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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
May 16, 2023**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessi Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; Danny Carter, John J. Purcell IV, Sylvia Rigsby, Vicky Harte, 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: Tracy Clarke, Executive Director for the Louisa County Chamber of Commerce; Casey Hollins, Secretary for the Chamber of Commerce and Managing Director of Communications and Public Relations for Rappahannock Electric Cooperative

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

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

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Vicky Harte, Council member & town resident, took a few moments to address concerns involving: the need for a solution to the flooding on her property/ in her subdivision; a solution for her property line ownership issue; and the proposed water/sewer bill increase.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Nelson reported that there is an item in the supplemental packet for review and consideration. Mrs. Nelson stated that the

1 Rappahannock ROW easement agreement would fall under New
2 Business as item no. 4.

3
4 Council member Rigsby made the motion to approve the amended
5 agenda. Council member Purcell seconded the motion. The vote
6 went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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8 **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

9
10 **1) Lease of Town Property located at 212 Fredericksburg**
11 **Avenue, Louisa**

12
13 Mayor Nuckols introduced the public hearing. Mrs. Nelson spoke
14 briefly stating that this was the final copy of the lease for the EV
15 charging stations to be located on the town's campus next to the
16 Historical Society. Mrs. Nelson stated that she received a letter of
17 support for the project from the Historical Society.

18
19 Mayor Nuckols then opened the public hearing at 6:07 asking if there
20 was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the lease.
21 Hearing no response, Mayor Nuckols closed the public hearing at
22 6:07 pm.

23
24 **2) Budget Amendment for the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Adopted**
25 **Budget**

26
27 Mayor Nuckols introduced the public hearing. Mrs. Nelson spoke
28 briefly stating that the proposed amendment of \$146,550 to the FY
29 2022-2023 budget is in excess of 1% of the current budget and
30 requires a public hearing per the Code of Virginia § 15.2-2507. Mrs.
31 Nelson stated that the purpose of the amendment is to approve and
32 appropriate revenue to budget expenses for the purchase of a new
33 BAI Municipal Software Server, town hall equipment
34 upgrades/improvements, and contractual services for water and
35 sewer connections and repairs.

36
37 Mayor Nuckols then opened the public hearing at 6:08 asking if there
38 was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the

1 proposed amendment. Hearing no response, Mayor Nuckols closed
2 the public hearing at 6:08 pm.

3
4 **3) Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget, Water and Sewer Rate**
5 **Ordinance and Zoning and Planning Ordinance**

6
7 Mayor Nuckols introduced the public hearing. Mrs. Nelson spoke
8 briefly stating that the proposed budget and fee list for the fiscal year
9 commencing July 1, 2023, the proposed water and sewer rates
10 ordinance, and the proposed zoning and planning fees ordinance
11 have been advertised for public hearing as required by state code.
12 Mrs. Nelson stated that the items will be on the agenda for adoption
13 at the June meeting.

14
15 Mayor Nuckols then opened the public hearing at 6:09 asking if there
16 was anyone present that would like to speak for or against the
17 proposed budget or ordinances. Hearing no response, Mayor
18 Nuckols closed the public hearing at 6:09 pm.

19
20 **OLD BUSINESS**

21
22 **1) Discussion/Action: Rappahannock Electric Communications,**
23 **Inc. – EV Charging Station Host Lease Agreement**

24
25 Mrs. Nelson reported that the lease had received its final review and
26 was included in the packet for Council's consideration.

27
28 For clarification, Council member Rigsby questioned who would be
29 incurring the expenses associated with the project as well as the
30 monthly billing, maintenance, etc. upon completion. Ms. Hollins
31 replied that Rappahannock Electric would be paying those expenses.

32
33 Following the brief discussion, Council took the following action:

34
35 Council member Carter made the motion to approve the lease.
36 Council member Harte seconded the motion. The vote went as
37 follows: Carter, for; Rigsby, against; Purcell, for; Lassiter, for; Harte,
38 for (in favor 4-1).

39

1 **NEW BUSINESS**

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3 **1) Discussion/Action: Musical and Entertainment Festival Permit**
4 **Application – Louisa Arts Center**

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6 Mrs. Nelson referred to the application in the packet before stating
7 that all applications are in accordance with town code; and added
8 that they are waiting for Chief Buckley to conduct a review of all
9 parking and safety plans prior to the events - wherein a final approval
10 will be granted upon the Chief's review.

11
12 Council member Lassiter made the motion to approve the Arts
13 Center's event application. Council member Rigsby seconded the
14 motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

15
16 **2) Discussion/Action: Special Event Application Request –**
17 **Louisa County Historical Society**

18
19 Mrs. Nelson referred to the application in the packet before stating
20 that the Historical Society is planning to hold their annual Juneteenth
21 event on June 17, 2023.

22
23 Council member Lassiter made the motion to approve the Historical
24 Society's event application. Council member Purcell seconded the
25 motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

26
27 **3) Discussion/Action: Resolution to Amend the Town Budget**

28
29 Mrs. Nelson reiterated what she reported during the public hearing
30 stating that the proposed amendment of \$146,550 to the FY 2022-
31 2023 budget is in excess of 1% of the current budget and requires a
32 public hearing per the Code of Virginia § 15.2-2507. Mrs. Nelson
33 stated that the purpose of the amendment is to approve and
34 appropriate revenue to budget expenses for the purchase of a new
35 BAI Municipal Software Server, town hall equipment
36 upgrades/improvements, and contractual services for water and
37 sewer connections and repairs. *(The resolution and spreadsheet of*
38 *funds were included in the packet.)*

1 Council member Purcell made the motion to adopt the resolution to
2 amend the current year budget. Council member Lassiter seconded
3 the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.
4

5 **4) Discussion/Action: Right of Way Easement Agreement –**
6 **Rappahannock Electric Cooperative**
7

8 Mrs. Nelson referred to the agreement and map included in the
9 supplemental packet as she spoke to the nature of what
10 Rappahannock Electric Cooperative is seeking from the town. Mrs.
11 Nelson added that Mr. Gore reviewed the agreement.
12

13 A discussion began between Council and staff wherein a number of
14 questions were asked – several of which were unable to be
15 answered - therefore, Council decided to table the request until more
16 information could be obtained and an updated map could be
17 provided.
18

19 Mrs. Nelson was tasked with reaching out to Rappahannock for more
20 information, and possibly a presentation.
21

22 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**
23

24 No reports.
25

26 **STAFF REPORTS**
27

28 **Police:**
29

30 Chief Buckley reported:
31

- 32 • Tunnels to Towers motorcycle event will take place at the
33 fireman's fairgrounds on Saturday, May 20th. They have
34 approximately 200 motorcycles participating.
35 • The police department received notification that they were
36 awarded \$112,000 in ARPA funds.
37

38 **Project Manager:**

1 Mr. Robins added that he and Mrs. Nelson met with USDA this week
2 to discuss the water project and they are awaiting final plan approval.

3

4 **Legal Counsel:**

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6 No report.

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8 **Clerk/Treasurer:**

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10 No report.

11

12 **Manager:**

13

14 Mrs. Nelson reported:

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- 16 • Hometown Heroes found a new finance partner – the Purple
- 17 Hearts Foundation.
- 18 • A parking sign, designating assigned parking for Purple Heart
- 19 recipients, was provided for Council to view and consider at a later
- 20 date.

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22 **COMMUNICATIONS**

23

24 None.

25

26 **ADJOURNMENT**

27

28 Council member Rigsby made the motion to adjourn the meeting at
29 6:41 p.m. Council member Purcell seconded the motion.

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Mayor

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Clerk

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