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**Town of Louisa
Monthly Meeting
September 17, 2019**

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Present: R. Garland Nuckols, Mayor; Jessie Lassiter, Vice-Mayor; A. Daniel Carter, James S. Artz, Bud Dulaney, John J. Purcell IV, Council members; Jeff Gore, Legal Counsel; Elizabeth T. Nelson, Town Manager; Jessica M. Ellis, Clerk/Treasurer; M. Brad Humphrey, Project Manager

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Absent: None

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Also in Attendance: David Holtzman, The Central Virginian; The Thrasher Group: Sean Kelly, Billy Green, and Robert Milne

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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 6:02 p.m.

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BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

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None.

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CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Nelson reported that a reimbursement request was included in the supplemental packet for discussion/consideration.

Mayor Nuckols added the reimbursement to the agenda under New Business as item no. 3.

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

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PRESENTATION

West Main Street Sidewalk Extension Project – Thrasher

Sean Kelly, Billy Green, and Robert Milne all spoke in turn addressing specific aspects of the project such as: a variance with VDOT in regards to tying in new sidewalk to existing sidewalk in front of Fuzzy Logic on W. Main Street; reducing traffic flow to one lane during construction; implementing a plan that allows emergency vehicles to travel through the construction area safely with priority; and expressed to Council the need for open communication throughout the construction process.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Discussion/Action: Resolution Endorsing the W. Main Street Sidewalk Extension Project Grant Application

Council member Carter made the motion to approve the resolution endorsing the W. Main Street Sidewalk Extension Project Grant Application. Council member Artz seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

2) Discussion/Action: Law Enforcement Accreditation Process

Council member Dulaney spoke briefly about the Law Enforcement Accreditation Process stating that it was something to consider during the next budget cycle after the Chief of Police position has been filled.

3) Discussion/Action: Employee Reimbursement Request

Mrs. Nelson reported that the Finance Committee met recently and discussed the reimbursement request of \$7126.49 presented by previous Chief of Police Randal Skeen.

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2 Mrs. Nelson stated that she and the committee reviewed the receipts
3 and determined that the purchases (totaling \$3626.49) were made
4 during the work week as well as over weekends from June 16, 2018
5 through July 3, 2019, and added that only the cost of labor was
6 provided (\$3500) in the reimbursement request – no labor outline was
7 included.

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9 Mrs. Nelson then reported that the Finance Committee recommended
10 approving only the reimbursement of \$3626.49 for supplies and
11 materials as it appeared that (from dates provided on
12 receipts/invoices) much of the work was done while Mr. Skeen was
13 on duty, not on his own time.

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15 Council member Artz then made the motion to approve the
16 reimbursement of \$3626.49 for the purchase of supplies and
17 materials only, as recommended by the Finance Committee. Council
18 member Lassiter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0
19 in favor.

20 21 **STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

22 23 **Police Matters:**

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25 Council member Dulaney reported that the committee met on
26 September 4th and September 11th to discuss the search for an
27 Interim Chief of Police.

28 29 **Streets & Sidewalks:**

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31 Council member Purcell stated that a meeting has been scheduled
32 for Wednesday, September 25th, 2019.

33 34 **Legal Matters:**

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36 Council member Dulaney reported that he received correspondence
37 from ECode in regards to the town's code update stating the final
38 draft should be ready for Council's review at the end of October.
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Personnel:

No report.

Water and Sewer:

Council member Purcell stated that a meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 2nd, 2019.

Cemeteries:

Council member Artz stated that the committee has not met recently.

Mrs. Nelson requested that the committee get together soon as there have been few questions poised to the Clerk/Treasurer from citizens that need clarification, and noted that there is a need for policy review.

Finance:

Council member Carter referred to the minutes in the packet stating that they had already covered the context of the meeting during the discussion of the employee reimbursement request.

Refuse Collection, Recycling, and Litter Control:

No report.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Police Chief:

(Please refer to the Police Department report.)

Project Manager:

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

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Mr. Humphrey reviewed his report. He had nothing additional to address.

Council member Dulaney took a moment to express concerns with additional traffic on West Street during construction of the sidewalk extension project. He informed the gentlemen of Thrasher of the numerous water leaks over the past several months.

The Thrasher Group responded stating that they have no intension of detouring traffic down West Street, but noted that during construction, people have a tendency to find their own detour to avoid such areas.

Mayor Nuckols then took a moment to revisit a citizen concern regarding water/sewer easements on Patrick Henry Drive and requested an update.

Mr. Humphrey responded stating that he has been researching easements, but did not have a definitive answer at this time as the town owns only a narrow width of property in that area.

Mrs. Nelson stated that the Water and Sewer Committee would be meeting soon and they could discuss the matter further at that time so that the easements can be looked at closer to determine whose responsibility it is to remove the tree(s).

Legal Counsel:

No report.

Clerk/Treasurer:

No report.

Manager:

Mrs. Nelson reported that Robinson, Farmer & Cox have completed the town's audit. She stated that the firm plans to be at the November meeting to give their presentation.

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COMMUNICATIONS

None.

CLOSED SESSION

Council Member Lassiter made the motion to convene in closed session to discuss the following: as permitted by Virginia Code § 2.2-3711(A)(1), to discuss the terms of appointment of the Interim Police Chief. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

Council went into closed session at 6:39 p.m.

REGULAR SESSION

Council returned to regular session at 7:24 p.m.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION

Council member Artz made the motion certifying that, in the closed session just concluded, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information act cited in that motion. Council member Lassiter seconded the motion. The vote went as follows: Carter, for; Artz, for; Purcell, for; Lassiter, for; Dulaney, for (5-0 in favor).

ACTION:

The following action took place after closed session:

Council member Purcell made the motion to appoint Tom Leary as the Interim Chief of Police. Council member Carter seconded the motion. The motion went as follows: 5-0 in favor.

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ADJOURNMENT

Council member Lassiter made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. Council member Purcell seconded the motion.

Mayor

Clerk