

September 7, 2023

Regular Meeting

Mayor McNinch called the Regular Meeting of the Denton Town Council to order at 6:00 PM on this date, leading everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mayor McNinch thanked everyone for coming and asked that the record reflect that all Councilmembers were present.

Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2023 Regular Meeting with one correction, for New Business Item #2 to reflect that Councilman Taylor seconded the motion instead of Councilman Johnson. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

None

Petitions, Remonstrance's, and Communication

On behalf of the Denton Town Council, Mayor McNinch asked Karen to come forward and presented her with a lovely bouquet of flowers, to thank her for all she does with Summerfest and especially with this year, helping to make it another successful event.

Council Citation – Cpl. McMullen

Councilman Johnson presented a Council Citation to Corporal Christopher McMullen, recognizing him for going above and beyond the call of duty to assist a couple in need during a recent event in August.

Proclamation - Caroline Goes Purple

Mayor McNinch read a Proclamation to recognize September as Caroline Goes Purple Month in Denton and thank the organizations that educate the residents about the opioid epidemic and how to prevent it. Accepting the Proclamation was Angel Perez.

Mr. Perez thanked the Council for their continued support and announced that Caroline Goes Purple will be hosting and participating in many events this month. Those events include a Color Run at Martinek State Park on 9/10, Wear Purple Day on 9/13, and on 9/16 Mid-Shore Goes Purple Together in Wharton and Federalsburg will be hosting a Memory Walk.

Ordinances and Resolutions**Resolution #895 – FY2023 General Fund Budget Amendment**

A Resolution of the Town of Denton to amend the General Fund Budget for Fiscal Year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to adopt Resolution #895, seconded by Councilman Lister, passing unanimously.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business**Agenda #1 – Fiber MOU Renewal–Town and County**

An Agreement extending the term of the current Memorandum Of Understanding for Fiber Optic and Conduit use between the County Commissioners of Caroline County and the Town of Denton was presented. The agreement is for an additional 5 years to expire in 2028.

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

Agenda #2 – ARPA Water/Sewer Extensions Contractor Bid

Scott Getchell, Town Administrator, shared that the water and sewer extension of services for Legion & Foy Road, South Second St. & Sharp Road, a small section on Market and a section of Camp Road using ARPA Funds was placed out for bids. Only one bid was received, and that bid came in at over \$5M, with only \$2.4M in funds available. Mr. Getchell is working with the bidder to break down the cost, prioritize and scale back the project for the area's most needed and will provide an update in October.

Agenda #3 - DDMS "HotDesks" Resource Center Lease Renewal

The Downtown Denton Main Street Organization is currently managing the HotDesks program at 323 Market Street in Denton and submitted a request to renew the lease to continue the program.

Mr. Getchell shared that the new lease has been modified to a month-to-month lease and the same rent amount as the previous lease.

Paula Wright, DDMS Board President, shared that the HotDesks area is still being used on a regular basis and with some recent changes this will give some additional time for DDMS to continue assessing their needs and the use of the building.

Councilman Taylor made a motion to approve the Lease, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Mrs. Wright announced that the Supper at Sunset is currently scheduled for Sept. 16, 2023 and will again be held at the Chesapeake Culinary School.

Agenda #4 - Denton Industrial Park Sales Contract

Donna Todd, Director of Planning & Codes, shared that the SVN-Miller Commercial Real Estate has submitted a Commercial Sales Contract for Mill Creek Properties LLC to purchase Denton Industrial Park Lots 9B-2A & 9B-2B, Walsh Way, and is seeking consideration for approval of the sale.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve the Sales Contract, seconded by Councilman Johnson, passing unanimously.

Agenda #5 - Denton Industrial Park Sales Contracts

Mrs. Todd, Director of Planning & Codes, shared that SVN-Miller Commercial Real Estate submitted a Commercial Sales Contracts for Atlantic Coastal Partners, LLC, to purchase Denton Industrial Park Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4, Legion Road, and is seeking consideration for approval of the sales.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the Sales Contract, seconded by Councilman Lister.

In discussion, Councilman Taylor inquired why Lot 3 was selling at a lower value than the other Lots. Mr. Getchell shared that Lot 3 includes a large area of wetlands.

Mr. Getchell also introduced Mr. & Mrs. Hughes, the buyers, to the Council.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch asked for a vote on the motion to approve entering into a Sales Contract.

The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda #6 - Trailered Gas-Powered Pump

Mark Chandler, Director of Public Works, discussed purchasing a 6" Trailered Pump, for the purpose to provide a substantial emergency backup for all pumping stations should one suffer complete failure and can also be used at the Wastewater Treatment Plant as well as any other emergency applications in Town that require a high velocity pump. Mr. Chandler requested three quotes, and only 2 responded with prices, while the third did

not respond. The lowest bid was Xylem in the amount of \$89,462. This purchase was included in the FY24 Sewer Fund Budget.

Councilman Lister made a motion to approve the purchase of \$89,462 for Xylem, seconded by Councilman Branson, passing unanimously.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees & Miscellaneous

Councilman Johnson shared that Mr. Mulrine and himself added the Eagle Scout Awards Ceremony in which two young Scouts were recognized.

Mr. Getchell provide a Denton Utility Commission Meeting update.

Councilman Branson stated that he was really proud of the way Summerfest went this year and on behalf of the Town Council he publicly thanked all the Town Employees for their hard work and efforts that went into making Summerfest such a wonderful event.

Councilman Johnson shared highlights from the Little League Award Ceremony that was held on Friday night during the Summerfest, announcing that this year Caroline County had two Softball Teams go all the way to the State Championship, and with Denton Little League celebrating 70 years and having a team go all the way to State Championship as well, it was definitely worth Celebrating these District Six Champions.

Mayor McNinch thanked Chief Bacorn for his involvement with the Top Cop Program and shared that as she was perusing through the MML Bulletin she saw Chief Bacorn was in a photo with Governor when he presented the Top Cop award to this year's recipient, and expressed how important it is for the Town to have a voice at the State level.

Councilman Johnson congratulated Mr. Getchell on his one-year anniversary of being the Town Administrator.

Mr. Getchell attended the Tri-Association Conference in Ocean City, which includes the WWOA, CWEA, and AWWA and that he represented the WWOA as President this past year.

Mayor McNinch provided highlight of the recent Maryland Municipal League Legislative Committing Meeting.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch adjourned the meeting at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer