

2017-11

April 24, 2017

Executive Session – 5:30 PM

At 5:35 PM, Councilman Porter made a motion to hold an Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Item – Town Administrator’s Contract Renewal, by Authority of MD Annotated Code, State Government Article 3-305 (b) (2014) (1) (i). Seconded by Councilman Branson, the motion passed unanimously.

Present:

Mayor McNinch, Councilman Porter, Council Branson, and Councilman Lister were in attendance. Councilman Johnson participated in discussions by way of a mobile device and eventually arrived in person near the end of this session.

Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator joined the discussion at 5:45 PM.

Discussion:

Discussion was held regarding the Contract Renewal for the Town Administrator and personnel evaluation format.

This item will be placed on the May agenda for acceptance.

At 5:53 PM, Councilman Porter made a motion to close the Executive Session, seconded by Councilman Branson. Motion passed unanimously.

Working Session – 6:00 PM

Mayor McNinch called the Working Session of the Denton Town Council to order at 6:00 PM on this date.

In Attendance:

Council: Mayor McNinch, Councilman Porter, Councilman Branson, Councilman Lister, and Councilman Johnson.

Staff: Mr. Don Mulrine, Town Administrator, Chief Rodney Cox, Lt. George Bacorn, and Karen Monteith, Clerk-Treasurer.

Discussion:

Denton Volunteer Fire Department Budget Request

Mr. Todd Berneski, President of DVFD, presented the Fire Department’s 2017 Operations Budget and discussed with the Council their capital equipment needs, operating status, and ongoing initiatives.

Mr. Berneski thanked the Town Council for their continued support, asking for flat level funding in FY2018.

Councilman Porter shared that the Caroline County Local Drug & Alcohol Abuse Counsel will be holding an event “Chasing the Dragon – The Life of an Opiate Addict” from 7-9PM at the DVFD.

Savannah Overlook Tax Abatement Request

Discussion was held pertaining to a request that will be coming before the Council in May seeking consideration to waive the 2013 Town Taxes on the Open Space Lands at Savannah Overlook, to assist in getting the deed of the common area recorded transferring ownership from the Developer to the Home Owners Association.

Wharfs of Choptank Budget Review – (Crouse Park Visitor Center)

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Mr. Mulrine provided a draft operations budget for the new visitor center and update on the construction. Discussion was held about restructuring the hotel tax revenues normally provided to CEDC for Tourism and Economic Development, to use the funding to cover staff and operations for the visitor center.

2018 General Fund Budget Review

Discussion was held on the FY2018 General and Highway Fund Budget revenues and expenses; Constant Yield Tax Rate, other revenues, proposed staffing changes, salary increases, benefit changes, trash collections and recycling, capital needs and items that are not included in the FY18 proposed budget. Staff will include recommendations and provide an update to the Council on the effect of proposed changes.

Legion Road Median Update

An update was provided on the proposal for modifying the median strip on Legion Road. Council Members do not support making any changes at this time.

Sheriff's Office Proposed Construction Project

Mr. Mulrine and Chief Cox provided information from their recent meeting with the Caroline County Sheriff on their plans for building a new facility on Sunnyside.

Parking Meter Update

Discussions continued from the Council's previous recommendations to make some changes to the parking spaces on N. First and N. Second around the Court House.

Chief Cox will work on preparing an Ordinance for June to implement the Council's recommended changes.

Sharp Road Park Bids

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on the bids received for grading and seeding the Park and announced this item will be on the May agenda for consideration for awarding the bid.

Mr. Mulrine shared that the NIO has been prepared in response to the Maryland Environmental compliance requirements and submitted to DNR for review. Soil Conservations has already provided approval.

Bulk Trash Collection Bids

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on the bids received for the dumpster collections for the large apartment complexes and town house communities, announcing this item will be on the May agenda for consideration for awarding the bid.

Other Miscellaneous Items

The FY17 Road Resurfacing Project has been completed, and the contractor was able to include an extra area of paving on Kerr.

Mr. Mulrine provided an update on the North 6th Street Sewer repair.

The Council was provided a copy of the Maryland Municipal League's 2017 Legislative Session Overview.

April 27 – MML -ESAM Meeting will be held at the Salisbury Fire Dept.

April 26 – an invitation to attend the Caroline Early Learning Advisory Council meeting was handed out.

May 2 – Caroline County Budget Hearing is scheduled to be held at the Greensboro Fire Company Community Center. Mayor McNinch, Councilman Johnson and Mr. Mulrine are planning to attend.

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Chief Cox enlightened the Council about the stabbing incident that occurred at 810 Market St. this past weekend.

Mr. Mulrine talked with the Council about the proposed Duffy Track Project, and clarified that this is planned to be a 55 an older community.

Mr. Mulrine shared that the Willow Project was not approved for funding.

Councilman Lister had the Strategic Plan printed on canvas for displaying in the lobby to help get the Strategic Plan visible to the community.

May 6 – Mothers of Preschoolers will be holding a Safety Awareness Community Event at St. Luke's UMC – 11AM to 1PM

May 9 – the Annual Law Enforcement Officer Memorial will be held at Calvary Baptist Church at 7PM.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch adjourned the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*