

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

April 23, 2019

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Joseph P. King, Terry A. Cosgrove, Jesse R. Ault,  
Carolyn Carlson, Bobby D. Greene, Robert L. Barker

Council Members Absent: Clinton A. Watson, Jr.

Town Manager: Patricia K. Lewis

Water Works Operator:

### REGULAR MEETING

Mayor King called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

### MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The pledge of allegiance was recited and a moment of silence was observed.

### PRESENTATION OF RESOLUTION

Mayor King presented retiring Lieutenant William “Bill” England, Jr., with a resolution. Each council member commended Lieutenant England for his commitment to the county and town and thanked him for a job well done.

### APPROVAL PRIOR MINUTES

Mayor King asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the March 26, 2019 regular meeting. Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 26, 2019 meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

### APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mayor King asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for March 31, 2019. Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Mr. Ault, made a motion to approve the financial reports for March 31, 2019. The motion was unanimously carried.

### REPORTS

#### TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Lewis reported that there was a water break on March 27, 2019 in front of the Washington & Lee Motel.

Mrs. Lewis reported that Charlie Riedlinger with Resource International met with Doug Norris on April 3, 2019 to get needed information regarding the town’s water system for the preliminary engineering report his firm is preparing.

Mrs. Lewis reported that she spoke with VDOT's George Bowman. Mr. Bowman indicated that they would be in town sometime in May to repair the roads.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Lewis reported that the Fall Festival Committee met on April 18, 2019. This year's theme is "Honoring Our Hometown Heroes" and all who have served in the military and those who are currently serving will be the Grand Marshals.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mayor King reported that Bobby Reamy's term on the Planning Commission would expire on May 31, 2019 and that Mr. Reamy would like to retire from serving on the commission. David Lawrence Smith, a new town resident, would like to serve on the commission. Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Mr. Barker, made a motion to appoint David Lawrence Smith to the Planning Commission. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to have a resolution prepared commending Mr. Reamy for his service on the Planning Commission. The motion unanimously carried.

Mayor King reported that Charles E. Stuart's term on the Board of Zoning Appeals ends June 30, 2019, and Mr. Stuart has agreed to continue. Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Mr. Greene, made a motion to recommend Mr. Stuart's appointment to the judge. The motion was unanimously carried.

Mayor King stated that, at the March 26, 2019 meeting, a motion was made to transfer \$25,000 of the General Fund surplus to Economic Development. However, the town does not have an economic development encumbrance fund. Mrs. Lewis suggested opening a new encumbrance account dedicated to economic development and transfer the surplus to that account. Mr. Ault, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to amend the motion previously adopted by adding the words "a new encumbrance fund dedicated to," more specifically to read "move \$25,000 of the General Fund surplus to a new encumbrance fund dedicated to Economic Development,..." Mayor King asked for a roll call vote: Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Cosgrove, aye; Mr. Ault, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Mr. Greene, aye. The motion to amend unanimously carried.

Mayor King stated that there was discussion regarding changing the Town Code relating to real property tax at the March 26, 2019 meeting and that the topic was tabled. The topic was also discussed at the December 1, 2018 joint work session regarding the comprehensive plan. The current code allows town council to assess real estate taxes as may be required to provide for the needs and purposes of the town; provided, however, that the tax rate shall not in any year exceed ten percent of the real estate tax rate fixed by the county board of supervisors for the preceding calendar year. The proposed amendment would delete "the tax rate shall not in any year exceed ten percent of the real estate tax rate fixed by the county board of supervisors for the preceding calendar year." Mayor King stated that the change would put council in a position to be prepared going forward and that it would make it easier if the town did have to raise taxes. Mr. Greene asked if the amendment was generated from the comprehensive plan goals and objectives work session. Mayor King stated that it was. After further discussion, Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Carolyn Carlson, made a motion to have a public hearing at the May 28, 2019 Town Council meeting for the proposed amendment to Chapter 54, Sec. 54-31, Establishment of tax rate; tax assessment. The motion was unanimously carried.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Cosgrove stated that the First Friday Music Series event will kick off on May 3, 2019.

Mr. Greene stated that Ruritans would be selling strawberry shortcake at the June First Friday event.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

BUDGET WORK SESSION

Mayor King asked Mrs. Lewis if she would review the proposed budget for fiscal year 2019-2020. Several line items were discussed and questions were answered by Mrs. Lewis. The public hearing on the budget will be held at the May meeting.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Mr. Greene, made a motion to adjourn to closed session for Personnel Matters for Employee Evaluations Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1). The motion was unanimously carried.

REGULAR SESSION

Council returned to regular session at 9:08 p.m. Mr. Cosgrove, seconded by Mr. Greene, made a motion certifying only Personnel Matters for Employee Evaluations Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(1) were discussed. Mayor King asked for a roll call vote: Mr. Greene, aye; Mr. Barker, aye; Mrs. Carlson, aye; Mr. Cosgrove, aye; Mr. Ault, aye. The motion was unanimously carried.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

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Patricia K. Lewis  
Town Manager

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Joseph P. King  
Mayor