

February 4, 2016

Regular Meeting

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel called the Regular Meeting of the Denton Town Council to order at 7:00 PM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Vice-Mayor Clendaniel asked that the record reflect that all Members of the Council were present with the exception of the Mayor, who was attending the Maryland Municipal League's Mayor Conference in Annapolis.

Councilman Lister made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 7, 2016 Regular Meeting and the January 25, 2016 Working Session as presented, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Councilman Porter arrived at 7:04 PM.

Public Hearing

No Public Hearing was held.

Petitions, Remonstrance's and Communication

Proclamations:

Several Businesses and Business Owners recently received awards from the Caroline County Chamber of Commerce. On behalf of the Town of Denton, the Vice-Mayor recognized the following in Town Businesses:

Chesapeake Culinary Center – Best Non-Profit Award

Cindy Riddleberger of Nationwide Insurance – Businesswoman of the Year Award.

Shoreline Vinyl Systems – Mid-Sized Business of the Year Award

Turnbridge Point – Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Each will receive a Proclamation from the Town, signed by the Mayor, extending the Town's congratulations on their outstanding success.

Communications – Fire Dept. Accident

Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided a brief summary regarding a notice received of a possible claim against the Town in relation to a recent Fire Truck accident. The Town Attorney sent a response and this has all been settled.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution #827 - Amalfitano Annexation

A Resolution of the Town of Denton to annex certain lands owned by Anthony Louis Amalfitano, located generally north of Deep Shore Road and West of Blades Farm Road and consisting of 2.160 Acres of Land, more or less, into the Town of Denton and to provide for the terms and conditions of the annexation.

A petition for annexation has been received from Anthony Amalfitano and DMB, LLC, Contract Purchaser, for Tax Map 107, Parcel 130. The petition consists of 2.160 acres immediately adjoining the existing municipal boundary west of Blades Farm Road. The Planning Commission made a favorable recommendation for the annexation and proposed zoning of Regional Highway Commercial (RHC).

Councilman Porter made a motion to introduce Resolution #827, seconded by Councilman Branson.

In discussion: Mr. Ryan Showalter, Counselor on behalf of DMB, LLC., gave an overview of the plans to construct a medical office complex and was seeking the Council's support for moving forward.

Mr. Chris Drummond, the Town Attorney, provided guidance on the steps to be taken to approve the annexation; amending the Town's Comprehensive Plan; and for the Mayor to sign a letter to the County seeking their approval to waive and change the zoning.

Staff will make sure this is posted on the Town Website and schedule for public hearing to be held in April, and the conceptual plans will be available for review.

With no further discussion, Vice-Mayor Clendaniel called for a vote on the motion on the floor to introduce Resolution #827.

The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution #828 – MEA Grant Application

A Resolution approving the application and receipt of financing for a Maryland Smart Energy Communities Grant to be funded by the Maryland Energy Administration of the State of Maryland.

Mr. Mulrine provided a summary on how the Energy Grant Funding has been utilized within the Town to-date and, with this third round of funding request, what street lights and equipment are proposed to be upgraded if the next round of funding is approved.

Councilman Branson made a motion to introduce Resolution #828, seconded by Councilman Lister.

In discussion, Mr. Mulrine answered additional questions.

Councilman Branson amended his motion to adopt Resolution #828, which was seconded by Councilman Porter, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Board and Committees

Councilman Porter, having attended the Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner, stated the dinner was well attended and expressed how proud he was of all the Denton Business winners and for all of the representation from Denton.

Councilman Branson expressed how proud he was of the efforts Town Staff put into the snow plowing and snow removal, and asked that it be conveyed to them that they had done a tremendous job.

Councilman Clendaniel also wanted to thank Jeff Wright for his efforts as well, and stated that they owe a great debt of gratitude to all our the staff for their efforts.

Councilman Clendaniel shared that he attended the Denton Volunteer Fire Dept. Banquet and that it was a very nice affair.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Agenda #1 – Business Loan Committee Appointee

Mr. Matt Breedlove has shown an interest in being part of the Small Business Loan Committee that reviews all small business loan applications for the Town.

Councilman Branson made a motion to appoint Mr. Matt Breedlove to serve on the Business Loan Committee. The motion was seconded by Councilman Porter and passed unanimously.

Agenda #2 – Crouse Park Pump Station Controls Upgrade

The Public Works Dept. submitted a request for permission to move forward with repairs to the Crouse Park Pump Station. The pump station will undergo a partial control system upgrade. This will be a new HMI (touch screen controller/readout) to replace a badly worn out unit. This will be facilitated by the WWTP staff. The MHI will be provided by MTD, to include the HMI programming and installation. The cost of this upgrade is \$5,319.00. Funds were allocated in the FY 2016 Budget for this upgrade.

Councilman Porter made a motion to authorize this purchase, seconded by Councilman Branson.

In discussion: Councilman Lister asked if this was for the General Fund, in which Mr. Mulrine responded that this is covered by water and sewer and has no relation to the General Fund.

With no further discussion, Vice-Mayor Clendaniel called for a vote on the motion on the floor to approve the purchase.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda #3 - Green Team

Mr. Mulrine recommended for the Town to start pulling together a Green Team as part of the Sustainable Maryland initiative that Denton is a part of; which will also help the Town earn additional points toward certification. This Team would include Town employees, citizens, and local groups. The Team would help identify and make the recommendation on how to be more energy efficient.

Discussion was held at great length on the concerns and the value of the benefits of establishing a Green Team, staff involvement, cost to implement and the potential energy savings that may be gained. It was clarified that this Team and their recommendations would only apply to Town owned properties, that it will not include non-governmental properties. Concerns about potentially creating another level of bureaucracy, and why can't this be done at a staff level.

Mr. Bill Clemens, President of the Caroline County Habitat for Humanity and a resident of Denton, spoke from his experience in working on energy programs. He stated the benefits of having a Team would be to get hands on experience, expertise from professionals in specific fields that Town staff may not have, and could not possibly keep up with the training and the constant changes. This would be an Advisory Committee that could make recommendations for upgrading, that could potentially save the Town money and the upgrade would not be mandatory.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the Green Team, seconded by Councilman Porter.

The motion passed 3-1, with Councilman Lister voting No.

Agenda #4 - Public Works Pick Up Truck Purchase

The Public Works Department submitted a request for the Councils permission to purchase a 2016 Dodge Ram 2500 Crew Cab Pickup Truck. The total cost of the truck is \$29,216.00 and was included in the budget for purchase. This vehicle will be purchased off a piggy-back State Contract through Fred Fredrick Dodge.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #5 - Public Works Snow Plow Purchase

The Public Works Department submitted a request for approval to purchase a snow plow for the new 2016 Dodge Ram. This plow was in the Budget as a replacement

on another truck that is a backup. It was budgeted for \$6,000 and the price for the new one will be \$5,910.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve the purchase, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #6 - Mallard Landing Phase IV Road Abandonment

Mr. James DiDonato, Developer of Mallard Landing Phase IV, has requested to abandon Sandpiper Lane, since the three lots will be eliminated and returned to Open Space.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve the request, seconded by Councilman Branson.

In discussion: Councilman Lister requested to have an updated map sent to the DVFD.

Mr. Drummond, the Town Attorney, shared that he was not sure they really need to ask for the Town's approval since all of the Open Space area goes to the Mallard Landing Homeowners Association; but it was fine to approve.

Mr. Mulrine said this is on the Town's books as Phase IV and recommended seeking Council approval to close the project out.

Vice Mayor Clendaniel called for a vote on the motion on the floor to approve the request.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda #7 - Historic & Architectural Review Commission Appointment

Mrs. Katherine Houchins-Hosclaw's term expired December 31, 2015, on the HR Committee and she did not request reappointment.

Mr. James Adair has requested appointment to the Historic & Architectural Review Commission. Staff requested Mr. James Adair's appointment to the Commission to fill this vacancy. This term will expire December 31, 2018

Councilman Branson made a motion to accept and appoint Mr. Adair to the Historic Review Commission, seconded by Councilman Lister, passing unanimously.

Agenda #8 - Public Works Ambulance to Auction

The Public Works Department submitted a request for the Council's approval to sell Truck #4 at Trice Auctions to the highest bidder. This truck was set-up to use for sewer equipment calls, but has too many mechanical problems to keep in service. It is much easier to load up equipment on pickups when needed and take to the call site.

Councilman Lister made a motion to authorize the request, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #9 - Public Works Uniform Purchase Contract

The Public Works Department submitted a request for permission from the Council to enter into a Uniform Rental Contract for 5 years with UniFirst. This will allow the Public Works and WWTP employees to have shirts that will be cleaned each week and repaired, to ensure the employees look professional every day.

Councilman Porter made a motion to table the request until next month to obtain some additional information on total cost and what is included in the budget. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Staff will forward contract to Mr. Drummond for review.

Agenda #10 - WWTP Grit Machine Recoating

The Public Works Department submitted a request seeking the Council's approval to have the Pista Grit Removal Machine at the WWTP sand blasted and recoated. The request explained that this machine is a vital part of the operation of the plant. The unit is housed in a volatile atmosphere in the Headworks Building, which corrodes paints and metal surfaces rapidly; thus, requiring a specialized preparation and paint. Staff recommended going with a quote from Pro Coat LLC for \$6,950. A second quote was received for \$8,100 from a competitor. Funds were allocated in the FY 2016 Budget for this procedure.

Mr. Mulrine added, this is a special epoxy paint and will probably last about 6 years, there is a warranty, if the coating were to peel.

Councilman Lister made a motion to accept the Pro Coat LLC bid for \$6,950. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Vice Mayor Clendaniel asked if Council Members had anything additional.

Councilman Lister reiterated the comments made earlier, stating that he was very proud and wanted to thank the Public Works for their long hours and snow removal efforts.

Vice Mayor Clendaniel also thanked the Police Dept. as well.

Councilman Porter thanked the Police Dept. for their assistance for joining in with their AED Equipment and all their efforts regarding a cardiac call that occurred as a result of a resident shoveling snow.

There being no other items to share from the Council, the Vice Mayor opened up the meeting for public comments.

Mr. Bill Jesmer, title holder of 700 Gay St. & and owner of 12 N. 7th St., approached the Council asking questions regarding the injunction on the clean-up of his property by the Town. He received a bill from the Town for the removal of the items from his property and demanded to know where his stuff was.

Mr. Drummond told Mr. Jesmer that the Town Council could not answer his questions and, that if he felt the Town had done something contrary to the injunction, there are remedies in which he could file something with Circuit Court.

Discussion continued in which Chief Cox joined in and told Mr. Jesmer, that this is a legal matter that needs to be taken care of between the Attorneys, and we are done.

With no further discussion, Councilman Lister made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*