

March 3, 2022

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 held a moment of silence for everything going on in the world and the Ukraine.

Mayor McNinch thanked everyone for coming and joining online.

Mayor McNinch asked that the record reflect that Councilman Johnson was attending virtually and that all the other Councilmembers were present in person.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 3, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented; seconded by Councilwoman Wilson, passing unanimously.

Public Hearing

Ordinance #728 – Critical Area

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:01 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #728 – An ordinance of the Town of Denton to repeal and reenact Chapter 128 Article VIII Special District: Critical Area Overlay District and amend Chapter 128 Article II Definitions, Article III Zoning Districts and Zoning District Maps, and amend Article XX Amendments of the Denton Town Code with respect to the Critical Area.

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: there were none

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

With no further comments, Mayor McNinch closed this public hearing at 7:02

PM.

Ordinance #729 – Critical Area Map Amendment

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:02 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #729 - 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: there were none

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.

Ordinance #730 – Erosion & Sediment Control

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:03 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #730 - An ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 49, Erosion and Sediment Control of the Town Code.

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: there were none

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

With no further comments, Mayor McNinch closed this public hearing at 7:04

PM.

Ordinance #731 – Stormwater Utility

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:04 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #731 - An ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 105, Stormwater Utility of the Town Code.

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: there were none

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

With no further comments, Mayor McNinch closed this public hearing at 7:04

PM.

Ordinance #732 – Stormwater Management

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 7:05 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance #732 - An ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 106, Stormwater Management of the Town Code.

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: there were none

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

With no further comments, Mayor McNinch closed this public hearing at 7:06

PM.

Petitions, Remonstrance's, and Communication**Proclamation – March Endometriosis Awareness Month**

Mrs. Shannon Hannawald, of 804 Camp Road, made a presentation on Endometriosis and read the Town's Proclamation recognizing March as Endometriosis Awareness Month to help spread information and awareness about the illness.

Mayor McNinch presented the signed Proclamation to Mrs. Hannawald.

Ordinances and Resolutions**Ordinance #728 – Critical Area**

An Ordinance of the Town of Denton to repeal and reenact Chapter 128 Article VIII Special District: Critical Area Overlay District and amend Chapter 128 Article II Definitions, Article III Zoning Districts and Zoning District Maps, and amend Article XX Amendments of the Denton Town Code with respect to the Critical Area.

Mr. Donald Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided a synopsis of the Ordinance and the State requirements.

Councilman Lister made a motion to adopt Ordinance #728, seconded by Councilwoman Wilson, passing unanimously.

Ordinance #729 – Critical Area Map

An Ordinance of the Denton Town Council to repeal and reenact a new Official Critical Area Map for the Town of Denton.

Mr. Mulrine shared that this Map goes along with Ordinance #728.

Councilman Lister made a motion to adopt Ordinance #729, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Ordinance #730 – Erosion & Sediment Control

An Ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 49, Erosion and Sediment Control of the Town Code.

Mr. Donald Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided a synopsis of the Ordinance

Councilman Lister made a motion to adopt Ordinance #730, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Ordinance #731 – Stormwater Utility

An Ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 105, Stormwater Utility of the Town Code.

Mr. Donald Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided a synopsis of the Ordinance.

Councilman Lister made a motion to adopt Ordinance #731, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Ordinance #732 – Stormwater Management

An Ordinance of the Town of Denton repealing and reenacting with amendments Chapter 106, Stormwater Management of the Town Code.

Mr. Donald Mulrine, Town Administrator, provided a synopsis of the Ordinance.

Councilman Lister made a motion to adopt Ordinance #732, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees

Councilman Johnson provided an update on the County Commissioners recent discussion on increasing the cost to municipalities for mosquito spraying. Also, mentioning a potential additional expense for cost sharing for the Police Accountability Board when the State Legislation takes affect.

Mayor McNinch questioned if the Town can contract out mosquito spraying.

Mr. Mulrine shared that he has reached out to the State and is exploring private contractor options.

Mayor McNinch announced that she recently testified in Annapolis on pending legislation that will affect Municipalities and Police Departments.

Mr. Mulrine shared he has reached out Denton Elementary School to see about meeting with the 4th Graders to promote the “If I Were Mayor Essay Contest” for the Maryland Municipal League.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Agenda #1 – Public Works – Request for Proposal

The Denton Public Works Department submitted a quote and responses received from the recent request for proposal for purchasing an Asset Management Program. Mr. Phil Clark, Superintendent of Public Works and Mr. Mark Chandler, Superintendent of Water/Wastewater recommended purchasing the iWorQ program. The initial startup cost of \$22,800 is for the first year set up and training. There will be a \$13,900 yearly subscription fee for future years.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve signing a contract with iWorQ, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #2 – Public Works Truck Metal Repair

Mr. Clark shared that truck #55, the Public Works chipper truck, has holes in the floor and walls of the truck body. An estimate for repairs comes in at \$10,265.08 with Waste Equipment and Sales. The cost of replacing the body with a new body will cost \$26,874.90. Due to the cost of metal increasing, the estimate to repair exceeds the \$7,500 that was originally budgeted. Mr. Clark asked for guidance on moving forward with the repair or replacement and answered questions.

Discussion was held, the box and truck were both bought used from different places around 8 years ago, the box is interchangeable and could be placed on a different truck if later the truck needs to be replaced.

Councilman Lister made a motion to purchase a new box, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #3 - Public Works Street Sweeper Repair

Discussion was held on Mr. Clark's request to repair the floor and body on the street sweeper, estimated to cost \$5,213.04.

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

At Councilman Johnson's request, staff will check to see if this expense qualifies to use the American Recovery Plan Act Funding.

Agenda #4 - Municipal Tax Differential Certification

Annually, Caroline County requires Municipalities to submit a form certifying the number of hours of police protection/coverage provided by Municipal Police Departments. Seeking approval for the Mayor to sign the Annual Municipal Tax Differential Information Certification Form for the Town of Denton.

Councilman Branson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the certification, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #5 - MOA Law Enforcement Terrorism Protection Program Grant

Chief George Bacorn presented a Memorandum of Agreement between Caroline County Department of Emergency Services and the Town of Denton, for the LETTP Homeland Security Grant that if approved, will provide \$4,827 for traffic equipment - barricades and cones.

Councilman Branson made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign the MOA, seconded by Councilman Lister, passing unanimously.

Agenda #6 - Computer Equipment Upgrades

Mrs. Monteith submitted a quote of \$5,613.48 from Corsica Technologies for a replacement multi-port ethernet switch with warranty as well as 3 wireless access point devices at the Town Office. Explaining that the equipment is nearing end of life and to maintain security and avoid downtime, it is recommended to move forward with upgrading the equipment. Seeking approval to order the equipment and have it installed.

Councilman Lister shared concerns on the cost, and whether the equipment would accommodate future expansion.

Councilman Johnson questioned the cost of the equipment compared to what they just ordered at his work.

No action was taken, staff will research and provide a response.

Agenda #7 - Letter of Support – SB376/HB1083 Street Lighting Legislation

Mayor McNinch asked for consideration to send a letter of support on Senate Bill 376 and House Bill 1083, which enables legislation designed to help municipalities achieve better street lighting service at lower cost.

Councilman Branson made a motion to approve, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Miscellaneous

Mr. David Renshaw, Senior Codes Enforcement Officer, asked the Council to approve an additional 1.5 ERU's for Denton Plaza for a new business that will be locating in the new building.

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

Mrs. Paula Wright and Mrs. Audrey Clemens of the Downtown Denton Main Street organization, approached and discussed with the Council about establishing some protocols on events being held in the downtown, involving the DDMS in the planning process, updating the event form and possibly setting a fee for larger events.

Mayor McNinch thanked them for coming, suggested reaching out to other Towns to see what process they have in place and a meeting will be held soon for additional discussion.

Councilman Lister asked how the public meeting scheduled for March 9th to seek community input on the future use of the former Southern States property is being publicized.

Mr. Mulrine shared that post are being shared on Facebook, the Town website and a public notice was placed in the local newspaper. The notice issued so far meets the grant requirements on the funding that was received to acquire the land.

There was additional discussion on the notice and the Council clarified that they want this to be a community meeting, not a hearing. Staff will tweak the notice and repost on social media.

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

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*