

**Town of Louisa  
Monthly Meeting  
June 16, 2009**

**Present:** James S. Artz, Mayor; Vice-Mayor Mary Jane Clarke; Matthew L. Kersey; A. Daniel Carter; H. I. Dulaney, Council Members; Ronald M. Maupin, Attorney; Brian W. Marks, Town Manager; Donna L. Pinter, Treasurer; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk; M. Brad Humphrey, Project Manager; Stan Batten, Chief of Police

**Also Attending:** Greg Dorazio, the Central Virginian; Officer Steve Irving, Town of Louisa Police Department; Mrs. Tammy Irving and family

**Absent:** Warren D. Gehle, Council Member.

***All copies including: reports, handouts, and documents can be found following the minutes.***

Mayor Artz called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Council member Kersey gave the invocation.

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council member Kersey made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Discussion/Action: Retirement of Canine Officer Eros**

Mayor Artz read the resolution of retirement aloud to those in attendance. Mayor Artz then presented the resolution to Officer Steve Irving, Eros' handler.

## **A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING THE SERVICE OF CANINE OFFICER EROS LOUISA POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, Canine Officer EROS has served the Town of Louisa as a member of the Louisa Police Department for over 8 years and has done so with distinction; and

**WHEREAS**, during his time of service to the community, EROS assisted in the arrest of numerous criminals, participated in the seizure of over 20 lbs of illegal drugs, and was a faithful partner to Officer Steve Irving; and

**WHEREAS**, EROS eagerly assisted the Virginia State Police and the Louisa County Sheriffs Department when called; and,

**WHEREAS**, EROS, accompanied by Officer Irving conducted numerous school searches with other departments including the Sheriff's Departments of Augusta, Albemarle, Orange, Fluvanna Counties;

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED** that the Council of the Town of Louisa, Virginia regrets the retirement of Canine Officer EROS, but wishes him well with his newly adopted family; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** by the Council of the Town of Louisa, Virginia that this resolution is transmitted to EROS and his partner, Officer Steve Irving and that a copy is entered into the Minutes of Council as an acknowledgement of EROS's hard work and dedication to the Town.

**ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE BY THE LOUISA TOWN COUNCIL ON JUNE 16,  
2009**

Attest

Town of Louisa

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian W. Marks, Town Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
James S. Artz, Mayor

**Discussion/Action: Transfer of Eros and Presentation**

Mayor Artz also read aloud a letter of acceptance signed and dated by Officer Irving stating that the Town of Louisa approved the retirement and sale of Eros to his handler for \$1.00.

Council member Carter made the motion to approve the adoption of Officer Eros to his handler Officer Steve Irving. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

**Resolution to Retire the Police Dog “EROS”  
and transfer him to Officer Steve Irving  
Louisa Town Council June 16, 2009**

WHEREAS, the Town of Louisa is the present owner of a canine known as Eros and in the service of the Town of Louisa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Eros has been in the service of the Town for a period of 8 years, and it is now appropriate for Eros to be removed from service and retired; and

WHEREAS, his current handler is Officer Stephen W. Irving of the Town of Louisa Police Department; and

WHEREAS, Officer Irving has expressed his desire to purchase Eros from the Town upon the retirement of Eros.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Louisa does hereby determine that it is best interest of all to remove Eros from service and effect his retirement; that effective June 16, 2009, Eros is removed from service and retired; and

further, that Officer Irving be permitted to purchase Eros from the Town of Louisa for \$1.00.

Adopted by the Louisa Town Council on June 16, 2009 by unanimous vote.

Town of Louisa

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
James S. Artz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk

**Discussion/Action: Adoption of FY 2009-2010 Budget, Set Tax Rates and Fee Schedule**

Council member Kersey moved to approve the expenditure side of the budget as advertised. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Clarke moved to set the Real Estate tax rate at .166 cent per \$100 as advertised. Council member Kersey seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Carter moved to set the Personal Property tax rate at .71 cent per \$100 and to set the Personal Property tax relief rate at

50% of the assessed value as advertised. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Clarke moved to set the Meals Tax rate at 5.5% as advertised. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Dulaney moved to adopt the unchanged utilities and service rates as advertised. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Kersey moved to approve the vehicle decal rates at \$0 as advertised. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council member Clarke moved to adopt the unchanged Hillcrest Cemetery burial space fees as advertised. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 for.

Council member Kersey moved to approve the revenue side of the budget. Council member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Discussion/Action: Establishment of Change Drawer for Town Treasurer**

Mrs. Pinter requested \$100 for a secondary change drawer which she would use in her office when waiting on customers. Mrs. Pinter added that if Council granted her request, the Clerk, the receptionist, and herself would have their own change drawers and each person would be responsible for proving out at the end of each day.

Mr. Marks stated that he was in favor of the request as it would allow for a cleaner proving out process.

Council member Carter moved to approve a secondary change drawer for the Treasurer's office. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

#### **Discussion/Action: Reinvestment of Town Reserve Funds**

Mr. Marks reported that a couple of CD's would be coming due at Virginia Community Bank on June 18, 2009. Mr. Marks stated that he and the Treasurer had shopped around locally and found that Virginia Community Bank had the best rate. Mr. Marks suggested to Council that they just roll the CD's over for another 15 months.

Council member Clarke moved to reinvest the Town's Reserve Funds with Virginia Community Bank. Council member Kersey seconded

the motion. The vote went as follows: Kersey, for; Carter, Abstain; Clarke, for; Dulaney, for.

## **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Police Department:**

(Please refer to the Police Department report.)

Chief Batten stated he had nothing further to add to his report.

Chief Batten and Council had a lengthy discussion in regards to writing warning tickets. It was decided that warning tickets would be written during a 60-90 day trial period. At the end of the 60-90 day period, Chief Batten would report back to Council.

### **Water & Sewer Department:**

(Please refer to the Water & Sewer Department report.)

Mr. Humphrey stood before Council and read aloud from his report, highlighting areas of interest.

### **Litter Committee:**

No report.

### **Streets & Sidewalks:**

No report.

### **Cemetery:**

Mr. Marks stated that the Cemetery Committee received the second draft of the plans for the columbarium project to review.

#### Personnel Committee:

Mr. Marks reported that the Personnel Committee drafted a recognition and awards policy for employees, and a copy of the draft was included in the packet. Mr. Marks reviewed the draft at length.

Council member Kersey moved to adopt the recognition and awards policy as recommended by the Personnel Committee which would take effect as of July 1, 2009. Council member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

### **REPORTS FROM STAFF**

#### Counsel

No report.

#### Clerk

No report.

#### Treasurer

No Report.

#### Manager

Mr. Marks reported the following:

\*The Louisa County Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting and Picnic will be held on June 18, 2009 at Christopher Run Campground.

\*Due to a lack of interest, the Rotary and Lions Club have cancelled a viewing of "Road Trip to History". Mr. Marks is working with the Historical Society to get enough interest to possibly show the film in the fall.

\*VML will be hosting their annual conference in October in Roanoke this fall.

\*A letter was sent to Bill Janice from the County IDA regarding the local VDOT residency closure.

\*The Chamber of Commerce has converted from a small magazine to an 8 ½ x11 glossy magazine that will be sold over the next two years. The County of Louisa has proposed that the County, the Town of Louisa, and the Town of Mineral jointly purchase the centerfold of the magazine at a cost of \$6000. The County of Louisa is willing to pay \$4000. Mr. Marks stated that it was his understanding that if one of the three did not participate in the purchase of the center fold, the space would be offered to someone else. Mr. Marks also noted that the Town of Mineral is mulling over the idea.

Council member Kersey made the motion to advertise in the Chamber of Commerce magazine along with the County of Louisa and the Town of Mineral at the rate of \$1000. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

\*The Commonwealth Transportation Board sent a letter notifying the town that they had been recommended for a \$265,000 grant for streets and sidewalks. The grant is an 80/20 match.

\*The WWTP bid documents are complete and will be advertised this weekend. Bids will be opened in August. Mr. Donnie Seay will be the inspector for the town.

\*A fiscal year closeout report is included in the packet for Council's review.

\*Mr. Marks recommended the purchase of a new lawn mower for maintaining the grounds at the Town Hall site.

Council member Carter moved to authorize \$7200 for the purchase of a new lawn mower. Council member Kersey seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

\*Mr. Marks reported that the mobile library will be visiting the Town Hall parking lot once a week.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

None.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

Council Member Clarke made the motion to go into Closed Session to discuss one Personnel Matter under section 2.2-3711 A1 and one Matter of Potential Litigation under section 2.2-3711 A7. Council Member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council went into closed session at 8:05 p.m.

### **REGULAR SESSION**

Council Member Carter made the motion to go back in to Regular Session. Council Member Dulaney seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

Council returned to regular session at 8:48 p.m.

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

Council Member Kersey made the motion to certify the closed session. Council Member Clarke seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 4-0 in favor.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Council Member Kersey made the motion to adjourn the June 16, 2009 Louisa Town Council meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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Mayor

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Clerk

### **CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION**

**WHEREAS**, The Louisa Town Council has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 2.2 – 3712 (D) of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by this Town Council and such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council hereby certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion covering the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.

### **VOTE**

**AYES:** Carter, Clarke, Dulaney, Kersey

**NAYES:** None.

**ABSENT DURING VOTE:** Gehle.

**ABSENT DURING MEETING:** None.