

## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

September 24, 2019

The regular meeting of the Montross Town Council was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Council Members Present: Terry A. Cosgrove, Carolyn K. Carlson, Bobby D. Greene, Robert L. Barker

Council Members Absent: Joseph P. King, Clinton A. Watson, Jr., Jesse R. Ault

Town Manager: Patricia K. Lewis

Water Works Operator:

### REGULAR MEETING

Vice Mayor Cosgrove 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.

### APPROVAL PRIOR MINUTES

Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes from the August 27, 2019 regular meeting. Mr. Greene, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 27, 2019 meeting. The motion was unanimously carried.

### APPROVAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked if there were any additions or corrections to the financial reports for August 31, 2019. Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs. Carlson, made a motion to approve the financial reports for August 31, 2019. The motion was unanimously carried.

### REPORTS

#### TOWN MANAGER

Mrs. Lewis said she and the Fall Festival Committee have been extremely busy finalizing things. She stated has also mailed real estate tax bills.

Mrs. Lewis reported that she had a visitor from the U.K. who was an intern in the area learning about agriculture.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Lewis stated the next Fall Festival meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Mrs. Lewis reported that the Northern Neck Planning District Commission called those who have not responded to the income survey. They left messages on answering machines and some asked that the survey be sent to them again as they had misplaced it. She reported that as of September 24, 2019, the Northern Neck Planning District Commission has received 115 responses. We need at least 25 more. Mr. Jerry Davis told her that, with the results they have thus far, the Town would qualify for more favorable financing.

Mrs. Lewis stated that Jerry Davis provided her with a list of those who have not responded. She stated she would be calling those who have not responded and would like the assistance from Town Council to help make calls as well.

Vice Mayor Cosgrove encouraged Council to take a look at the list that Mr. Davis provided. He stated he didn't think it violates anyone's right to privacy. It is simply names that have not responded to the survey. It is his thought that, as a council, it would be better talking to people that they know rather than cold calling or talking to someone they don't know. He stated that Council and the Town Manager will never see the financial information provided by the citizens of the Town that send in the survey. He stated that the Council's goal is to negotiate the best opportunity for grants and low interest loans.

### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Steve McKeever, Resident Engineer for the Virginia Department of Transportation, was in attendance to answer questions that Council may have.

Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked Mr. McKeever if he could provide an update regarding the safe passing zones between the Town and the 301 intersection. Mr. McKeever stated he has not worked directly with that and that it may have been discussed before he came to this area. Vice Mayor Cosgrove stated it had been a while ago that there was discussion on widening Route 3 between the Town and King George, but that VDOT found it unwarranted. Mr. McKeever stated that there is one that is still in design and that is near Potomac Mills. Mr. McKeever stated that project is going to go to construction and is fully funded.

Vice Mayor Cosgrove stated that a concerned citizen spoke at last month's Town Council meeting regarding the crosswalk near Angelo's. Vice Mayor Cosgrove stated that VDOT had put up the flashing light, additional signage and arrows. He stated he wasn't sure what else VDOT could be done. He also stated that citizens still seem to have a concern with crossing there. They feel like it is a blind curve if you are going from west to east, even with the flashing light there. Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked Mr. McKeever if he hears any pushback on that. Mr. McKeever stated that he read an article about the last meeting. He stated that there is one citizen that keeps making a suggestion about putting an additional flashing light around the corner. Mr. McKeever stated they have no intention of doing that. He stated it is not going to improve the existing condition. He stated that they talked about a couple of times at the Board of Supervisors meetings. He stated he came up and looked at the crosswalk and found out that during the day it is quite bad. He stated the problem is that people just refuse to stop. Mr. McKeever stated he does not know of anything else they can do. They changed the signage to let people know there are crosswalks ahead. They put the arrows down on the road. They still need to stripe out one of the parking spaces in front of Allegiance Title. He stated he took a video as he stood at the crosswalk in his working vest and hard hat, pushed the button to the flashing lights, and no one would stop. He stated they are not speeding. They just don't stop. He stated he had not talked to the property owner, but it would also be helpful to knock out a couple of parking spots across the street from Angelo's so it could help the view as people they come around that turn. Vice Mayor Cosgrove stated that he agreed but that Council was hoping back when the crosswalk was installed that there would be an educational process and that eventually it would catch on and that law enforcement would step up. Mr. McKeever stated that there are deputies and state troopers out there and they run radar. Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked if law enforcement has done anything about people not yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Mr. McKeever stated he didn't know. Vice Mayor Cosgrove asked if the yellow pylon sign like they have in the crosswalks in Fredericksburg would be helpful since it is at eye level. Mr. McKeever stated he didn't know if it would help or not. He stated it would more than likely get run over, but that he would talk to the traffic department. Vice Mayor Cosgrove stated that at some point we need to talk to the Sheriff and Major Hoover about people not yielding to pedestrians in the crosswalk. Mr. Greene stated that

when he lived in Orange County the deputies would give tickets to those who would not stop or yield for pedestrians in the crosswalk.

#### COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Greene said he hoped that Town Council would get updates on the new school. Mrs. Lewis stated she thought the School Board and County officials would be breaking ground next month.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Mayor Cosgrove acknowledged Board of Supervisor, Dorothy Tate, and her husband, Roy. Mrs. Tate stated that Roy has wanted to come to a meeting since his accident. Mrs. Tate thanked the Town Manager for keeping the Board of Supervisors up to date on happenings in the Town. Mr. Tate thanked the Town Council for the cards, prayers, and thoughts since his accident. He stated he has been recovering very well and has a wonderful nurse.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

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Patricia K. Lewis  
Town Manager

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Terry A. Cosgrove  
Vice Mayor