

Town Council Meeting

April 8, 2025

The Town Council of Victoria, Virginia met on April 8, 2025, in the Town Municipal building with the Honorable Allen D. Smith, Mayor, presiding: Councilmember's in attendance were Ronald Mattox, Johnnie Brame, James G. Elam, Jr., Sandra Jones, Christopher Garrett, and Chris Gill. Also attending were Town Manager Rodney Newton, Treasurer Diane Harding, Town Clerk Vickie McDaniel, Chief Camden Lawson and Fire Chief Frankie Tanner.

Mayor Smith called the meeting of the Town Council to order.

The invocation was given by Councilmember Jones followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to go into a Public Hearing to hear comments on the proposed disposition and acquisition on the following parcels of land identified as Tax Map 03345-01-16A-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 8 also known as 1220 Main Street. Motion carried.

Councilmember Gill doesn't want to sell as is but rather clean the lot and use for parking. Councilmember Mattox mentioned the Property Committee working with the IDA. Council doesn't want more blighted property.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to come out of the Public Hearing. Motion carried.

Mayor Smith asked if there were any additions to the meeting. Town Manager Newton asked for action on the Public Hearing regarding property at 1220 Main Street. Mayor Smith added Mr. Newton under Information Items as item (c). Councilmember Jones asked to speak about the RV Campground. Mayor Smith added Councilmember Jones under Information Items as item (d).

Mayor Smith asked if there were any Conflicts of Interest on matters being discussed on the agenda. There were none.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Jones to accept the March 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Gill to accept the Treasurer's Report for March 2025. Motion carried.

Chief Camden Lawson presented the Police Report. Chief Lawson stated they had a busy month. They answered 383 calls, issued 130 citations and 3 arrests. He advised Phase 1 of the flock cameras has been completed. We also received the \$12,000.00 Flock Grant this week. There were no questions regarding the Police Report. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Frankie Tanner presented the Fire Department Report. He advised they had a busy month with a total of 105 responses for the month of March for Station 2 and Station 7. He informed council the Financial Reports will be one-month behind due to a third-party agency

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they are using. The Truck & Tractor Pull is scheduled for Saturday, May 31, 2025. Assistant Chief Garrett updated on the new drug box policy. They went through the application process and passed the virtual inspection but currently held up for six-weeks. Assistant Chief Garrett stated we will probably not meet the April 15th deadline. They are waiting to receive their DEA number. If this happens, the drug boxes will have to be removed from the ambulances and ALS procedures will stop. Asst. Chief Garrett is working tirelessly to get this resolved and will keep the Town Manager updated. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to approve the Fire/Rescue Department report as presented. Motion carried.

Informational Items:

- a) Mr. Newton requested the following equipment to be declared surplus and disposed of in accordance with local and state laws.
- 2003 Ford F-150 VIN 2FTRX08W43CB09988
 - Orsi Hydraulic Flail Mower S/N 16844
 - Kubota ZD 1211
 - Massey Ferguson 245 Tractor & Bushhog S/N 9A-29833

Mr. Newton advised the 2003 Ford F-150 is sold and he will go through GOV.deals for possible sell of other equipment. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Jones to declare the equipment surplus. Motion carried.

- b) Mayor Smith has authorized a called meeting on Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00pm at the Victoria Municipal Building. The purpose of this meeting is to hold a public hearing on the condemnation and eminent domain of the blighted property at 1118 Main Street and council approval of consideration to adopt an ordinance on eminent domain.
- c) Mayor Smith assigned the Property Committee along with Town Manager Rodney Newton to come back with recommendations on the proposed disposition and acquisition on the following parcels of land identified as Tax Map 03345-01-16A-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 8 also known as 1220 Main Street.
- d) Councilmember Jones had a citizen ask about the property behind Subway to use as a RV campground. Mr. Newton advised there is an area on Cemetery Road that has been designated for this. Councilmember Jones will make them aware of this.

Town Manager Update:

- a) Mr. Newton updated on the wastewater project. He advised supplies are in for the Tidewater Avenue project. They are waiting on contractor to mill the pavement and anticipate starting within the next two weeks.
- b) Mr. Newton advised the west lagoon closure continues and the bull rush rock filter is drained. He will be meeting with Meridian Waste about leachate.

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- c) Mr. Newton advised the VFW sewer pump stopped working. The cost for the pump alone is \$5,000.00 not including controls and installation. Mr. Newton will update council more next month.
- d) Mr. Newton updated on the water plant. The first sedimentation basin is scheduled for April 9, 2025 to be drained and walls assessed. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Brame to appropriate \$11,000.00 from the Water O&M Fund to the Filter Plant budget. Motion carried.
- e) Mr. Newton advised he will be attending the Virginia Rural Water Association (VRWA) conference next week in Roanoke, VA.
- f) Mr. William Pernell advised we will have a Food Truck Rodeo in the park Wednesday, April 9th from 5:00pm until 8:00pm. There will be seven food vendors there.
- g) Mr. William Pernell advised the Annual Easter Egg Hunt will be Saturday, April 19th starting at 10:00am in the park. The “Klassy Diva’s” Social Club is co-sponsoring this event.
- h) Mr. Pernell advised Music in the Park will begin Friday, April 18, 2025 from 6:00pm until 9:00pm featuring Guy Grant and the Wings of Mercy. Mr. William Pernell is also working with the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA) through a grant program for a concert at the Victoria Community Centre on July 18, 2025. The concert will feature Mr. Redd Volkaert who plays country, jazz and southern swing. Mr. Pernell advised the VCA will pay half of the performance fee and we would like to sell tickets to recoup the cost. He is also planning to schedule a food truck vendor for this event.
- i) Mr. Pernell informed council we had a community centre rental last Saturday, April 5, 2025 where the new skate rentals were used. We have a total of 65 new skates and are expecting another 35 skates in the coming weeks. Everyone enjoyed themselves.
- j) Mr. Newton advised council that Mr. William Pernell will attending the Board of Supervisors meeting Thursday, April 10, 2025 to receive a donation from Meridian Waste in the amount of \$10,000.00 for the new skates recently purchased from Riedell Shoes, INC.

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Jones to go into closed session for discussion of personnel performance Pursuant to VA Code §2.2-3711(A)(1).

Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to return to regular session according to Code of VA Section 2.2-3712 and to certify that only business matters identified in the motion to convene and those lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements were discussed. By show of hands, all voted unanimously, yes. Motion carried.

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Smith adjourned the meeting.

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Vickie McDaniel, Clerk

Allen D. Smith, Mayor

Approved May 13, 2025

Rodney Newton, Town Manager