

**Narrows Town Council Meeting
January 13, 2020**

Mayor John Davis called the meeting to order. Council members present were Clyde Turner, Jonathan Creger, Tom Garrett, Sarah Thwaites, and Joe Goorskey.

Staff members present were Lindsey Caudill, Buddy Kast, Susan Kidd, Keshia Pyles, Benji Ratcliffe, Dakota Shrader, and Debbie Thomas.

The attorney present was Mike Bedsaul.

Councilman Jonathan Creger gave the invocation.

Council and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of December 9th Meeting Minutes

Councilman Garrett made a motion to approve the December 9th meeting minutes. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Abstain: Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 4-0

Consent Agenda

Councilman Creger said he appreciates the improvements at the library and the park.

Councilman Garrett asked if the town is where they should be on the collection of real estate and personal property taxes for the year? The personal property seems like a low percentage.

Debbie Thomas said the personal property taxes will probably increase once DMV stops are placed on accounts that do not pay their taxes.

Councilman Goorskey asked if council could give Dakota Shrader some direction on the placement of the ball fields at Lurich?

Dakota Shrader said they talked about placing the ball fields with the backstops facing the concession stand. He would like to fence the fields in. After speaking with John Ross, who works for Giles County, he understands if they stay out of the immediate floodway there is a better chance of having fencing approved. The most important ball field is the large one that is to the left of the concession stand. In order to fence that one in and have it stay out of the immediate floodway it will have to stay as is.

Councilman Goorskey said he would like to know council's thoughts as to letting Dakota Shrader present what will work with the space at the ball fields and keep in mind what else the fields are used for, such as flag football and different things.

Dakota Shrader said he believes having a nice field will bring in much more community action compared to what the concession stand will bring in with the field being turned.

Mayor Davis said his concern is not only the concession stand but the restroom facilities as well. That is a long way to walk, especially if they are on the opposite side.

Dakota Shrader said they are releasing new grants right now and there is one that will give up to \$100,000 worth of equipment to do the entire field. He is working on applying for it now.

Councilman Creger said maybe turning the fields is not the answer but maybe they need to come back with a plan stating what they are trying to do. He would also like to see the recreation department hold a pitch, hit, and run event.

Mayor Davis said for Dakota Shrader to contact John Ross to see if the fields can be turned.

Dakota Shrader said the problem is if you turn the far-left field you will be running into the field in the middle.

Councilman Garrett asked Dakota Shrader to bring back a recommendation to council and let them know why it is the best recommendation as opposed to other ideas he has had.

Councilman Garrett said there were a couple of things they found under the mock OSHA inspection that did not look major.

Buddy Kast said they are all minor issues and have either been fixed or are being addressed.

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Creger, Garrett, Thwaites, and Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Communications, Concerns and Requests from the Public

None.

Communication from Mayor and Council

Councilman Garrett said there have been two PSA meetings since the last council meeting. Ricky McCoy was re-elected as the chairperson. They do have long-term financing in place for the new eastern-end convenience center and are working on getting that in service and closing the leased site. The financial position remains stable. They have done a lot of flow testing on Orchard Well and the plans are to take the data they have and go to the health department and see what their response is in terms of what the appropriate rating of that well should be. The size pump they put back in will be dependent on what the health department says. The PSA is doing more work to have more CDL drivers. They did show historical water sales and for the PSA in general the amount of water the Town of Narrows has purchased from them over the past three years has been fairly consistent.

New Business

Susan Kidd said a couple of years ago the Giles Rescue Squad asked about placing a unit in the building beside of Reece's Building Supply and the town waiving the water fee. They have placed a unit there and are asking for the water fee to be waived.

Councilman Creger made a motion to waive the water fee for Giles Rescue Squad beside of Reece's Building Supply. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Unfinished Business

Buddy Kast said the crosswalk for Route 61 at the town park has been approved by VDOT. The town will have to install it because the only way VDOT will pay for it is if it is placed on their six-year improvement plan or wait for them to have some extra money from another project. It will cost around \$3,500 for the town to install it.

Matters for Consideration by Council

Mike Bedsaul said the contract document for the sewer project was provided to the town by Peed & Bortz. There are supplemental terms and conditions attached to the document and are the changes he prepared. At this point he believes the document is ready for consideration by council unless they have questions. Peed & Bortz has agreed with all of the changes made.

Buddy Kast said they have also purchased the iamGIS software and he has asked the county for the shape files so if this is approved tonight they will be closer to beginning the GIS mapping.

Councilman Creger made a motion to approve the sewer project agreement with Peed & Bortz. Councilman Goorskey seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Creger, Garrett, Thwaites, and Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to amend executive session to also include real property (Sec. 2.2-3711.A.3). Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Creger, Garrett, Thwaites, and Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilman Garrett made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters (Sec. 2.2-3711.A.1) and real property (Sec. 2.2-3711.A.3). Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to return to open session. Councilman Turner seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorskey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Certification

WHEREAS, the Town of Narrows, has convened an executive meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative-recorded vote and in accordance with the provision of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act: and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification of the Town Council that such executive meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Town of Narrows hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia Law were discussed in the executive meeting to which this certification resolution applies: and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the executive meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Town Council.

ATTEST: _____

Councilman Garrett made a motion to accept the certification. Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Turner, Creger, Garrett, Thwaites, and Goorskey

Nays: None

Motion Carried 5-0

Councilmember Thwaites made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Creger seconded the motion.

Ayes: Goorksey, Thwaites, Garrett, Creger, and Turner
Nays: None
Motion Carried 5-0

Clerk, Debbie Thomas

Mayor, John G. Davis