

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2025

The Clarksville Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 21, 2025. Council members present were Mayor Bruce Woerner, Vice-Mayor Danny Pittard, Rick Buchanan, Pat Charles, Robert Dennis, and Alexander Rawles. Council member Chris Clarke was absent. Staff members present were Town Manager Jeff Jones, Treasurer Tara Murphy, Public Utilities Director William Leonard, Police Chief Ricky Wilkinson, and Economic Development Coordinator Tara Tuck.

Call to Order

Mayor Woerner called the Town Council meeting to order and provided the invocation. Mayor Woerner asked for a moment of silence in memory of Bill Nunn.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the December 17th, 2024 Town Council meeting were approved with no additions, deletions, or corrections with a motion by Council member Charles, seconded by Vice-Mayor Pittard, and approved by all.

Presentation of List of Vendors Paid

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

Presentation of Financial Statements

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

Vice Mayor Appointment

Mayor Woerner stated that after the election, it is time to appoint a Vice-Mayor for the next two years. He asked for nominations for Vice-Mayor. Council member Dennis motioned to reappoint Danny Pittard for Vice-Mayor, seconded by Council member Buchanan, and approved by all.

Public Comment

Michelle Hector of the Mecklenburg County YMCA stated that the capital campaign raised \$15,000 in funds that will be used for a new stair master and some benches. She stated that they made a sitting area in the Lake Country Education area and will make a coffee area as well to dress it up a little. She stated that January is the "Be Our Guest" month for 7 day passes for people to see what the YMCA has to offer. She stated that Feb. 22nd is the Casino Night and this year is a western theme. She stated that the tickets are \$75 for all gaming, food, and open bar. She stated that they have the Blue Zone, Mediterranean style eating and cooking classes available. She stated that the YMCA has quarterly CPR classes and they are working on the proposed sports complex. She stated that they presented the concept to the County and hopes that they will include support for that project in their next budget.

Town Operation Reports

The Town Operations report was presented to Council.

Public Utilities Director William Leonard stated that Walter Terry's department have been busy with water and sewer line repairs for leaks. He stated that the crew did a great job with the snow removal after that last storm. He stated that both trash trucks are out of service for repairs and they continue with hydrant maintenance. Public Utilities Director William Leonard stated that they continue to perform lift stations maintenance due to issues with the cold weather and also had issues with the water quality due to the cold temperatures. He stated that they did some maintenance at the water booster station placing heaters and wrapping pipes to prevent freezing. He stated that the department renewed the existing Wastewater permit and the public notice will be in the newspaper tomorrow. He stated that the renewal will last until 2030.

Police Activity Report

The Police Activity Report was presented to Council.

Chief Ricky Wilkinson introduced newly hired Officer Tim Duckworth. Mayor Woerner administered the oath of office to swear in Officer Tim Duckworth as a new Clarksville Police Officer. Chief Wilkinson also promoted Officer Wendy Wootton to a Corporal and Officer Darrick Dillon to a Sergeant. He presented each officer with their new badge. He stated that Officers Tim Duckworth and Darrick Dillon completed online VCIN training and Officer Wootton had warrant, affidavit, search and seizure training. Town Manager Jones stated that the letter was sent to VDOT to let them know that the Town would pay the expense for the signs for the Glen Lawson Memorial. He stated that the next issue is that the road extends from Mecklenburg County into the Town and crosses over Halifax County for the part under water. He stated that he has to send a letter to the two counties to get permission to place the signs for the memorial. Town Manager Jones stated that he has received permission from Mecklenburg County and is waiting to hear from Halifax County.

Economic Development Update

Mrs. Tara Tuck stated that the new film debuted in December at Woodbine and short versions of the film will be aired on ABC affiliate WRIC out of Richmond from January to March. She stated that businesses and the Chamber also have short versions to use. She stated that plans are underway for the Southern VA Craft Beverage Friday Micro-Shuttle in the spring. Mrs. Tuck stated that she met with Chris McNamara with DHCD to discuss grant opportunities for mixed-use development of the Gino's building and that there are some new elements available. She stated that the Town website will be ready by the end of January and unveiled next month. She informed the Council that Occoneechee is moving forward with the tournament designated disc-golf course and a Virginia golf-pro will be leading the project. She stated that Clarksville Area Tourism joined VADMO, Virginia Assoc. of Destination Marketing Organizations for the increased networking and information on marketing. Mrs. Tuck informed the Council that the HDC was accepted to the Advancing Main Street program. She stated that the HDC received \$45,000 additional grant funds to be used for the Façade Improvement project and the cap will be \$10,000 match this time. He stated that HDC is waiting on 3 quotes for Gateway signs for the Wayfinding Implementation grant. She stated that the Town received \$60,000 for the Small Area Revitalization Project and Hill Studio was selected for the project. She stated the HDC took over the lampposts decorating as part of Beautification and the next one will be a Spring Lamp Post decorating event. Mrs. Tuck stated the HDC website is underway and completion is slated for late February.

Town Manager Jones stated that being accepted into the Advancing Main Street program is a big win for Clarksville and he thanked the HDC committee for the work to make that possible.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Marina Building Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the contractor is installing the metal roof, external windows, external doors, and continues to finish work on the pillars, decking and concrete floors for the second-floor balcony. He stated that the contractors continue to work on the roof porch overhangs. He stated that the ground level sidewalks, stairs, and walkways are complete. Town Manager Jones stated that the first-floor finish work is in process and the workers have installed the doors and drop ceilings and the power has been activated. He stated that the workers are installing walls, electrical, plumbing, insulation and sheet rock on the second-floor and rooms. He stated that the contractor continues to work on the bathroom and shower areas and the tile and grouting is near completion. He stated that the contractor hopes to complete the first floor by early February.

Sewer Plant Improvement Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the Town exhausted the project loan funds and began using the grant funds. He stated that the DEQ grant funds have also been exhausted, and the new Kinderton lift station part of the project is complete. He stated that currently WACO and the sub-contractors completed installation of the aeration system in the new reactor and the gate-valves. He stated that the contractors are installing the electrical system, Scada system, and the control systems for the blower room. He stated that work continues on connecting the new reactor to the other areas of the plant. He stated that WACO and the sub-contractors continue to work on the round digester and have completed the installation and start-up of the aeration system and it has been certified. He stated that they are waiting on the delivery of the drop leg to complete the work on the round digester. He stated that the Town staff, WACO and the sub-contractors corrected the electrical configuration problems with the digester blowers and have put the square digester back on-line and in production. He stated that the old grit collector air heads have been removed and clean-up of the unit is underway with replacement of the grit collector to follow and the UV replacement will take place towards the end of the project. He stated that the Town staff and Harman Saunders are working on a control system issue at the new Kinderton Pump Station and the pump station remains in operation.

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 WACO completed the preliminary site preparation for Boyd's Corner lift station and continues to work on the access issues for the installation of a pre-fabricated building at the Lakeside pump station site which includes changes to the fencing and the road to allow crane access. Town Manager Jones stated that the piers for the elevated tank are complete and the foundation work is complete, and construction is scheduled for January 2025. He stated that the contractor completed the grading for the property for the tank farm and the perimeter tank foundation steel rebar is installed and they poured the tank slab and the footings and all site pipe work is complete. He stated that installation of the bypass is complete and the meter to finalize the water connection arrived. Town Manager Jones stated that the tank assembly will begin with the roof, then raised and one ring will be installed at a time. He stated that Dewberry continues to work 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.

Cove Project Update

Town Manager Jones stated that Dewberry is still working on the permitting process and easements that will be needed. He stated that he is working with the engineer to meet with the property owners about the project. Ren Hite stated that she has questions and concerns about the location of the docks for the Cove Project. Town Manager Jones stated that the engineers are planning to meet with the property owners to go over the plans.

Planters Warehouse (Royster Project) Update

Town Manager Jones stated that the contractor is finishing the exterior siding, installed windows and doors, and has the commercial space framed. He stated that the contractor installed sidewalks, drop inlets, gutters, rails, stairs, exterior lighting and worked on the site grading. He stated the installation of the HVAC split systems is underway. He stated that contractor continues the installation of the counters, sinks, cabinets, refrigerators, ranges, washer/dryers, dishwashers, and microwaves as well as toilets, sinks, counter tops and tubs. He stated that the contractor and the developer continue to work on the utilities hookups, installing a storm water drainage system for the whole site, is preparing the site for paving and sidewalks have been framed and poured. He stated that Pointe Realty has been contracted to handle the marketing and managing of the leases. Town Manager Jones stated that the developer plans the rentals in phases and getting certificates of occupancy building by building.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Assignments

Mayor Woerner presented his selection for the Town Council committee assignments. He stated that if any Council member wished to discuss the assignments, to get in touch with him.

Closed Session

Mayor Woerner received a motion from Vice-Mayor Pittard that Clarksville Town Council convene in Closed Session pursuant to Virginia State Code section 2.2-3711(A) (1 & 3) to discuss items pertaining to personnel and property, seconded by Council member Dennis, and approved by all.

After ending the Closed Session, Mayor Woerner took a roll call vote, as follows, verifying that Council only considered items that are lawfully exempt from the Freedom of Information Act and only items identified in the motion for the closed session.

Council member Rawles	Aye
Council member Dennis	Aye
Council member Buchanan	Aye
Vice-Mayor Pittard	Aye
Council member Charles	Aye

Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Bruce F. Woerner, Mayor

Tara Murphy, Treasurer/Clerk