

## COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**March 6, 2023**

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council of Drakes Branch was held on Monday, March 6, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Municipal Building, located at 4801 Drakes Main Street, Drakes Branch, Virginia.

Mayor Phillip D. Jackson called the meeting to order and Mary Sands, Clerk recorded the minutes. Members present were as follows: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Vice-Mayor Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Mayor Jackson delivered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to approve the minutes to the last regular meeting, was passed on a voice vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Account Balances with The Bank of Charlotte County were as follows:

General Fund	\$662,087.98
Water/Sewer	176,359.54
Debt Service Reserve	41,915.38
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$880,362.90</b>

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Eugene Wells Jr., to pay the bills, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Finance – Mayor Jackson said he will meet with Terry Ramsey from Charlotte Court House concerning possibly investing the town’s money in an account that is through the state and will pay more in interest.

Water/Sewer – No report.

Streets – Mayor Jackson said the town is identifying the old streetlights to see about changing them to LED’s which would cost \$151 per light. The cost of the usage of the old lights and savings from the usage of the LED’s will be taken into consideration along with the cost of each new light to see if this is cost effective for the town. Peery Wells Sr. called Dominion Energy about the streetlight in front of St. Michael’s Church and he said they fixed it, but it is not producing enough light. Deborah Kennedy noticed this also. This will be looked into further.

Museum – Deborah Kennedy said she is going to try and have the Museum open on Saturdays when the Farmer’s Market is open.

Buildings & Grounds – James K. Gregory talked about the roof that has collapsed on the building beside the Post Office (to the left facing it). Since this building is not in our demolition project, we will have to wait to see what will happen.

Personnel – Peery Wells Sr. said they met with the employees and everything is going alright, with no complaints. He also stated that the Town Sergeant is not writing as many tickets but that there had been complaints of reckless driving on Proctor Street, and he will take care of it.

Grant – Mayor Jackson stated we are reviewing the RFP's for the water meter project and it appears that two of the four are looking good and that Peery & Noah will review them also. He concluded by saying the town will have a Zoom meeting tomorrow on the appraisals for the grant demolition project.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Mayor Jackson said it appears the museum roof issue may cost more than the town anticipated and asked that this be tabled for further study. On a motion by James K. Gregory, seconded by Peery Wells Sr., that we table the museum roof issue until the June meeting after the Buildings & Grounds Committee as well as the Grant Committee come back with a recommendation on this, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by James K. Gregory to purchase a new computer for the Town Office, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to adopt the Rules for the Use of the Municipal Building with the additions that Charles Errickson suggested, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to reappoint Roscoe Eubanks Jr. to the Planning Commission, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to allow Emily Bohannon to use the new building on March 26th, for a baby shower as per her written request, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Deborah Kennedy, seconded by Noah Davis, to renew the lease on the Ladies Club Building for another year, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to approve the contract with Lisa Traynham for cleaning the building, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

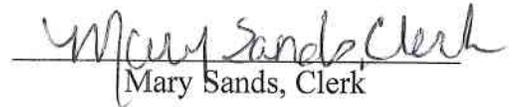
It was brought everyone's attention by James K. Gregory that the underside of the countertop from the kitchen into the meeting room, had not been finished. Mayor Jackson will contact Freddie Lee about this.

Eugene Wells Jr. said that this coming Sunday in Phenix at the Fire Dept. from 3-5, there will be a truck load of free appliances and other new items to be given away, and wondered if they had anything left over, if it could be stored in our building across the street to give away locally. On a motion by Peery Wells Sr., seconded by James K. Gregory, to accept his recommendation, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Noah Davis, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

Eugene Wells Jr. said he'd like to recognize Noah Davis for his initiative in running for the County Board of Supervisors, with other members showing their support.

On a motion by Noah Davis, seconded by Deborah Kennedy, and passed on a voice vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, the meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

  
Phillip D. Jackson, Mayor

  
Mary Sands, Clerk