

June 17, 2019

The Working Session of the Denton Town Council was called to order by Mayor McNinch at 9:00 AM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Working Session was held at the Denton Town Office Building.

Mayor McNinch, Councilman Branson and Councilwoman Wilson were present. Councilman Johnson arrived at 9:22 AM and Councilman Lister arrived at 9:28 AM.

Staff present included – Don Mulrine, Lt. George Bacorn, Mark Chandler, Phil Clark, David Renshaw and Karen Monteith.

Discussion was held on the following items:

WWTP Project Update

Mr. Mark Chandler, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, provided an update on the WWTP Liner Replacement and Ultra Violet Upgrade Project. Change orders were discussed with the Council. The project is scheduled to be completed by October.

Staff was asked to provide an updated Capacity Chart and Plan for Future Growth. Discussion was held pertaining to having legislation that would address holding planned projects accountable to be built out by a certain time frame, and if not for the parcel to revert back to the original use without tying up allocations, for projects that may not come to fruition.

Councilman Johnson arrived and Mayor McNinch updated him on what had been discussed.

Mr. Chandler will officially present the change orders to the Council at the July meeting for approval.

Councilman Lister arrived.

Sharp Road Park Update and CIP Request

Discussion was held on the Sharp Road Park Project; upcoming grant funding opportunities and using Capital Impact Fees to move forward with improvements for another building, an irrigation well, and trees. Concerns were shared as to the delay for the walking path and the need to have a full site plan, instead of piecing together one step at a time.

The Council wants to have a full and final plan, inclusive of all the parks. Staff was directed to pull together a meeting with the Choptank Athletic Association, Recreation & Parks, Lions Club, and the Board of Education to discuss all the parks in Town and their needs and come up with a plan for improvements for each park.

Strategic Plan

The updated Strategic Plan was discussed and ways to promote public awareness and developing a community dash board to promote community partnership.

Southern State Project

Mr. Mulrine announced that the Town has received approval from the Maryland Historic Trust to move forward with the demolition of the Southern States Property. He has been in contact with the Department of Housing and Community Development and provided information on the next steps required for the grant funding.

Legislation Updates

Discussion was held on pending Ordinances #700 Small Cells, #701 Recycling, #702 Refuse Amendments, and the coinciding Resolutions to establish fees for these services.

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Tax Differential

Discussion continued on the pending Ocean City Tax Differential Case and whether the Town should join the suit.

Discussion was held in regard to the Caroline County Commissioners recent approval to reducing Municipal - Denton's Tax Differential this upcoming year to pay for School Resource Officers and the affects this has on Municipal residents.

Councilman Branson left the meeting at 10:55 AM.

Miscellaneous

Discussion was held with Staff in regard to a concern received pertaining to a property maintenance issue and whether former staff had errored in issuing a permit several years ago.

Staff is in the process of reviewing the files to determine if an error was made.

The Mayor would like to avoid micromanaging and encouraged that when the Council receives a complaint to direct the citizens back to staff to handle. If not resolved, then get the Council involved.

Councilman Johnson announced that he will be sending out the Evaluation for the Town Administrator and asked for all members of Council to complete their individual review, send back to him to compile into a full review.

Mayor McNinch inquired about a recent noise complaint she received. Lt. Bacorn advised that contact was made with the landlord and the issue seems to be under control.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor McNinch adjourned the Working Session at 11:13 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk-Treasurer*