

**DUMFRIES TOWN COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 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: Cathy Holtzlander, Interim Town Manager; Chief Calvin Johnson; Greg Tkac, Director of Public Works; Yolanda Hipski, Director of Community Development; Donna Johnson, Town Clerk; 2 citizens

Mayor Yohey called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited followed by the Invocation given by Vice-Mayor Washington.

Amendments to the agenda: Approval of C.I.P. under Action Items
Plan for Boys & Girls Club - Action Items
Release of bond for DeMarr Construction - Action Items

Mayor Yohey said he thought the Community Grant Funding Award should be moved to the work session for Council discussion. Mrs. West said she would have no problem voting for it at this meeting. A lengthy conversation took place and it was decided to keep it as an action item at this meeting.

Adoption and Presentation of a Resolution Acknowledging the 40th Anniversary of Action in Community through Service (ACTS)

Mrs. Harris from ACTS was not present to accept the Resolution.

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Citizen's Comments

Mr. William Woolfrey - 17585 Washington Street said he was the third generation living in Dumfries. He said he had three items he wished to discuss. He reported that both sides of Washington Street's storm drains were clogged up. He said they had not been cleaned out for over four years.

He also had an issue with the intersection on Rt. 1 and Graham Park Road. He did not feel that the signs were properly posted and he felt additional signs were needed. At this time the Mayor informed him that his three minutes were up.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Yohey went over his report and the meetings he had attended during the month. He also said he would like to make some comments on the status of the adoption of Fiscal Year 2010 Town Budget.

He said the assessment had gone down 42%. He said the rate used for the June 5th taxes would be at the old rate and this would change in December when we have the new tax rate in effect. He said the December 5th rate will go up approximately 60%. He said whatever is paid in June will be 60% higher in December.

He also reminded everyone that Charter Day was being held Saturday the 9th at 11:00 AM in Merchants Park.

Council Member's Time

Ms. Barr asked the residents to go to the Town's website and vote for the Town plant.

Mrs. Cornell had questions about members of Council attending the meeting with Congressman Whitman on May 27th. She wanted to ensure that by doing so would not be a violation of the "Sunshine Laws". Mayor Yohey said he would get an opinion from Legal.

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Mr. Toney gave a lengthy account of the many accomplishments and contributions of the Wilmer Porter family, which is the family of Vice-Mayor Washington's wife Gwen Porter Washington. Mary Porter was a life-long educator who's accomplishments are well known and who has received much recognition for her many contributions throughout the community and the County. John Wilmer Porter was the first African-American businessman in the Town. He also served 19 years on the Town Council in Dumfries. Gwendolyn Porter Washington was recently recognized for her contributions in the field of education as well and on April 24, 2009 the gymnasium at Godwin Middle School was renamed after Gwen Porter Washington. Mr. Toney said the Porter family had certainly set the bar high and it made him proud to be an African American.

Mrs. West said she had recently attended the grand opening of Stratford University on Gideon Drive in Woodbridge. She said the campus was beautiful and she urged folks to visit the campus.

Mr. Washington thanked Mr. Toney for the kind words about his family.

Town Manager/Staff Reports

Interim Town Manager's Report

Mrs. Holtzlander reported that in addition to her normal duties as the Director of Community Services she had addressed many matters during the past month. She said she had presented her report to the Council but she did want to discuss a couple of items.

She said the 260th Charter Day celebration would be held on Saturday May 9th and she urged the citizens to come and spend the day at Merchant Park.

Mrs. Holtzlander said she had held two staff meetings during the month to discuss current issues affecting the community, specifically the Swine Flu H1N1 virus and how to implement the best course of action regarding prevention and reducing exposure.

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Police Chief's Report

Chief Johnson reported that Detective McCoy had finished an investigation and closed out an abduction case. He also stated that Detective McCoy had arrested a stalker of a business within the town.

The department had conducted one citizen complaint that was unfounded and one internal investigation.

Chief Johnson said that this year the Smooth Operator Wave 1 will begin the week of May 24 and run through May 30, 2009. In addition May 24th will be the annual Ride to the Wall. Detective McCoy and Sgt. Worley are in charge of this program.

Chief Johnson also said that on May 29th, 2009, Officer John Chapman will receive an award from the FBI at a ceremony in Arlington at 6:30 PM.

Citizens were advised that decals will be enforced beginning the 15th of this month.

Ms. Barr asked Chief Johnson about the Police Department's website. He said the bill is here and the treasurer is checking to see if we have enough money to put down a 50% deposit.

Mayor Yohey asked how much it was going to cost and the Chief told him it would be \$1500.00 to add the Police Department to the Town's website.

Mayor Yohey asked the Chief about a complaint he had received from a woman in the Knolls regarding cars being parked on the street. She said there are no street lights and when you go around the curve as you enter the Knolls the cars are parked on the street and it is very difficult to see them. She asked if signs could be put up in this area. Chief Johnson said he did not recall seeing this particular complaint. Mr. Tkac said he did not recall receiving the complaint either.

Director of Public Works

Mr. Tkac provided his written report to the Council. He discussed the modification to the traffic signal timing at the intersection of Main Street, Curtis Drive and

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Fraley Boulevard at Route 1. He said this had proven successful.

He also mentioned that Public Works is going to make a request to Prince William County to consider modifying school bus stops along Main Street as it has been determined that school bus stops along Main Street effect traffic for between 15 and 20 minutes after the last drop off.

Also discussed was the preliminary engineering phase of the Tripoli Boulevard Drainage Improvement project, which is underway.

Mr. Tkac attended several meetings during the month and held two training classes for his staff members.

He said the following work is being scheduled in the near future:

The Whitehaven drainage improvements are scheduled as soon as the contractor's schedule allows. Currently they are running behind due to all of the rain we have had.

The Main Street Sidewalk project is scheduled to be constructed concurrent with the Whitehaven drainage improvements.

The storm drainage improvement project on Possum Point Road in the vicinity of Leonard Street is scheduled to be constructed in May.

Director of Community Development

Ms. Hipski reported that she had met with both the ARB and the Planning Commission the past month. She had also met with citizens, reviewed signs, use applications and answered general questions. In addition she had assisted Don Little with this presentation at the Town Council work session. She said she had reviewed DHCD grant opportunities, reviewed the Codes Compliance Program with the Codes Compliance Officer, and met with the Director of Public Works and the treasurer regarding grass cutting.

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Building Official's Report

Mrs. Frye reported that she had issued 17 permits for the month and conducted 22 inspections. She covered for the Administrative Assistant for Public Works while she was out having foot surgery, met with Curtis Property regarding the handicap ramp at the Police Department, reviewed and scored grant applications, followed up on numerous citizen complaints with the Property Maintenance Inspector, attended 2 staff meetings and one Council meeting.

Code Compliance Officer's Report

Mr. O'Flinn reported that he had cited 53 notices of violation, created as built drawings of the Town Hall and created HVAC drawings of 5 different systems for the Town Hall. He also contacted and conducted 3 site visits with duct cleaning contractors, designed a concrete ramp for the Police Department, met with Curtis Properties and the Building Official regarding the handicap ramp, and researched citizen complaints with the Building official.

He also said he had begun to update the vacant house listing along with the building official.

Mrs. Cornell said she had heard nothing more about Fairfax Street. There was a brief discussion and she made a motion that Mrs. Hipski write a letter to the owner of the property to find out what they intended to do with regard to the house that sat in the Right-of-way. The letter is to be signed by Mrs. Holtzlander in her capacity as the Interim Town Manager. The motion was seconded by Mrs. West. Ayes: Washington, West, Toney, Cornell, Barr, Brewer, Yohey. Motion carried.

Mrs. West asked Mrs. Hipski about the vacant houses in Dumfries and wanted to know what the latest update was. Mrs. Hipski said she would get with the Building Official and Codes Compliance Officer and provide information to her at the May work session.

Mayor Yohey reported that the Dumfries Business Association would like to meet with the Council before the budget was approved. There were a couple of dates

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and times discussed and an agreement was reached to meet at 4:00 PM on May 12th in the Council Chambers. This seemed agreeable with all of the Council and the Mayor said he would ensure that this was agreeable with Susan Ferriera, the DBA President.

Director of Community Service's Report

Mrs. Holtzlander went over her report that was provided to the Council. She did mention that the Seniors/Retire meeting would be held on May 15th at 1pm and the guest speaker would be Dumfries District Supervisor Maureen Caddigan. She also reported that Charter Day would be held on May 9th in Merchant Park.

Mrs. Holtzlander also reported that she had received two applications to date for the Summer Youth Internship Program. She said she would present this information to the Town Council at the May work session.

Mrs. Holtzlander said she had worked closely with Council Lady Barr adding the Dumfries Plant survey to the Town's website. She said she continues to send various updates to the webmaster

Adoption of Consent Agenda

Councilman Brewer made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda with a second by Mrs. West. Mayor Yohey said he needed to have one correction made on the minutes of the Public Hearing on the 7th. Mrs. Johnson said she would make the correction. Ayes: Brewer, Barr, Cornell, Toney, West, Washington, Yohey. Motion carried.

Information Items

None

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Action Items

Approval of Proclamation for Building Safety Week

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

Approval of Proclamation for Municipal Clerk's Week

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

Approval of Community Grant Funding Award

Mr. Washington made a motion to approve the Grant Funding Award based on staff's recommendation and that ENS provided the information on the percentage of children from Dumfries. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brewer. Ayes: Washington, West, Toney, Cornell, Barr, Brewer. Nay: Yohey. Motion carried.

Approval of Capital Improvement Program

Mr. Brewer made a motion to adopt the Capital Improvement Plan. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Cornell. Mrs. Hipski said that she would have the minor changes recommended by Mrs. West taken care of and she would have the final draft in Council's mailboxes by the end of the week. Ayes: Brewer, Barr, Cornell, Toney, West, Washington, Yohey. Motion carried.

Plan for Boys and Girls Club

Councilman Toney reported that he had gone by the Boys and Girls club and met with the staff there. He said he was told that the Chairman of the Board of the Boys and Girls Club had said that if they had a plan he would reconsider closing the

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Dumfries Club. He said the plan would have to include greater participation and more revenue. A very lengthy conversation took place regarding the Boys and Girls Club and the Town Council's involvement with the organization over the past several years. Mr. Toney was told that from 1996 to 2006, the Town used to give the Boys and Girls Club \$10,000.00 annually, but stopped because Council did not feel that the youth of Dumfries were being well served. The money was providing for children out of the area while the needs of the local children were not being met.

Mr. Brewer made a motion that Mr. Toney meet with the Boys and Girls Club again and bring back a plan to the Council for their consideration. The motion was seconded by Mr. Washington. Ayes: Brewer, Barr, Cornell, Toney, West, Washington, Yohey.

Release of a Performance Bond for DeMarr Construction

Mr. Tkac reported that he was in receipt of a letter from Mr. Robert DeMarr of DeMarr Construction requesting that their performance bond in the amount of \$1,500.00 be released. Mr. Tkac said the bond was posted for a utility cut to serve 17945 and 17939 Curtis Drive. He said all of the work was done per our specification and he recommended the release of the bond in full.

Mr. Brewer made a motion to release the bond for DeMarr Construction with a second by Mrs. Cornell. Ayes: Washington, West, Toney, Cornell, Barr, Brewer, Yohey. Motion carried.

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.

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Submitted by:

Donna A. Johnson, CMC
Town Clerk

Approved by:

Fred E. Yohey, Jr.
Mayor