

**DUMFRIES TOWN COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2009  
7:00 PM**

Present: Mayor Yohey, Vice-Mayor Washington, Council Lady West, Councilman Toney, Council Lady Cornell, Council Lady Barr, Councilman Brewer.

Also Present: Thomas Huggard, Interim Town Manager; Chief Calvin Johnson; Cathy Holtzlander, Director of Community Services; Greg Tkac, Director of Public Works; Donna Johnson, Town Clerk; 22 citizens

Mayor Yohey called the meeting to order at 7:45 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the invocation given by Vice-Mayor Washington.

**Citizen's Comments**

Mrs. Lee and Mr. Juan Lavoie from PNC Bank came to let Council know that they had opened a new branch on Rt. 234 and they wanted to do business with the citizens and the Town of Dumfries. They had been at the Town over the weekend and helped with the Quantico Creek Clean-up. They are conducting a grand opening on May 2, 2009 and asked the Town to come help them celebrate.

**Mayor's Comments**

Mayor Yohey went over his report. He discussed some of the meetings he had attended. He also thanked the 37 volunteers that helped with the creek

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clean-up. He said they removed approximately 1 ton of debris from the creek.

Mayor Yohey said the Town would soon be filling the vacant position for Town Manager. He said Council had spent the entire day on Saturday interviewing candidates for the position.

He also said that we had just held the public hearing for the budget and he wanted to thank the town officials for the preparation of the proposed budget.

Mayor Yohey asked that from here on out if Council Member's time could become item #6 on the agenda and then move everything else down. No one objected to his suggestion.

### Council Members Time

Mr. Brewer said he wished to thank everyone that came out to the Public Hearing.

Ms. Barr said she too felt it was important for the citizens to come out. She believes that the dialogue is helping and she wanted to express her thanks.

Mrs. Cornell said she wanted to thank the businesses in the town. She said she realized that businesses were hurting due to the economy.

Mrs. Cornell said she wanted Chief Johnson to let people know that the officer that was mentioned earlier is a benefit to the Town.

Chief Johnson said that what the officer does is confidential and he cannot release any information about him or what he does.

Mr. Toney said he is pleased to see the turnout of citizens concerned about how the Town's money is being spent. He said the last Town Manager blew his

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salary totally out of the water. He said he did not agree with what they would be paying a new Town Manager. He said people did not come here to be part of beautiful Dumfries, they came here for the money they were being paid. He also said that we should not be giving an employee a four day work week.

Mrs. West - said she had no comment

Mr. Washington - said he had no comment

Mayor Yohey - made everyone aware of the budget meeting that is to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April, which is the following Tuesday.

Mr. Toney addressed Mr. Huggard and told him that he wanted clarification of Mrs. Hipski's four day work week.

Mr. Huggard told him that Mrs. Hipski asked if she could be allowed to work a 10 hour four day work week, in consideration of the numbers of hours a month she spends attending board and committee meetings in the evening. He said he granted her request based upon the Policy and Procedures Manual that Mr. Toney himself had voted on in October of last year.

Mr. Toney asked him how many other people he was going to give a four hour work week to. Mr. Huggard said this would be determined based upon each position and the facts surrounding that position and particular situation.

### **Police Chief's Report**

Chief Johnson said that Officer Humphries had returned to light duty.

He also reported that Officer John Chapman was going to be receiving an award given by the FBI for his work with ICAC - Internet Crimes Against Children.

He also said that a Prince William Detective accompanied by a reporter from the News & Messenger had taken pictures of graffiti in the area and

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reported it as being in Dumfries. The Detective also said he believed that a new gang, L&M was being formed in the Town. Chief Johnson said he did not believe these pictures were taken in the Town, and he knows nothing about any new gang forming in the Town. He said he is definitely going to speak with Chief Dean about this and will report back to Council. He said he was never told any of this was taking place or going on. He said the Town had really been staying on top of graffiti.

Mrs. West said she did not believe these pictures were taken in the Town either.

Ms. Barr said she knew for a fact the Town had really been staying on top of cleaning up any graffiti that was sighted in the Town.

Ms. Barr also told the Chief that she was not impressed with his report. She said it only listed 3 ordinances on the report. The Chief told her they had written more violations but only three were still not in compliance.

Mr. Brewer told the Chief he thought he was doing a great job.

Mrs. West said she has a concern regarding the meetings of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup>. She said there were three officers at the meetings and she wanted to know if they were on duty and if they were getting paid while they were at the meetings.

Chief Johnson told her that Captain Mackey was on duty but he was not being paid overtime. He said the reason Captain Mackey was there was because he is second in command and he has him attend the budget meetings in the event that the Chief was not around he would know what was going on. He said Officer Humphries was there because he thought he was going to be giving a report on the training for the auxiliary officers to the Mayor. He said Officer Barrett was there because he thought he was going to be going into closed session with the Council to discuss another issue.

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**Director of Public's Work Report**

Mr. Tkac said the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service in Virginia had made funds available under the American Recovery and Investment Act of 2009 to purchase floodplain easements in the Commonwealth. Information was sent to property owners that were affected by the storm events of 2008.

Mr. Tkac went on to explain the opportunity for residents that had been affected by the recent flood events. He said to qualify for this program the land must have been flooded once in the last year and or twice within the last ten years. Once an easement is obtained the NRCS will develop a restoration plan and potentially restore the property.

Mr. Tkac further stated that he has spoken with multiple representatives of the NRCS and has determined that this program could be beneficial for the property owners that are adjacent to Quantico Creek. It was recommended that the property owners contact Mr Roger Flint at (540) 347-3120 or Mr. Barry Harris at (804) 287-1658 regarding this program prior to the deadline date of April 10, 2009.

Mr. Tkac said he had made the NRCS aware of the properties that have been affected the Quantico Creek Flooding. Mr. Tkac also said that he had been providing assistance to residents with their applications.

Mr. Tkac also reported that he, along with VDOT had worked on the timing of the traffic signal at Rt. 1 and Graham Park Road. He said this is now in a study phase.

Mr. Tkac also went over his department's work completed for the month, training for the crew, and the meetings he had attended.

**Director of Community Development's Report**

Ms. Hipski was in an ARB Meeting and was not available to give her report.

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Director of Community Service's Report

Mrs. Holtzlander reported that the next meeting of the senior citizens would be on Friday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the Community Center. She said Ms. Juanita Balenger from the office of the Attorney General would be providing a presentation on how to avoid being scammed by area scam artists.

She also reported that the Spring Festival held on March 21, 2009 had a great turnout and the weather was perfect. She thanked the Public Works Crew and all the volunteers, including her son Bryan for their unwavering support.

Mrs. Holtzlander said she was planning and organizing the Charter Day Celebration to be held on May 9<sup>th</sup> in Merchant Park. She said the event will be co-hosted with Historic Dumfries, Virginia.

Mrs. Holtzlander said she had also been working closely with the Mayor and Mr. Huggard developing the budget message to the citizens of Dumfries. She gave special thanks to Patty DeGraw for her administrative support getting the letters to the residents.

She reported that the quarterly newsletter was at the printers. She will also be working with Mrs. Cynthia Graham of Keller Williams Realty to host an informational seminar on foreclosure prevention to be held on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> in the Community Center. The seminar is free and open to all area residents. The event will run from 9am-1pm.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Mr. Brewer to adopt the consent agenda, with a second by Mr. Washington. Ayes: Washington, West, Toney, Cornell, Barr, Brewer, Yohey. Motion carried.

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**Information Items**

None

**Action Items**

**Approval of Dumfries Summer Youth Internship Program**

Mr. Brewer made a motion to approve the Dumfries Summer Youth Internship Program. His motion was seconded by Mr. Washington. Ayes: Brewer, Barr, Cornell, West, Washington, Yohey. Absent: Mr. Toney who left the meeting early. Motion carried.

Mrs. Holtzlander was asked about the money for the Summer Youth Program and she said the cost would be \$6,500.00, which she had in her budget.

**Discussion Items**

**Proposed Town Council Meeting with Dumfries Business Association**

This was brought up earlier and the President of the DBA is out of town so a decision when to meet would have to be made once she returned.

**Discussion of Town Council Interviews with Candidates for Town Manager Position**

This also had previously been discussed. The Mayor said they had spent all day Saturday interviewing candidates for the position of Town Manager and hoped to have a selection made very soon.

**Adjourn**

Mr. Brewer made a motion to adjourn with a second by Mrs. Cornell. Ayes: Brewer, Barr, Cornell, West, Washington, Yohey. Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

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Submitted by:

Approved by:

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Donna A. Johnson, CMC  
Town Clerk

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Fred E. Yohey, Jr.  
Mayor