

November 5, 2015

Regular Meeting

Mayor McNinch 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.

Mayor McNinch asked that the record reflect that all Council members were present with the exception of Councilwoman Lightner.

Councilman Clendaniel asked to have a clause removed from the October 1, 2015 minutes on Page 3402 – where it stated that Mr. Mirabile was “a resident of two years”.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 1, 2015 as amended, and the October 22, 2015 Working Session minutes as presented, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Councilman Porter arrived at 7:04 PM.

Public Hearing

None

Petitions, Remonstrance’s and Communication

Proclamation – MML Banner City 2016

Mayor McNinch read and proclaimed November 2015 as “Municipal Government Works Month”.

As part of the Town working towards maintaining its Banner City Designation, the Mayor and Town Administrator will be speaking to the 4th Graders at Denton Elementary School next week about Municipal Government and encouraging the Students to participate in the upcoming “If I Were Mayor Essay Contest”.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution #821- Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement

A Resolution of the Town of Denton adopting the Maryland Municipal Public Works Association Public Works Mutual Aid Agreement. Mr. Donald Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided some highlights of the agreement.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to adopt Resolution #821, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Resolution # 822 - Public Works Equipment Purchase

This item was moved to new business.

Resolution #823 – Habitat for Humanity Operation Assistance Grant

A Resolution of the Town of Denton supporting Caroline Co. Habitat for Humanity’s application and receipt of funds for technical assistance for design, survey work, and technical needs for the Gay Street Project titled “Together We Stand – Denton / Aging in Place Development”.

Mr. William Clemens, Director of Caroline County Habitat for Humanity, provided an overview of the proposed grant application.

Councilman Porter made a motion to adopt Resolution #823, seconded by Councilman Clendaniel, passing unanimously.

Resolution #824 – Habitat for Humanity Operation Assistance Grant – ReStore Startup

A Resolution of the Town of Denton supporting Caroline Co. Habitat for Humanity’s application and receipt of funds for non-profit assistance for startup costs for a ReStore in Denton.

Mr. Clemens gave an overview and shared their goals to seek funding to start up a ReStore in Denton. CCHFH will network together with Rebuilding Together to help the community.

Councilman Branson made a motion to adopt Resolution #824, seconded by Councilman Porter, passing unanimously.

Mayor McNinch thanked Mr. Clemens for all that Habitat for Humanity does for the Town.

Resolution #825 – CL FY2016 Grant – Crouse Park Visitor Center

A Resolution of the Town of Denton approving the application and receipt of Community Legacy financing for FY2016 in Denton to be used for the Crouse Park Visitor Center.

Mr. Mulrine gave an overview of the project and grant application goals.

Mr. Richard Colburn, of the Maryland Dept. of Agriculture and former Senator, spoke on behalf of the project, stating that after working on this project for over 13 years he would like to see it come to fruition.

Mr. JOK Walsh, resident of 12 N. 2nd St., and President of the Denton Development Corporation, also spoke on behalf of the project. Mr. Walsh provided some history on the Visitor Center and stated that it will encourage small business development, which is the key to success for the downtown.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to adopt Resolution #825, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Board and Committees

Mr. Mulrine shared information about: The upcoming State Highway Administration meeting and the Caroline County Tax Differential submission that is due in December.

Mr. Mulrine also mentioned that the Public Works Dept. is in the process of acquiring the John Deer grounds maintenance equipment, as was previously approved in the adopted budget. The cost came in less than \$5K.

Mayor McNinch announced that Councilman Branson and her recently finished taking the Academy of Excellence Courses, and encouraged other Council members to enroll.

Mayor McNinch shared highlights from the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference that she and several other recently attended.

Mr. Mulrine shared highlights from the Annual LGIT meeting that the Clerk-Treasurer and he recently attended. Staff will be implementing LGIT's new free online training program.

Unfinished Business

Agenda #1- Downtown Denton Main Street (DDMS) Insurance Update

Mr. Steve Konopelski of 119 Gay St., Business Owner of the Turn Bridge Point, came to follow up on questions pertaining to Insurance coverage from last month's meeting.

Mrs. Karen Monteith, Clerk-Treasurer, shared information obtained from LGIT; indicating that the DDMS can apply to see if they qualify to be considered a Sponsored Entity. If the DDMS qualifies, this may save some cost on their annual insurance premium. Information was also provided on how to obtain Special Event Coverage, which presently runs about \$75 per event.

Mayor McNinch suggested for Staff to see if the funds budgeted for the DDMS could be used to acquire the necessary insurance.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to allocate up to \$2,500 for DDMS and to assist them to apply for a LGIT sponsorship. The motion was seconded by Councilman Porter, passing unanimously.

Mayor McNinch added that the Council is very grateful for the volunteers that are putting in countless hours to better the downtown.

Agenda #2 – Crouse Park MOU with SHA

Mr. Mulrine presented an Amended Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and State Highway Administration as it pertains to the Crouse Park Visitor and Heritage Center.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the MOU, seconded by Councilman Porter. In discussion: Mr. Chris Drummond, Town Attorney, stated that he has reviewed and approved the MOU as presented.

With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Fire Siren Petition

Councilman Porter provided an update on the Fire Siren Petition concerns that were submitted last month. Councilman Porter indicated that the Denton Volunteer Fire Dept. is reviewing for consideration to mitigate changes to reduce the cycling; also waiting on the Caroline County Dept. of Emergency Services to review.

Mayor McNinch and Mr. Mulrine have met with Mirabile and provided an update.

New Business

Agenda #1 – Water & Sewer Allocation

Mr. Timothy Barila submitted a request for approval for one (1) water and sewer allocation on behalf of Federalsburg Square LLC, for Caroline Apartments. This ERU is for the addition of a community center at Caroline Apartments.

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the allocation for 1 ERU, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #2 – Denton Police Dept.

Chief Cox came before the Council seeking approval to purchase two Stalker II Stationary Radar for \$3,025 with funding from CIP-Capital Improvement Program Fund.

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the purchase using CIP Funds, seconded by Councilman Clendaniel. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution # 822 - Public Works Equipment Purchase

Mr. Mulrine asked the Council for approval to purchase a 2015 Boss 9' steel super duty snow plow for replacement on Truck #44, as was originally included in the budget: cost \$6,001.

Councilman Branson made a motion to buy the snow plow as presented, seconded by Councilman Porter, passing unanimously.

Agenda #3 - Publicized Meetings

Mrs. Mary Fowler, of 508 Market St., previously requested an opportunity to discuss having the Town's meetings on closed circuit television or on You-Tube for the residents who cannot make the meetings.

Mrs. Fowler was not in attendance.

Mr. Drummond provided an overview of what is required by law; stating that the current voice recording is sufficient. Discussion continued on what the pros and cons of video-taping might be. Whether there is an easy way to do it without adding cost to an already tight budget.

Mr. Mulrine will query MML to see what other Towns are using.

Miscellaneous

Mr. Mulrine announced that Mr. Dave Dalstrom will be speaking at the next Planning Commission Meeting on Nov. 24, 2015 regarding Maryland Growth and changes to the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Dalstrom will also be speaking at the Caroline County Association of Town's meeting on Dec. 16, 2015.

Mr. William Jesmer, of 700 Gay St., approached the Council, seeking to address any concerns they may have with regards to the property.

Mr. Drummond mentioned to the Council that Mr. Jesmer is due in Court on December 2, 2015 regarding this property and that Mr. Jesmer has also obtained an Attorney.

Mayor McNinch expressed to Mr. Jesmer that the Council does not have any comments at this time, and recommended to let the Attorney's handle this.

Mayor McNinch recognized Mr. Dean Danielson, candidate for Town Council who was in the audience, and thanked him for his continued interest for the Town.

Mayor McNinch also recognized and congratulated the newly Councilman Elect, Mr. Dallas Lister. Staff was instructed to start sending agenda packets and items to Mr. Lister.

Mr. Mulrine announced an advertisement for vacancies on the Board of Appeals, Planning Commission, and Business Loan Review Committee will appear in the Sunday paper, seeking letters of interest from those who would like to serve on a Town Board.

Mrs. Jinhee Hildwine, of 1105 Honey Suckle Drive, questioned why there was not any articles on the candidates prior to the election and suggested there be a candidate forum held for the next election.

Mayor McNinch recommended having the Candidate BIO's placed on the Town Website in the future.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch adjourned the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*