

**Town of Dublin
Council Minutes
April 15, 2021**

The Town of Dublin held its monthly meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers. Present: Mayor Benny Skeens. Council members present: Vice-Mayor Steve Crigger, Dallas Cox, Edith Hampton and Wayne Seagle. Absent: Debbie Hager and Debbie Lyons. Other present: Town Attorney Samuel Campbell, Town Manager and Clerk of Council Tyler Kirkner, Administrative Assistant Deanna Marshall, Sargant David King, Fire Chief Dean Russell, Superintendent of Utilities Darrin Cullip and Treasurer Rebecca Wright.

Call to Order

Mayor Skeens welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dallas Cox led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Public Hearing Regarding Proposed Property Tax Increase

Mayor Skeens opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Campbell explained the requirements of notice as presented below:

NOTICE OF PROPOSED REAL PROPERTY TAX INCREASE

The Town of Dublin, Virginia proposes to increase property tax levies.

1. Assessment Increase: Total assessed value of real property, excluding additional assessments due to new construction or improvements to property, exceeds last year's total assessed value of real property in the Town of Dublin by 13.3 percent.
2. Lowered Rate Necessary to Offset Increased Assessment: The tax rate which would levy the same amount of real estate tax as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate with the exclusions mentioned above, would be \$0.21 per \$100 of assessed value. This rate will be known as the "lowered tax rate."
3. Effective Rate Increase: **The Town of Dublin proposes to adopt a tax rate of \$0.24 per \$100 of assessed value** (which is the existing real estate tax rate). The difference between the lowered tax rate and the proposed rate would be \$0.03 per \$100, or 14.3 percent. This difference will be known as the "effective tax rate increase."

Individual property taxes may, however, increase at a percentage greater than or less than the above percentage, based on the reassessment valuation.

4. Proposed Total Budget Increase: Based on the proposed real property tax rate and changes in other revenues, the total budget of the Town of Dublin will exceed last years by 14.7 percent.

Mayor Skeens opened the floor, received no comments and closed the public hearing. Mr. Kirkner stated staff recommends Council confirm that The Town of Dublin will adopt a tax levy of \$0.24 per \$100 of assessed value, which is the existing real estate rate. The tax levy will not change. The difference between an unused lowered tax rate and the chosen rate will be \$0.03 per \$100, or 14.3%.

Minutes

Mayor Skeens asked if there were any additions, deletions or corrections to the March 18, 2021 minutes. Edith Hampton made a motion to accept the minutes. Steve Crigger seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Absent

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Absent

Edith Hampton Yes

Wayne Seagle Yes

Vote: 4-Yes; 2-Absent

Reports of Officials

Darrin Cullip stated the Utility Department was trying to find water loss, he and Tye have met with Thompson & Lytton and another company to determine losses. The county will be re-calibrating their master meters on April 29th.

Sergeant King stated he had Grand Jury this week resulting in putting some bad people in jail. The Departments vehicle situation is bad but thanked Darrin for his help with the situation. In the past week there had been two shootings in the County and two stolen vehicles both of which were recovered.

Mr. Kirkner stated there has been a two-week delay in getting out the first-half Real Estate Taxes. Rebecca Wright recommended the June 5th due date should be moved to June 18th.

Committee Reports

Edith Hampton stated she met with Tye and they worked on the Brownfield proposal. The application has been submitted.

Dallas Cox stated the Airport was still seeking a manager.

Cigarette Tax Increase

Mr. Kirkner stated he recommends an area approach to cigarette tax administration and recommends that the cigarette tax be increased from \$.15 to \$.40. Mr. Kirkner stated as soon as the information becomes available he will bring it before council.

Budget Report

Contracts in Progress (CIP)		General Fund		Enterprise Fund	
	Month Reporting		Revenue	Expenditures	
9	21-Mar-21		62%	68%	84%
	Estimated	75%	75%	75%	75%
			13%	7%	-9%
			Below Rev..	Below Exp..	Above Rev. Above Exp.
Comments					

Industrial Park Update

Mr. Kirkner stated power in the Industrial Park has been completed and turned over to AEP.

Update-VDOT Urban Maintenance

Mr. Kirkner stated the town would receive approximately \$657,000 in lane mile reimbursements. July 1, 2021 begins our Urban Maintenance responsibilities. This will include Borman Street and Orchard Hills subdivision which is Pulaski County.

Special Election Update

Mr. Kirkner stated The Town of Dublin special Election candidate deadline is June 8th at 7pm. Candidate packages will be available beginning April 8th at the Registrar's Office. Candidate filings are due by June 8th at 7 pm and must be turned in to the Registrar's Office.

Commonwealth Attorney Traffic Stop Guidance

Mr. Kirkner stated council had in their packets a "CASC Guide 2021 Changes in Traffic Stop Law" that is very concerning. Changes will go into effect March 1, 2021. If a vehicle is stopped because of one of the listed violations, anything that is discovered or seized will be inadmissible in court.

Council Updates

Mr. Kirkner reported on the following updates (attached).

Things “Well Done” by staff and departments

Mr. Kirkner stated two employees have received the “Well Done” this month. Jr Moyer for his work on the electrical at the Industrial Park and Daniel Mitchell for his wood working skills in the Police Department.

Mayor Skeens asked for everyone to take a moment of silence for the recent passing of formal Sheriff Frank Connors.

Vote on Proposed Property Tax Increase

Mr. Campbell stated the advertisement has been run in the Patriot on March 19, 2021 and March 26, 2021, both dates are in compliance with the statute in advance of the hearing date and there is a quorum for voting. Steve Crigger made a motion for Real Estate levy to remain at 0.24 cents on the \$100 of value for fiscal year 2021/2022. Edith Hampton seconded.

Roll call:

Debbie Lyons Absent

Steve Crigger Yes

Dallas Cox Yes

Debbie Hager Absent

Edith Hampton Yes

Wayne Seagle Yes

Vote: 4-Yes; 2-Absent

Public Comments

There were no public comments. Mayor Skeens adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted

Clerk of Council
Tyler F. Kirkner