

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2024

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 20, 2024. Council members present were Mayor Bruce Woerner, Vice-Mayor Danny Pittard, Pat Charles, Chris Clarke, Robert Dennis, and Alexander Rawles. Council member Rick Buchanan was absent. Staff Members present were Town Manager Jeff Jones, Treasurer Tara Murphy, Public Works Director Walter Terry, Public Utilities Director William Leonard, Economic Development Coordinator Tara Tuck, and Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson.

Call to Order

Mayor Woerner called the Town Council meeting to order and provided the invocation.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the July 16th, 2024 Town Council meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Dennis, seconded by Council member Charles, and approved by all.

The minutes of the August 6th, 2024 joint Town Council and Planning Commission meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Vice-Mayor Pittard, seconded by Council member Charles, and approved by all.

Presentation of List of Vendors Paid

The list of vendors paid for July 2024 was presented to Council. Council member Dennis motioned to approve the list of vendors paid for July 2024, seconded by Council member Rawles, and approved by all.

Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements for July 2024 were presented to Council. Council member Dennis motioned to approve the financial statements for July 2024, seconded by Vice-Mayor Pittard, and approved by all.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Presentation of Town Operation Reports

The Town Operations report was presented to Council.

Public Works Director Walter Terry informed Council that the crew made two water connections this month as well as repaired several water leaks. He stated that they borrowed garbage trucks from the neighboring towns while the Town's garbage truck is out of service. He stated that he is working to get quotes for the garbage truck repair. He stated that some other equipment is broken down also such as lawn mowers and dump trucks. Town Manager Jones expressed his thanks for all the work that Walter and the crew have done with all of the events and other issues. Public Utilities Director William Leonard stated that they still continue to perform lift stations maintenance and the crew installed the new pump in the Mill Village lift station.

He stated that the crew continues to work with the contractor on the Waste Plant upgrade. He stated that the crew worked to set up pumps ahead of the storm and the Town had little damage. He stated that they measured the Town received 5" of rain. Town Manager Jones thanked Director Leonard and his crew for the hard work during the storms. He stated that they got very little sleep during the storms taking care of the equipment.

Presentation of the Police Activity Report

The Police Activity Report was presented to Council.

Police Chief Wilkinson stated that Lake Fest had a good crowd before the rain came in and then the people came back in Town for the fireworks. He stated that there were no issues and the fireworks show was very good. He stated that the Urban Slide went well and they had the street open by 10 p.m. He stated that Town Manager Jones is working with VDOT on the town wide speed limit of 25 mph unless otherwise posted. Chief Wilkinson stated that VDOT will get the speed limit signs changed and cover the costs for the new signs. Town Manager Jones stated that he talked with the VDOT representative. He stated that the representative will work with their engineers and submit the request to make the change. Chief Wilkinson presented a preliminary resolution for the Council's review that will be used for the Glen Lawson Memorial. Town Manager Jones stated that once the Council approves the resolution, the resolution will be sent to VDOT for final approval.

Economic Development Update

Tara Tuck stated that she's working to get renewals for the 2025 Virginia Tourism guide and the town received a grant to help offset the cost for the participants in the 2025 edition. She stated that the Southside Transportation Plan Survey is out and so far, Clarksville has had the most participants with the survey. She stated that the LOVE t-shirts are in and on sale at the booth in the Virginia Avenue Mall. Mrs. Tuck stated that the 2025 Brochure has to be reprinted due to a printing error. She stated that the Southern VA Craft Beverage trail launched today and has 11 participant venues from the local area included on the app, the LoyalBrew.com trail app company, and Tina Morgan uploaded the MeckVAMural Trail to the app. Mrs. Tuck stated that the Southern Virginia Craft Micro-Shuttle will be on Fridays only beginning September 13th. She stated that she is working with Halifax County to shuttle folks into Halifax County from Woodbine Winery as the starting and ending point with stops at the Factory Street Brewing for lunch and then to Springfield Distillery. She stated that the cost for the shuttle ride with lunch and 3 tastings is \$40. Mrs. Tuck also stated that she is working with Chris Doss of Occoneechee State Park on the possibilities to bring an 18-hole disc golf course to the park. She reported to Council that she will be attending the Virginia Rural Leadership Institute cohort in Tappahannock September 11-13.

Tara Tuck reported that the Historic Downtown Clarksville (HDC) received a \$60,000 grant for the Small Area Revitalization Project (SmARP) for the Historic Downtown Master Plan consultation. She stated that the RFP will go out in August and the proposals are due back September 19, 2024. She stated that HDC received the \$22,500 Main Street/DHCD Community Vitality Grant for Wayfinding Implementation sign fabrication and installation. She stated that several properties/buildings in the downtown have taken advantage of the Façade Improvement grant match program. She stated that the work continues with the consulting firm for the Wayfinding Assessment on mapping the area and determining the type and the best placement of signage in and around Town. She stated that the application for Phase III has been submitted. She stated that the Bubble UP Clarksville continues on Saturdays at some of the businesses along Virginia Avenue.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marina Building Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the rain has slowed the project some. He stated that the contractor has the concrete flooring done on the first floor. He stated that Dominion will be on site to move the power and the communications will also be moved tomorrow.

Sewer Plant Improvement Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the Town has exhausted the loan funds and began using the grant funds. He stated that the DEQ grant is almost done and the Kinderton part of the project is 95% complete. He stated that WACO has completed the reactor testing and is working to fabricate the blower building. They continue to do repairs to the clarifier and get prices for the muffin monster, and Dewberry has to re-engineer the design to fit the muffin monster. He stated that the UV will be replaced in September and there will be some chlorination process until the UV is back online. He stated that Harman Saunders has slip lined all of the lines and the Town is already seeing help with infiltration. Town Manager Jones stated that Harman Saunders has been testing the pump station and it is almost ready to put in service. Mayor Woerner questioned if there could be any odor with the chlorination and Town Manager Jones stated that he would ask about that.

Update Water Plant Expansion & Distribution System Upgrades

Town Manager Jones stated that Dewberry, the Utilities Committee, Microsoft, and Mecklenburg County continue to work on the engineering and plans for the water plant expansion and the water and sewer line replacement projects that include pump station upgrades and the construction of the water tank farms. He stated that the Lakeside and Boyd's corner pump stations easement work is done. He stated that WACO has completed all of the submittals and has mobilized to start the project in September. He stated that the contractor is grading and leveling the property for the tank farm and forming for tank foundations. He stated that Dewberry is working on the redesign of the Hwy 58 water and sewer lines and will submit them to the Corps of Engineers and VDOT for final approval.

Enterprise Zone

Town Manager Jones stated that he met with Southside Planning District Commission and the other players in the Enterprise Zone program. He stated that currently, the group is taking out areas and adding other areas to include in the zone to make modifications to the zone.

Planters Warehouse Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the contractor has installed the windows and external doors for the residential and commercial side. He stated that the contractor has painted the residential units. Town Manager Jones stated that there are 2 potential interested parties for the commercial space and there has been requests for the residential units also. He stated that the contractor estimates a November 1 completion.

Cove Project - Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Dewberry is moving forward with the full design and hope to have it done by September. He stated that the full design will be used to work with the Corps of Engineers for the permitting process as well as going out to bid.

Calendar of Events

Town Manager Jones presented a list of the upcoming events and the road closure schedule. He recognized all who worked and helped to make Lake Fest a success this year. He stated that the next Lake Life Live is September 1, 2024 and then there will be Harvest Days in October as well as Trick or Treat on the Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS

Audit

Town Manager Jones informed the Council that the FY 2023 audit has been completed and will be presented to Council at the next meeting for approval.

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned after a motion by Council member Rawles, seconded by Council member Charles, and approved by all.

Bruce F. Woerner, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk