

**Town of Dublin
Council Minutes
March 18, 2021**

The Town of Dublin held its monthly meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Benny Skeens, Council members present: Vice-Mayor Steve Crigger, Dallas Cox, Debbie Hager, Edith Hampton and Debbie Lyons. Others present: Town Attorney Samuel Campbell, Town Manager and Clerk of Council Tyler Kirkner, Administrative Assistant Deanna Marshall, Chief of Police Dennis Lambert, Sergeant David King, Superintendent of Utilities Darrin Cullip, Utility employees Michael Bowers, Earl Hagee, Treasurer Rebecca Wright and guest.

Call to Order

Vice-Mayor Crigger welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dallas Cox led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Vice-Mayor Crigger asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the February 23, 2021 minutes. There being none Edith Hampton made a motion to accept the minutes. Debbie Lyons seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

All were in favor.

Reports of Officials

Darrin Cullip stated there were three buildings ready to be switched over to AEP and then the substation can be shut off. VDOT has sent the road list off to gather information to see how much per lane mile and how they qualify through the system. There are ten large meters that go

to businesses that need to be changed out. Mr. Kirkner gave a presentation on a recent water issue and repair located at underpass Exxon and Pepper's Ferry.

Committee Reports

NRV Airport Commission

Dallas Cox stated this was his first meeting and he has been going over the yearly budget. They are advertising for a new manager and looking at several new upcoming projects.

Pepper's Ferry Regional Wastewater Treatment Authority

Steve Crigger stated the authority is trying to figure out how Phase II is going to work. Mr. Kirkner stated they did decide to proceed with Phase II which is the implementation side of sulfate issues. The Town of Pulaski and James Hardy are working together on a grant to add to capacity which could have a positive impact on sulfates. The paying of Phase II has not been decided,

Virginia's First Regional Industrial Facility Authority

Debbie Lyons stated she, Tye and Edith meet March 10th at the Competitiveness Center for Virginia's First monthly meeting. Mike Solomon, Executive Director introduced the new manager Tori McNiff. Invitations have been sent for a luncheon to discuss what the area has to offer.

NRRA

Mr. Kirkner stated Peggy Hemmings resigned her position for NRRA and if it was Council's pleasure he would serve as the new board member.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

New Business

Appointment of new Council member to fulfill Peggy Hemming's term

Mr. Kirkner stated Ms. Hemmings resigned her position on February 26, 2021 and her resignation was accepted by Mayor Skeens on March 1, 2021. The Town of Dublin Charter states in Section 4.2 "Vacancies in the Council shall be filled within 30 days, for the un-expired terms, by a majority vote of the remaining members. In the event of failure to so fill any vacancy within the time specified, the same shall be filled by appointment of the circuit court of

Pulaski County.” If appointed by the council at this March 18th meeting, the new Council member may be sworn-in after the Council session is complete, but he/she should not sit, participate, or vote as a council member at the March 18th meeting. The newly appointed Council Member will serve a portion of Ms. Hemming’s remaining term until a special election is to be held on November 2, 2021. The elected candidate will then serve out the balance of Ms. Hemming’s term through June 30, 2024. The Mayor has requested that the Council Members bring any individual’s name that is qualified and willing to serve to the attention of himself or the Town Manager. A petition has been filed for a special election. Staff recommends that the Council elect a new Council member to fulfill Ms. Hemming’s un-expired term with the understandings stated above.

Mr. Campbell stated there is a quorum with all incumbent members present to vote with three affirmative votes for any particular candidate for selection. If there is a split vote, three votes carry and if there is a tied vote the Mayor will vote. The Circuit Court has entered A Writ for Special Election, the special election will be held on November 2, 2021 and whomever is appointed tonight will serve until the election. If that person wants to continue in the decision, then that person will have to qualify as a candidate, run in the election and win the election. That person will fill out the original four-year term which may run until June 30, 2024.

Vice-Mayor Crigger opened the floor for nominations and asked if there were any recommendations of Council candidates to be brought before Council tonight. Debbie Lyons made a motion to recommend Wayne Seagle. Edith Hampton seconded. Dallas Cox moved the nomination be closed.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

All were in favor.

Selection of Appointments

Mr. Kirkner for appointment to the NRRA Board to complete the term of Peggy Hemmings through December 31, 2021 Resolution

Vice-Mayor Crigger stated where as Mr. Kirkner has been actively involved in the Town of Dublin affairs as they pertain to the NRRA, he recommended that Mr. Kirkner be appointed to

the NRRRA Board to complete Ms. Hemmings term. Edith Hampton made a motion to appoint Mr. Kirkner. Debbie Lyons seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

All were in favor.

Mr. Kirkner as Alternate to Pepper's Ferry

Mr. Kirkner stated the October 15, 2020 minutes reflected Council member Dallas Cox was appointed as the Town of Dublin's alternate representative on the Peppers' Ferry Board and it was Council's original intent for Mr. Kirkner to continue as the alternate. Mr. Kirkner recommended a motion be made to rectify this issue. Mr. Kirkner read a resolution (attached). Dallas Cox made a motion to appoint Mr. Kirkner. Debbie Lyons seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

All were in favor.

Mrs. Lyons Selection to REMSI Board to replace Peggy Hemming's term

Vise-Mayor Crigger stated currently that Debbie Lyons is the alternate. Edith Hampton made a motion to appoint Debbie Lyons as the REMSI Board member. Debbie Hager seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Abstain

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

Vote: 4-Yes; 1-Abstention

Closed Session: Consultation with Legal Counsel Section 2.2-3711 A (8)

Vice-Mayor Crigger entertained a motion to go into closed session per Code of Virginia Section §2.2-3711. Titled “Closed meeting authorized for certain limited purposes”. Dallas Cox made a motion to enter into closed session. Debbie Lyons seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

All were in favor.

Upon re-entry Vice-Mayor Crigger entertained a motion to call the meeting back to order per Code of Virginia Section §2.2-3712 D. Titled “Closed meeting procedures; certification of proceedings”. Debbie Lyons made a motion that only those items listed were discussed. Edith Hampton seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Yes

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Yes

Edith Hampton Yes

Mayor Skeens Yes

All were in favor.

Notice of Proposed Real Property Tax Increase (information)

Mr. Kirkner stated that Council had in their packets a “Notice of Proposed Real Property Tax Increase”. There will be a Public Hearing Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers (notice attached). This increase is based on the new County Real Estate Assessments.

Budget Update

Contracts in Progress (CIP)			General Fund		Enterprise Fund	
	Month Reporting		Revenue	Expenditures	Revenue	Expenditures
8	2/28		56%	59%	74%	68%
	Estimated	67%	67%	67%	67%	68%
			11%	8%	-7%	0%
			Below Rev..	Below Exp..	Above Rev.	Above Exp.
Comments						

Regional Jail Water Savings Efforts and Impact

Mr. Kirkner gave a presentation on water usage at the NRV Jail. Water usage is down at the facility due to conservation efforts. The reduction has had a considerable impact on water and sewer revenues.

Industrial Park Update/Building 112

Mr. Kirkner stated the heat is now running in the front section of the building. Water and sewer is into the building. Work has begun on the loading dock. Todd Lewis is looking at May as the opening date.

Brownfield opportunities

Mr. Kirkner stated he and Edith are meeting Monday to work on the Brownfield proposal, which has to be submitted by April 1, 2021. Proposals are non-binding and Mr. Kirkner recommend that we should apply.

Great News!

Mr. Kirkner stated the town has spent over \$198,000 on electrical repairs but will be receiving an insurance payment to cover \$198,000 of the repairs. The Town may be potentially receiving stimulus funds of \$2.3 million. If the funds become available there would be 4 conditions for use of the monies.

Things "Well done" by staff and departments

Mr. Kirkner stated the Utility Department will be receiving the "Well done" this month.

Vice-Mayor Crigger asked everyone to take a moment of silence for the passing of Russ Gwaltney. Russ had served as Chief of Police for the Town in our past.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Debbie Lyons stated she was on the Tourism Advisory Board and they met last week. Peggy White is the Director and they conducted a contest of 20 questions about Pulaski County with the prize being \$1,500 worth of media advertising. Mrs. Lyons stated she won and the town will receive the money in advertising credit.

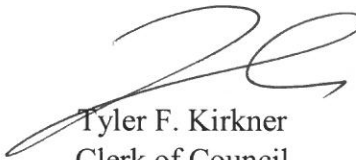
Swearing in for Boards/Council

Mr. Kirkner asked for Council to stay after the meeting to participate in the swearing in ceremony.

Chief Lambert stated the Police Department would be holding the annual Drug Take Back on April 24th at CVS from 10 am to 2 pm. Also, March is Mental Health month and the department has fielded numerous calls. There has been an increase in mental health because of the COVID.

Vice-Mayor Crigger adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Tyler F. Kirkner
Clerk of Council