

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

February 5, 2024

The Regular Meeting of the Town Council of Drakes Branch was held on Monday, February 5, 2024 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 (who entered the meeting at 7:32 p.m.), Vice-Mayor Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Peery Wells Sr. delivered the invocation and Mayor Jackson led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. Mayor Jackson introduced and welcomed our new Councilman, Thomas Pettus, saying he looks forward to working with him.

On a motion by Deborah Kennedy, seconded by Eugene Wells Jr., to approve the minutes to the last Regular Meeting was passed on a voice vote of 5 Ayes, 0 Nays. Gregory was not in attendance yet.

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

General Fund	\$ 77,751.25
Water/Sewer	70,285.10
Account Balance with State's LGIP Program:	465,992.81

TOTAL \$614,029.16

On a motion by Charles Errickson, seconded by Eugene Wells Jr., to pay the bills, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote. Gregory was not in attendance yet.

At this time, Mayor Jackson presented Noah Davis with a plaque, and he read the resolution that the council adopted that was printed on the plaque. This was in appreciation for the ten years he served on the council.

Mayor Jackson then introduced Andrew Jordan, who just bought Bailey's warehouse, stating he will be putting a business there. Mr. Jordan spoke by saying he lives in Florida with his wife and they have three children. He said this will be the company's 4th location that will service the northeast and they distribute custom packaging for restaurant chains like Chili's. He said they also want to get into manufacturing as well. He concluded by stating that the town has been very welcoming to them.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance – Mayor Jackson said the LGIP Program is still going good.

Water/Sewer – Peery Wells Sr. said things are going alright. Mayor Jackson discussed the inspection of the water tank saying the company found some pitting, sweating and erosion around the bolts and he has the report if anyone wants to see it. He said the proposal for the tank care will be \$16,000 per year and it's good for 10 years except for the Consumer Price Index. On a motion by Peery Wells Sr., seconded by Eugene Wells Jr., to table the Water Tank Proposal until the next meeting, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote. Gregory was not in attendance yet.

Streets – Charles Errickson said he had emailed pictures of three street signs to the clerk that need to be replaced since they are hard to read. He will get a picture of one more on School Street that needs to be reported also.

James K. Gregory entered the meeting.

Charles Errickson presented a handout showing what the committee came up with concerning trash cans as previously discussed. It was decided to table this matter again so they can come back with a picture and price of a trash can.

Museum – Mr. Jackson is still waiting on another bid to do the repair work at the museum.

Buildings & Grounds – On a motion by Peery Wells Sr., seconded by Deborah Kennedy, that the council will take turns and check it out each time the building is being used (when a deposit is paid), was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote. Schedule is as follows: Deborah Kennedy had January, Eugene Wells Jr. has February, Peery Wells Sr. will have March, Thomas Pettus will have April, Charles Errickson will have May & James K. Gregory will have June. For the remaining months, the schedule will start over in the same order. Also, the Clerk has a check-list for the Council to use for inspecting the building after it is used.

Personnel – Peery Wells Sr. said he met with the personnel since Charles couldn't make it and the employees had no complaints. Charles Errickson said due to a different position at his job, he cannot adjust his schedule as well to attend these meetings. Mayor Jackson asked James K. Gregory if he would replace him on the committee and he agreed. Peery also said that Charlie Brinkley did suggest that when people use the meeting room, if they wouldn't put the chairs outside of the checkered square tiles on the floor, it may help keep the walls from getting marked up. This will be looked into.

Grant – Mayor Jackson reported that we are still waiting on one person to sign the contract to sell their building to the town for the FEMA project. We did purchase Hudson's building. All the buildings have been tested for lead and asbestos (and samples sent to the lab) except for the condemned one on the end.

Eugene Wells Jr. asked about the signs for the pavilion and the Mayor said they are in his office.

Mayor Jackson said the VRS study will be paid for with the SLFRF funds.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

This was addressed earlier in the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

On a motion by Eugene Wells Jr., seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to reappoint Thelma Jones to the Board of Zoning Appeals, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

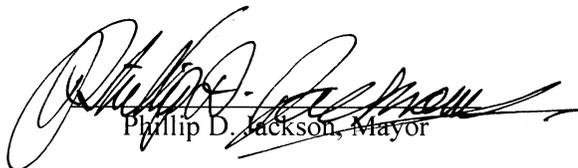
On a motion by Peery Wells Sr., seconded by Deborah Kennedy, to approve Lisa Traynham's application to use the Municipal Building, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

On a motion by Deborah Kennedy, seconded by Charles Errickson, to open the nominations to fill the unexpired term on the Planning Commission due to Ronnie Card's resignation, was passed on a voice vote of 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, with Deborah Kennedy nominating Phillip Flippen. No other nominations were

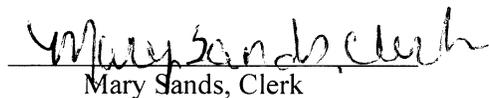
presented. On a motion by Deborah Kennedy, seconded by Charles Errickson, to appoint Phillip Flippen, was passed on a roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Deborah Kennedy, James K. Gregory, Peery Wells Sr., Thomas Pettus, Eugene Wells Jr. & Charles Errickson. Nays: None. Motion carried 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, by a unanimous vote.

Deborah Kennedy reminded everyone of the Bloodmobile this month on the 15th.

On a motion by Eugene Wells Jr., 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