

November 3, 2016

Regular Meeting

Mayor McNinch 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.

Mayor McNinch asked that the record reflect that all Council members were present.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2016 Regular meeting, October 17, 2016 Working Session, and the October 17, 2016 Special meeting, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilman Lister, passing unanimously.

Public Hearing

Ordinance #682 – Critical Area Map

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:02 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #682 - An Ordinance of the Denton Town Council to repeal and reenact a new Official Critical Area Map for the Town of Denton.

Mayor McNinch asked for comments from the State: there were none

Mayor McNinch asked for comments from the County: there were none

Mayor McNinch asked for comments from the Council:

Councilman Clendaniel announced that there are no changes from the previous map, this process is being done to meet state requirements.

Mayor McNinch asked for comments from the Public: there were none

With no further comments, Mayor McNinch closed this public hearing at 7:03 PM.

Petitions, Remonstrance's and Communication

Proclamation – MML Banner City 2017

The Mayor read a proclamation, proclaiming November as Municipal Government Works Month in Maryland. The Town will fly the Maryland Municipal Government Flag in honor of Denton designation as a Banner City during the month. In addition, each year the Mayor takes time to teach the Fourth Graders at Denton Elementary School about local government.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Resolution # 836 - Fiber Optic Grant

A Resolution of the Town of Denton approving the application and receipt of financing for a Rural Maryland Prosperity Investment Fund (RMIF) Grant from the Rural Maryland Council. If awarded, the grant funds will be used to connect the Police Dept., Town Hall, Crouse Park Visitor Center, and the Public Works Facility on Choptank Ave. to a Fiber Optic Network.

Councilman Branson made a motion to adopt Resolution #836, seconded by Councilman Clendaniel.

In discussion: Mr. Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided an overview of the Fiber Optic Connection Plan.

With no further discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the motion to adopt Resolution #836.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ordinance #682 – Critical Area Map

An Ordinance of the Denton Town Council to repeal and reenact a new Official

Critical Area Map.

Councilman Branson made a motion to adopted Ordinance #682, seconded by Councilman Porter.

In discussion: Mr. Mulrine provided an overview of the State Requirements.

With no further discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the motion to adopt Ordinance #682.

The motion passed unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees

None

Unfinished Business

Agenda #1- FACES Lease Amendment

Mrs. Janice Davidson, the Fiber Arts Center Acting President, came before the Council to give an update on the organization and requested consideration for an extension on their current lease, for the 7 N. Fourth Street Building, through June 30, 2017.

Mrs. Marina Dowdall, FACES Director, provided additional information.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to approve a month to month lease through June 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #2 –Parking Meters

Discussion was held pertaining to the parking meters downtown, in and around the Court House; whether to remove some meters; make some 30-minute parking only, free parking for the holidays.

Councilman Clendaniel mentioned that the County has already stated in a letter that they have instructed their employees to ignore the law, and are using tax payer's money to pay the Town's parking ticket fines that are issued.

Councilman Lister made a motion to remove the meters from eight parking spaces on N. First St. and to make three parking spaces on N. Second Street be 30-minute parking only. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Councilman Lister made a motion to have free parking for the month of December. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson.

Additional discussion was held.

The Mayor called for a vote on the motion to provide free parking for the month of December. The motion passed 3-2, with Mayor McNinch and Councilman Branson voting against.

Agenda #3 - Willows at Denton

Mr. Mulrine give an update on Willows at Denton Project.

New Business

Agenda #1 - Public Works – Snow Plow Purchase& V-Box Spreader

Denton Public Works submitted a request to purchase a snow plow, for the 2016 Dodge Ram, for \$5,300.00. And to purchase a 1.5 yard V-box spreader, at \$5,599.00, for putting sand and salt on roads for snow removal. These items were included in the FY2017 budget; using Highway Capital Improvement Funds to purchase both pieces of equipment.

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the purchase of the snow plow and V-box spreader as requested, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #2 -Quinn Water & Sewer Allocation

Mr. Joseph Quinn submitted a request seeking approval for one water and sewer allocation for a minor subdivision creating one commercial lot on Fleetwood Road.

Councilman Porter made a motion to approve the water and sewer allocation as requested, seconded by Councilman Clendaniel, passing unanimously.

Agenda #3 - Road Repairs

Denton Public Works submitted a request for approval to use the Highway User Grant Revenues to do some road repairs.

Mr. Mulrine provided an overview of the work being proposed, which includes cutting down shoulders and to repave 1,400 feet of Camp Rd. from just past the overpass to Envoy, and to repave 1300 feet of Maryland Ave. from Butler to S. 2nd Street.

Three bids were accepted, with David A. Bramble being the lowest bid at \$126,525.00.

Councilman Clendaniel made a motion to approve and award the bid to Brambles, seconded by Councilman Branson.

In discussion, the Council talked about the Kercher Road Report, which establishes road maintenance, resurfacing and priority streets.

With no further discussion, the Mayor called for a vote on the motion to approve.

The motion passed unanimously.

Councilman Porter mentioned that the project will not be done until spring of 2017.

Agenda #4 - CCEDC FY17 Budget Request

This item was on the agenda as a follow up to the FY17 Budget presentation given by Ms. Angela Visintainer, Executive Director of the Caroline County Economic Development Corporation, during the October 17, 2016 Working Session. CEDC is seeking approval to draw on the \$5,000 allocated in the FY2017 General Fund Budget, to be used towards their Small Business Services and Business Attraction Programs.

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

Agenda #5- Sakers Request for Hardship Relief

Mrs. Yvonne Sakers, of 26720 Sandtown Road, Goldsboro, MD, and owner of 608 Market Street, came before the Council requesting hardship relief for fines imposed by Planning and Codes for violations.

Discussion was held, in which Mr. Thomas Batchelor, Director of Planning & Codes, provided a summary of the history of enforcement activities and related fines. Mr. Batchelor mentioned that the Sakers have made the repairs; renewed their rental license and are currently in compliance. Mr. Batchelor shared that the fines can be reduced, since the issues are all resolved.

Councilman Lister made a motion to allow Planning & Codes to reduce the fines, as the laws allow, so long as the property is in compliance. The motion was seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #6 - Police Department New Radio System Purchase

Denton Police Dept. submitted a request seeking authorization to select a new radio vendor and to identify funding.

Chief Cox provided an overview, and recommended going with RELM Radio System. He indicated that no notification has been received of the Town being awarded

grant funding from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to help cover the cost of the radio system. Chief Cox shared that Caroline County Emergency Services is ready to switch radio systems on November 15, 2016. The radio purchase was included in the FY2017, using either grant or loan funds.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approved the purchase of the RELM Radio System and to pursue a loan, in the event grant funds are not awarded. The motion was seconded by Councilman Clendaniel, passing unanimously.

Agenda #7 - WWTP Vehicle Purchase

Denton Public Works Dept. submitted a request to purchase a 2017 Dodge Ram Crew Cab Pickup Truck for the WWTP. This item was approved in the FY2017 Water and Sewer Budget. The total price of the truck is \$30,750, and it will replace a 2004 Dodge Ram 1500, that is ready to retire.

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

Miscellaneous

Ms. Doncella Wilson, of the Fireflies Denton, came before the Council and gave an update on the Fireflies group activities and upcoming events.

Mayor McNinch wished Councilman Porter a Happy Birthday.

Mayor McNinch and Mr. Mulrine attended the Maryland Municipal League Fall Conference.

Mayor McNinch, Mr. Mulrine, and Karen Monteith attended the Local Government Insurance Trust annual meeting.

Upcoming Events

Eastern Shore Association of Municipalities legislative meeting - January 17, 2017.

Caroline County Association of Municipalities meeting - November 16, 2016.

NUTS - Police Dept. will help deliver Thanksgiving dinners on November 24, 2016.

Chief Cox confirmed that the Council wants parking to be free at all meters during the month of December.

Mr. Mulrine will be attending the Planning Commission Association Meeting.

The Council agreed to hold the December Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday, December 5, 2016, instead of the 8th.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch adjourned the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer