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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
August 17, 2021**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessie Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; A. Daniel Carter, Bud Dulaney, John J. Purcell IV, Sylvia Rigsby, Council members; Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel; Elizabeth T. Nelson, Town Manager; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk/Treasurer; Craig Buckley, Chief of Police; John Robins, Project Manager

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Absent: None

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Also in Attendance: Kellye Throckmorton, Administrative Assistant

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

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Mayor Nuckols called the Louisa Town Council meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

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BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

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None.

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CONSENT AGENDA

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Council member Carter made the motion to approve the agenda. Council member Rigsby seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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OLD BUSINESS

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None.

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NEW BUSINESS

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1) Discussion/Action: Special Event Permit Application/Parade Permit Application

Council member Dulaney requested that the bollards be used for the event, if possible.

Council member Dulaney then made the motion to approve the annual special event and parade permits. Council member Rigsby seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

2) Discussion/Action: Ordinance Changing the Date of General Elections for Town Council from May to November

Mrs. Nelson introduced the ordinance change, as voted on by the General Assembly, before Mr. Gore explained to Council that the change was made on the state level and that the town would have to adopt the ordinance as directed.

Council member Dulaney posed questions for clarity on the matter, such as if the change was a mandatory, and also expressed his concerns with how the change may affect local issues.

Mrs. Nelson reported that she had spoken with Chris Watkins, Voter Registrar, about the election changes and how the town would be affected. Mrs. Nelson stated that the town may have to purchase a voting machine, and once she has more information, she will report back to Council.

3) Discussion/Action: Town of Louisa Sewer System Improvements Change Order 4 – Final Reconciliation

John Robins, Project Manager, spoke briefly about the final change order stating that there is approximately \$2000 remaining that needs to be spent.

Mrs. Nelson reported that the funds, per USDA's approval, will be spent sooner rather than later so that they can be accrued back.

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Council member Purcell then made the motion to approve Change Order no. 4. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Water/Sewer Committee

Council member Purcell and Mrs. Nelson reported that they are working on questions for the water relining companies in regards to the upcoming water relining project.

Police Committee

Council member Dulaney briefly reported that the committee met today and discussed: monthly reporting; staffing; and the police department's budget.

STAFF REPORTS

Police:

In addition to the police department's report in the Council packet, Chief Buckley took a moment to note the increase in traffic stops which has had a direct impact on the decrease in accidents in town.

Project Manager:

John Robins gave a brief update on the sidewalk project on West Main Street leading out of town stating the project is moving forward and that the engineers and VDOT will be working on easement acquisition soon.

Legal Counsel:

No report.

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Mayor Nuckols posed two questions to Mr. Gore: how can the town be more proactive in enforcing property owners to clean up their overgrown property; and is there an inoperable car ordinance for the town.

Mr. Gore reported that he will have to do some research on both issues and report back, but some properties may fall into the category of a “public nuisance” which would allow the town to have more enforcement, however there is quite a bit of criteria that has to be met/present in order for a property to be deemed a public nuisance. Mr. Gore stated that he’d look further into both matters and be in touch with Mrs. Nelson.

Clerk/Treasurer:

No report.

Manager:

Mrs. Nelson reported that we were granted loan deferrals from USDA’s Community Facilities (on our buildings), however we were not granted deferrals for the town’s infrastructure loans, and therefore, we have reamortized the loans and will make the first payment in August.

Mrs. Nelson also reported that Tom Leary’s role as a consultant to the town/police department has been deemed very beneficial and staff plans to continue that relationship as the police department continues to seek accreditation.

COMMUNICATIONS

Council member Dulaney posed a question to Mr. Gore regarding filling the vacant positions that remain on the EDA. Mr. Gore referred to the state statute that provides guidance on the matter and stated that we would need to reach out to our state legislators to assist with reducing the number of required members.

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ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Mayor Lassiter made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Council member Purcell seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Mayor

Clerk