

**TOWN OF CHARLOTTE COURT HOUSE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
Monday November 18, 2019 7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the Charlotte Court House Town Council was held on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 7:00 pm. Mayor Watkins called the meeting to order. Council Members Haskins, Arbogast, Ramsey, Andrews and Braxton were present. Council Member Kurdt was absent. Council Member Arbogast motioned to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Council Member Ramsey requested to amend the October minutes under the Manufactured Homes Ordinance by replacing the words “the areas that they are permitted” with “zoned Agricultural,” and to revise the sentence “The following changes were proposed:” to read “The following is the revised wording of changes to the Town Zoning Ordinance dated March 7, 1986:” Council Member Argobast motioned to approve the October minutes amended. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes and 0 nays. Council Member Andrews motioned to approve the financial statement as presented. The motion was seconded and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes and 0 nays.

**Citizen Comments** None

**Water Operator Report** Michael Funderburk reported that water testing results were good. He reported that phosphate pumps at wells 3 & 4 were repaired, the well house doors were repainted, and the heaters were repaired. Michael stated that they are working on getting quotes to get the SCADA radio system up and running, and that they are seeking proposals for tank maintenance.

**Evergreen Road Sidewalk Project** A written report submitted by Melody Foster of the Commonwealth Regional Council stated that the Virginia Dept. of Transportation approved awarding the project to Pearson Construction; and that the Notice of Award was sent from the Town; and that the project engineer hopes to set the Notice to Proceed date for February 15, 2020.

**Municipal Building Roof Replacement Proposals** Mayor Watkins stated that one proposal was received from Rockwell Roofing for a total of \$28,795.00. Following discussion there was consensus that the proposal seemed a bit high, and that additional proposals should be solicited for comparison. Council Member Braxton motioned to reject the bid received from Rockwell Roofing. The motion was seconded by Council Member Arbogast and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Mayor Watkins stated that he has been approached by an individual who is interested in buying the Municipal building. Following discussion regarding possible relocation areas, the lack of adequate parking and Americans with Disabilities Act requirements, there was consensus to not pursue selling the building.

**Planning Commission Report** Council Member Ramsey reported that the Planning Commission is meeting regularly and continues to make progress. He reported that an individual had hoped to open a video game business in the space formerly occupied by Court House Florist, but it was determined that the building was not properly zoned for that type of venture. Mr. Ramsey stated that although gambling is illegal in Virginia, “games of skill” that allow you to win money are getting around the law and he expressed concern that there is no age limit. He stated that the Town currently has no law enforcement and such a business could raise concerns.

**Annual Tree Lighting** Mayor Watkins stated that the Tree Lighting is traditionally held on the first Sunday of December, which would be December 1<sup>st</sup>, which coincidentally falls on Thanksgiving weekend. Following discussion there was consensus to hold the Tree Lighting on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Council Member Haskins agreed to arrange for special music and Mayor Watkins offered to enlist a member of the clergy to provide the invocation and benediction.

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**Committee Reports** Grounds, Streets & Lights – Council Member Andrews reported that the meeting with Scott Frederick of VDOT was rescheduled for Monday, November 25 at 2:00 p.m. She requested that the Town consider hiring someone to assist with enforcement of Town ordinances after the first of the year. Financial Committee – Council Member Ramsey stated that the Town should cash in their certificate of deposit with the Bank of Charlotte County and add the funds to the Local Government Investment Pool (LGIP) account. He stated that the penalty incurred for early withdrawal will be offset by the greater amount of interest that the funds will accrue through the LGIP. Building & Grounds – Council Member Ramsey stated that the thermostats in the rear of the Municipal building cannot be set lower than 55 degrees, and requested that they be replaced.

**Clerk's Report** Karen Price requested that she be authorized to sign checks since she has been appointed as Clerk/Treasurer. Council Member Arbogast motioned to add Karen to the authorized signature list at the Bank of Charlotte County. The motion was seconded by Council Member Haskins and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays. Karen suggested that the Council consider purchasing a snowblower, since there are a great deal of sidewalks and crosswalk entrances that aren't cleared when it snows, making it difficult for pedestrians.

**Council Comments** Council Member Ramsey stated that minor changes have been made to the U.S. Cellular contract since it was determined that the water tower could not support more than one pod. Council Member Ramsey motioned to approve the contract changes and to authorize Mayor Watkins to sign the revised contract after U.S. Cellular has signed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Arbogast and carried by voice vote: 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Council Member Andrews stated that the Town needs to bring Halloween back and that very few houses had lights on to welcome trick or treaters.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned.

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David C. Watkins, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST:

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Karen K. Price, Clerk of Council