

August 1, 2024

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.

Invocation was given by Pastor Dan Gedman of St. Luke's Methodist Church.

Mayor McNinch thanked everyone for coming and stated that Councilman Branson was absent and that all the other Councilmembers were present.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2024 Regular Meeting as presented; seconded by Councilman Taylor. The motion passed with three votes. Councilman Lister abstained because he was not in attendance for the July meeting.

Introduction of New Project Manager

Mrs. Katie Northam introduced herself as the Town's new Project Manager.

Public Hearing

Ordinance #753 – Stormwater Management Amendment

Mayor McNinch opened a public hearing at 6:03 PM to receive public comments on Ordinance # 753 - An Ordinance of the Town of Denton amending Chapter 106 Stormwater Management of the Denton 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 6:03PM.

Petitions, Remonstrance's, and Communication

Proclamation – Caroline Summerfest

Mayor McNinch read for the record a joint Proclamation with the Caroline County Commissioners to recognize the 35th Annual Caroline Summerfest Event that will take place August 16 & 17, 2024 in downtown Denton, and encouraged everyone to attend.

Proclamation - Sports Awards

Councilman Johnson announced that the Caroline Softball Senior's All-Star Team won the 2024 District 6 Championship. Proclamations will be presented to the players and coaches at 5:00 PM on Friday, Aug. 16, during Summerfest.

Ordinances and Resolutions

Ordinance #753 – Stormwater Management Ordinance Amendment

An Ordinance of the Town of Denton amending Chapter 106, Stormwater Management of the Town Code.

Councilman Johnson made a motion to adopt Ordinance #753, seconded by Councilman Taylor.

In discussion: Mr. Scott Getchell, Town Administrator, provided a synopsis of the amendment, which includes stormwater design standard upgrades specific to helping improve the Poor House Run Water Shed. He shared that Riverkeepers has secured funding to remediate and restore the Poor House Run Watershed in Denton and by having new stormwater design standards in place, it will help to ensure the improvements will last.

Councilman Lister shared that he fully supports the amendment and understands the purpose, but he has concerns about the fiscal impact on current property owners when they decide to develop their properties.

Further discussion was held on design standard changes occurring frequently but being necessary for the betterment and safety of the community and the impact changes may have on future developments. The other side is that if nothing is done, then the properties along the Poor House Run will continue to be affected by stormwater runoff.

It was noted that the Ordinance becomes effective one year after adoption.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch asked for a vote on the motion to adopt.

The motion passed with 3 votes in favor, no opposed, however Councilman Lister chose to abstain.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Agenda #1 – Alternate Appointment to Planning Commission

Discussion regarding having Councilman Taylor serve as the alternate member of the Planning Commission was held.

Councilman Taylor is currently the Council liaison for the Planning Commission, and it has been confirmed that he can legally serve as the alternate and have voting ability. Councilman Taylor shared some concerns he has about being a voting member that were discussed.

Staff will conduct some outreach to see if any other residents would be interested in serving.

Agenda #2 – Projects Update

Mr. Getchell provided the Council with updates on current capital and private development projects.

Reports of Officers, Boards, and Committees

Councilman Taylor provided a summary of Planning Commission's June meeting.

Councilman Lister provided a summary of the Utility Commission's June meeting.

Mayor McNinch and Mr. Getchell attended the open house at The Residence at Eden Green and shared how nice the facility is.

Mayor McNinch attended Maryland Municipal Leagues first Legislative Meeting this week and discussion was held on MML's upcoming legislative priorities.

Mr. Getchell shared that the Caroline County Chamber of Commerce will be holding a photo event next Friday from 11-1. If any of the Council members are interested in having photos done to please let him know.

With no further discussion, Mayor McNinch adjourned the meeting at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen L. Monteith,
Clerk - Treasurer*