in August and the bid process will begin in June 2024. Town Manager Jones stated that Mecklenburg County and Microsoft are coordinating the final approval for funding for all of the enhancements and expansion projects.

Financial Software Implementation Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the February financial statements are included in the packet. He stated that Treasurer Murphy is working to finish the outstanding months. He stated that Treasurer Murphy will present a plan of action at the next meeting.

Upcoming Events

Town Manager Jones presented the schedule of events. He stated that Lake Fest opening ceremonies is tomorrow night and the event will be a 3-day event this year. He stated that the vendors will be on the street Saturday and on Sunday from 2nd to 5th Streets. He stated that the music will be at the Lake Life Live stage Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and the road will be closed some all weekend.

Planters Warehouse Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the contractor has done some major construction, some rip rap and made storm drainage progress.

Urban Slide Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the County and the Town are working out the final details on the slide event. He stated that the road will be closed on Thursday about 5:30 from 3rd Street down to 2nd Street until Sunday for the slide itself and on Saturday, up to 4th Street will be closed for the staging area.

Fire Truck Update

Town Manager Jones informed the Council that the fire truck is ready. He stated that the check has been cut for the truck and the Town will be reimbursed once Rural Development closes on the loan. He stated that once the check is received, the truck will be delivered.

Cove Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the outstanding grant application with DCR is looking positive.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes/Sewer Improvement Project

Council member Dennis motioned to approve the minutes for the Sewer Improvement project, seconded by Council member Clarke, and approved by all.

Burlington – Brownfield Project

Town Manager Jones stated that the Southside Planning District Commission applied for the Brownfield Project funds for the Burlington site for a Phase I/Phase II environmental study.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Bruce F. Woerner, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk