

October 2, 2014

Regular Meeting

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel called the regular meeting of the Denton Town Council to order at 7:00 PM on this date leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel asked that the record reflect that three Council members were present and that Mayor Porter was absent due to another engagement and Councilwoman Lightner was ill.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 4, 2014 regular meeting, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Public Hearing

None

Petitions, Remonstrance's and Communication

Proclamation – Charles Bennett

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel read a proclamation expressing the Town's appreciation to Mr. Charles G. Bennett of Boomer's Process Service, Inc. for his diligence in serving civic citations and documents expeditiously and successfully for the Department of Planning and Codes.

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the proclamation, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Board and Committees

Maryland Municipal League

Councilman Branson and Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided an overview of the Maryland Municipal League's Fall Conference that they recently attended.

County Tax Differential Meeting

Mr. Mulrine, and the Town Attorney, Mr. Chris Drummond, provided an update on the recently held Tax Differential Meeting between Caroline County and Municipalities.

Unfinished Business

Agenda #1- Health Benefits Enrollment

Staff provided an overview of the State Health Benefits Open Enrollment options for Town Employees and rates for coverage beginning January 1, 2015 to seek direction from the Council on the employee cost share contributions with enrollment beginning October 15.

Discussion was also held pertaining to reducing or eliminating the Town's contribution for Council members. Mr. Drummond will research.

Councilwoman McNinch made a motion to leave the employee cost share as is, seconded by Councilman Branson. The motion past 2-1 with Councilman Clendaniel voting No.

New Business

Agenda #1 – Payroll Services Proposal

Staff researched payroll processing services and presented proposals to the Council. Staff asked for consideration to enter into an agreement with Real Time

Accounting Solutions to begin servicing the Town payroll processing needs at the end of the calendar year.

Councilman Branson commended staff for seeking ways to save on operating cost.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve entering into an agreement with Real Time Accounting Solutions, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Agenda #2 – Sweetly Made Bakery Lease Renewal

The Lease for Sweetly Made Bakery, St. Benedictine School, is coming up for renewal; seeking approval for a 2 year extension.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the lease renewal, seconded by Vice-Mayor Clendaniel, passing unanimously.

Agenda #3 –Denton Police Dept. New Computer

Chief Cox explained they are still researching options for a new computer to store body camera video footage and asked to defer action on this item until the next meeting.

Miscellaneous (items added to the agenda)

Lily Pad Business Loan Modification

Mr. Mulrine received a request seeking approval to reduce the interest rate on the Lily Pad loans from 5% to 3% to give the Owner the ability to work within her means to replace the roof on the building.

Councilwoman McNinch made a motion to approve the loan modifications, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Caroline County Historical Society

Mr. Mulrine announced the Caroline County Historical Society is seeking a letter of support from the Town for a loan they have been granted to replace art within the museum.

Councilman Branson made a motion to provide a letter of support as requested, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Tourism

Councilwoman McNinch shared that Mayor Porter would like to request to have the County Tourism Memorandum of Understanding placed on the November agenda for discussion.

810 Market Street

Mr. Joseph Amalfitano acquired 810 Market St., and requested support to change the dwelling back to two-unit apartments instead of single family.

Council members expressed how they would like to support, but was not sure of restrictions.

Mr. Drummond will research.

Councilman Branson made a motion to forward to the Planning Commission to review, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Banner City

Councilwoman McNinch mentioned that the 4th Grade Teachers would like to have the Town come present information about Municipal Governments to the students, and asked if any Council members are interested in participating to follow up with her.

Sharp Road Park

Councilwoman McNinch mentioned that the Mayor, Town Administrator and herself met with the Choptank Athletic Association and several other sports groups

looking to establish additional practice fields. There is a great need for additional fields but a lack of funding.

Boat Ramp Fees

Councilwoman McNinch mentioned that Mayor Porter would like to request to have the Boat Ramp Fees placed on the November agenda for discussion.

What's New Shop

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel mentioned that the What's New Shop recently celebrated 33 years in business.

Political Signs at the HASP Building

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel questioned if an Ordinance can be drafted to limit the number of political signs being placed at the HAPS building for early voting.

Mr. Drummond stated that signs placed in the right-of-way can be controlled, and he will research to see if they can be controlled if they are a safety issue.

Third Street Basketball Court

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel received a suggestion from Vickie Goldsborough to see if the basketball courts at N. Third and Lincoln St. can be open later, instead of closing at 5PM.

Mr. Mulrine said when the court is ready for public use, the hours could be set to close at dusk to be consistent with other parks.

October Working Session

Mr. Mulrine mentioned there is a conflict with holding the October working session on the 16th as it is the same night as the Eastern Shore of Association meeting that Council members are encouraged to attend. The Council agreed to change the working session meeting date to be October 30, 2014 at 6 PM.

New Town Hall

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on the New Town Hall renovations, and announced plans to relocate the offices within the next two weeks.

With no further discussion, Councilman Branson made a motion to close the meeting at 8:17 PM, seconded by Councilwoman McNinch, passing unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer