

The Town Council of Victoria, Virginia met on May 13, 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 Elam 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 Joint Public Hearing with the Planning Commission on request to rezone parcels of land identified as Tax Map 03345-01-42C-1, 2, 3, 4,6, & 7 located on Virginia Avenue and Park Avenue between W. 3rd Street and W. 4th Street. Motion carried. Motion was made by Mr. Christopher Tomlinson and seconded by Mr. Rob Williams with the Planning Commission to go into a Joint Public Hearing with Town Council on request to rezone parcels of land identified as Tax Map 03345-01-42C-1, 2, 3, 4,6, & 7 located on Virginia Avenue and Park Avenue between W. 3rd Street and W. 4th Street. Motion carried.

The lots are zoned as R-1 residential and currently vacant. Mr. Randy Jackson submitted a Re-Zoning/Zoning Amendment Request Application to council to rezone as R-2 to allow for multi-family/duplex housing. Citizen Sid Smyth was present and owns the property. Mr. Smyth had no issues with this and stated it would enhance the neighborhood.

There were no further comments.

Motion was made by Mr. Christopher Tomlinson and seconded by Mr. Rob Williams to come out of the Joint Public Hearing with Town Council. Motion carried.

Town Manager Rodney Newton discussed the FY26 proposed budget proposal. There were not a lot of changes to the budget, just some adjustments and no plans for increase.

There were no comments.

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

Mayor Smith asked if there were any additions to the meeting. Councilmember Mattox with the Property Committee requested to speak about the property at 1220 Main Street (Town Shop). Mayor Smith added Councilmember Mattox under Information Items as item (b).

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 Mattox to accept the April 2025 regular meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried.

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

Chief Camden Lawson presented the Police Report. Chief Lawson stated they answered 370 calls, issued 37 summons and 12 arrests. The summons report showed tests for switching to electronic summons. Chief Lawson advised two of the six flock cameras have been installed. One on Poorhouse Rd and another on Mecklenburg Avenue. Chief Lawson stated there is a lot of traffic after midnight. He also advised more ordinance letters were mailed out this week. We have a new hire for the Victoria Police Department. Mr. Hunner Boshier currently works as a dispatcher for Prince Edward County. His first day will be June 1, 2025 and he will start the academy on June 17, 2025. There were no questions regarding the Police Report. Motion was made by Councilmember Brame and seconded by Councilmember Gill to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion carried.

Fire Chief Frankie Tanner presented the Fire Department Report. He advised they had a total of 87 responses for the month of April for Station 2 and Station 7. The Financial Report for March 2025 was provided. The Truck & Tractor Pull is scheduled for Saturday, May 31, 2025. Chief Tanner discussed the purchase of a 2004 95 ft. Mid-Mount Platform fire truck in excellent condition. He advised they found the truck at Carrsville Vol. Fire Department and were able to negotiate a price. The truck will be available in September and they plan to have in service by the end of the year. Assistant Chief Garrett updated on the new drug box policy. He stated everything has been completed. They have a control number and received their DEA number. Assistant Chief Garrett advised all medications are back on the truck. There were no questions regarding the Financial Report. 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) The Planning Commission recommended to town council to approve the rezoning request for Randy Jackson on the following parcels of land identified as Tax Map 03345-01-42C-1, 2, 3, 4, 6, & 7 located on Virginia Avenue and Park Avenue between W. 3rd Street and W. 4th Street from residential R-1 to residential R-2 with the following conditions.

- Meet all current residential R-2 zoning requirements

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to accept the rezoning request. Motion carried.

- b) The Property Committee recommended to town council the property at 1220 Main Street, old Town Shop, to place a “For Sale” sign advertising for any interested parties to inquire at the town office. When inquiries are received, the town will give or mail a proposal request to the prospective buyer. The proposal request will ask the prospective buyer what the property will be used for and their offer for the property. The town will reserve the right to accept or reject all proposals. They recommend trying this for 60 days to see if the town gets any offers. The Town Attorney indicated that the town could put stipulations on the property and how it can be used and if not accepted, the property will convert back to the town. Councilmember Mattox advised the insurance for all the buildings is \$341,868 and tax assessment is \$117,800. Town council discussed a starting price of \$100,000.00. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Mattox to accept the Property Committee recommendation for property at 1220 Main Street. Motion carried.

Town Manager Update:

- a) Mr. Newton updated on the wastewater project. On the Tidewater sewer project, we are currently rebuilding all the way from W. 7th Street to W. 10th Street. He advised W. 7th Street to W. 8th Street was rebuilt last week with a lot of complications. The manhole will be set next. Mr. Newton advised it will be several more weeks before this project is finished and will then be completely repaved from W. 7th Street to W. 10th Street.
- b) Mr. Newton discussed leachate. He will be meeting with DEQ on Thursday, May 15th. Also, they have started introducing leachate in small amounts in the system at the Grove Avenue pumpstation and seeing positive returns on the ammonia levels.
- c) Mr. Newton updated on the water plant. The change over from chlorine gas to sodium hypochlorite is getting closer. Mr. Newton provided council photos of the two new pumps needed for the liquid bleach solution at a cost of \$30,000.00. Mr. Newton requested council to consider funding out of the repayment from the IDA for the 300 Court Street project using \$15,000.00 out of the Park fund and \$15,000.00 out the General fund. Motion was made by Councilmember Elam and seconded by Councilmember Garrett to proceed with the Town Managers recommendation. Motion carried.
- d) Mr. Newton discussed the concrete assessment on the basins. The first assessment has been done and we should have the report in by the end of May with several options to

make the repairs. The exterior was in bad shape. Mr. Newton advised the second basin looked much better.

- e) Mr. Newton spoke with Nathan Coey with Moonshot Missions. He is still working with us and had some changes to his plans of moving to Virginia. Mr. Coey will be moving to Tennessee instead. Mr. Coey is still planning weekly calls with us and will be here a couple of days each month.
- f) Mr. Newton submitted a request to SERCAP for \$50,000.00 for replacing all the instrumentation at the water plant. It will be July before we know anything.
- g) Mr. Newton discussed the proposed FY26 budget. We had an increase in our insurance through VRSA. We compared insurance with VaCorp, but there were several variances with VaCorp and some services they could not provide therefore we will be signing agreement with VRSA to continue with them.
- h) Mr. Newton will be meeting with the Department of Corrections regarding our agreement for supplying water and sewer to their facility. The water rates with DOC have not changed since 2012 and sewer rates changed in 2020. Mr. Newton provided council photos of the connection coming into the prison to fill the 300,000-gallon tank. The town fills the tank but DOC owns and maintains the water tank. Southern Corrosion was here last week and did a visual inspection of the tank. The exterior of the tank needs to be painted and interior coating is probably needed. Mr. Newton will update council at next month's meeting.
- i) 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 provided council a synopsis of options to pay for the pump repairs. There is approximately five acres that VFW#9954 has no plans of developing. It was discussed for the VFW to deed the acreage to the town and they would retain the remaining 1.72 acres. Mr. Christopher Tomlinson and Mr. Ron Misorski with the VFW were receptive to this idea. Mr. Newton would like to make a road to Lunenburg Lake and our pump house then the town would assume responsibility. Mr. Newton recommended referring to the Property Committee to meet with the VFW.
- j) Mr. Newton received a formal request from Cindy Hawthorne at 1174 Mecklenburg Street. to town council for water and sewer lines to her property outside of town limits. He advised water already runs out to Twin Cemetery Road but not sewer. To run a sewer line would be over 630 feet and require two manholes installed with approximately \$15,000.00 in materials. Councilmember Gill advised for the customer to pay for the sewer connection. Mr. Newton will contact a contractor to get a quote for Ms. Hawthorne.
- k) Mr. Newton provided council the audit report and an executive summary.
- l) Mr. Newton advised we will be advertising for two other positions with the town. One for a Water Plant Operator trainee at the Water Filter Plant and another for a maintenance position at the shop. Drake Armstrong's last day was Friday, May 9, 2025.
- m) Mr. William Pernell advised Music in the Park will be Friday, May 16th from 6-9pm featuring Gary Wayne & the Twisted Rails along with a Taste of Texas food truck and Get Silly Lemonade.
- n) Mr. William Pernell advised we will have another Food Truck Rodeo in the park Friday, May 23rd from 5:00pm until 8:00pm.
- o) Mr. William Pernell advised another Music in the Park on Friday, June 20th from 6-9pm featuring Chap Cash and Amish Traditions with Get Silly Lemonade.
- p) Mr. Pernell advised he has been working with the Virginia Commission for the Arts (VCA) for a concert at the Victoria Community Centre on July 18, 2025. The concert will

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feature Mr. Redd Volkaert who plays country, jazz and southern swing with a Taste of Texas as the food vendor.

q) Mr. Pernell informed council we may possibly have a skate night at the community centre Friday, June 13th from 7-10pm. He advised we have received all the new skates.

r) Mr. Newton advised the pool will open on Saturday, May 24th Memorial Day weekend.

Motion was made by Councilmember Mattox and seconded by Councilmember Brame to adjourn the meeting.

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

Vickie McDaniel, Clerk

Allen D. Smith, Mayor

Approved June 10, 2025

Rodney Newton, Town Manager