

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

March 26, 2024

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held March 26, 2024, and was called to order at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall, 15869 Kings Highway, Montross, VA.

Council Members Present: Terry Cosgrove, Carolyn Carlson, Bobby D. Greene, Aaron Hooks, Joseph P. King, Kathryn S. Wittman, Clinton Watson

Council Members Absent:

Town Manager: Francine G. Taylor

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Cosgrove called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited, and a moment of silence was observed.

APPROVAL PRIOR MINUTES

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the February 27, 2024 meeting. Hearing none, Mr. King, seconded by Mrs. Wittman, made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. The motion unanimously carried.

APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for February 2024. Mrs. Wittman, seconded by Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

REPORTS

TOWN MANAGER

- Mrs. Taylor introduced Matt Tanner of Timely Tech to explain briefly about the newly purchased sound and audio equipment authorized at the February council meeting. Mr. Tanner shared that the equipment will allow for better quality to our streaming outlets, which include Facebook Live and a newly established YouTube Channel, which will allow those watching to do so on their televisions that offer YouTube viewing. There is no cost in the streaming options.
- Meter data: Fran Taylor provided each council member with a personalized report of the water consumption to demonstrate the information available to members of their water usage. The new meter system provides precise and detailed data of consumption to help users understand their usage patterns, and to help detect problem areas, such

as leaks and line breakages.

- Cigarette taxes: Taylor also shared a summary report for our region showing the taxes generated from cigarette sales. In 2023, the Town received \$42,282.47 in revenues.
- Vice-Mayor King asked if there is a plan for disposing of the old meters. Taylor shared that she has already reached out to various sources about disposal options, and will continue to do so.

OLD BUSINESS

- Park project: The mayor shared that the new park sign has been installed and complimented Mr. King on a great design that sets off the entrance of the park. TM Taylor reported that the donor plaques have been sent to the sign company. Taylor also noted the story walk pedestals have arrived, and we will be meeting with region library staff to discuss the layout and book content. The mayor may have a source for digging the post holes once the project commences.
- Audit: Vice-Mayor King asked if there had been any further official correspondence about the status of our audit. Taylor reported that other than a phone call to them for an update, and an introductory visit from one of their auditors who was in the area, there has been no word from them. She will contact them once again for an update. Mrs. Carlson shared that auditors are becoming scarce as fewer companies are doing full blown audits.
- Mrs. Carlson asked about the status for the needed easement to proceed with the parking lot improvements. TM Taylor stated that the town attorney John Hutt has been given the file, and she will once again follow up with him for the status.

NEW BUSINESS

- Mayor Cosgrove mentioned it is time to review the trash contract bidding process. TM Taylor said she would review the steps and begin the process. The mayor also said he wants to stop by to review the businesses paying – or not paying – for business licenses. He feels there may be some who are not registered who need to be contacted.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Mr. Greene thanked everyone for the concern during his recent surgery.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Francine Taylor
Town Manager

Terry A. Cosgrove
Mayor