

Attendance:

Council:	Staff:	Public:
Mayor LeMond	Stacey Sparrow- Clerk	10
Vice-mayor Lewis		
Norma Spencer		
Barry Downing		
Matt Yancy		
Jackie Davis		
Wesley Travis- Absent		

Call to Order- Mayor LeMond 7pm.

Work Session- Discuss options to replace lost revenue stream.

Options-

1. Advertise for a new police officer
2. Contract with the Sheriff’s Department to provide patrolling of the town and write traffic fines.
 - Sheriff Doughty has checked with his people and there are 3 and possibly 4 deputies that would be willing to perform these duties.
 - The Town would pay the overtime rate of \$36 p/hr. (same as last year).
 - If the deputies use the Town’s police car, the rate would be \$26 p/hr. (a savings of \$10 per hour).
 - We would NOT need any of the ID Networks software. This would be handled through the Sheriff’s office.
3. Are there retired deputies that we could hire to provide police protection?
4. Implement a Real Estate Tax of \$.47 p/\$100 to bring in \$150,000 in revenue.
5. A Combination of any of the above.

Discussion:

Jackie Davis- Option 4 would increase revenue but it would bring a heavier work load on staff.
 Norma Spencer- Option 4 should be the very last resort. It is an undue burden on the resident’s.
 And the cost associated with taxing is very large.
 Barry Downing- Does not want tax on town’s people.
 Bo Lewis- No tax

Matthew Yancy- I agree tax should be the last option, I want to know if council wants to keep a police department. A deeper discussion needs to be had regarding this matter, I didn't agree with having a police department when it was originally formed but I believe that having a police department is valid to help grow the town. Not having a police department could hurt the town especially in trying to possibly do another boundary line adjustment.

Barry Downing- We has equipment we should use what we have. We should see about a part time officer but we do not need a chief of police. I think if we want to continue to grow we need to keep a department.

Norma Spencer- I am not in favor of a full time police department but I am not ruling it out for later in the future. We do not have large business districts. I would like to go back to a option with the NHCO Sheriff's office. Sheriff Doughty would put a nice package together for us. We need to thoroughly look at and vet all his options.

Bo Lewis- I Think it would be hard to find a part time police officer.

Jackie Davis- I was told multiple times that it was too much for one person, if we contracted with the NHCO Sheriff's office it would be one person, it would be a better work load. Retires would be short term option as most would only want to do it temporarily after retirement.

What would be the pros and cons of NHCO?

Larry LeMond- We would not want to lose the in town patrol.

Matthew Yancy- One concern in terms of growth, how would this work in order to get the we want growth having a police department would assist in getting to that point. Concern two I am against going with the NHCO Sheriff's office full time, but would be open to using it in the interim. Can we use the NHCO Sheriff's office while vetting and looking for a new officer. We are moving forward let's not move backwards. It says to me we are trying to sit back and relax and that our motivation is gone.

Jackie Davis- I would like to see strategic goal, this should not be our only source of revenue.

Matthew Yancy- If we move backwards it is only going to hurt the town.

Norma Spencer- Going back to NHCO would save us money. We need to look at it as using NHCO Sheriff while we move forward. We need to advertise for a full time police department.

Larry LeMond- If no one is available we may need to send someone to school and training.

Norma Spencer. If we have to have more meetings we will, we need to vet the process and look into it further.

Barry Downing- As long as David (Sheriff) is willing to work with us we should utilize him.

Larry LeMond- they work volunteer hours on a special events contract.

Barry Downing- Interviews, background checks and other things need to happen before we hire a new officer. I thought having our own police department was the only option we had at the time of implementing it, this time we should not move fast. Would David allow 90 days or to the end of the year?

Jackie Davis- the town is going to have difficulty finding officers because they do not offer VRS or high duty offers.

Norma Spencer- At one time the Sheriff hired a deputy for Nassawadox and that officer was under the Sheriff's health insurance workman's comp and Virginia Retirement systems. But when the hospital moved Nassawadox could no longer afford to pay the officer. Could David offer some sort of option like this?

Larry LeMond- When I spoke to David Doughty previously he stated that he was having a problem getting men to work his overtime program.

Matthew Yancy- We should have the sheriff come to our meeting to discuss options with us.

Larry LeMond- I will meet with David Doughty sign a special events contract until the end of the year to get them started. Will council but limitations on hours?

Council Consensus- No limitations if they produce.

Jackie Davis- I would vote no for having our own police department.

Norma Spencer- I would also vote no for having our own police department.

Barry Downing- I think if we could have the best of both worlds, go with NHCO until we find what we want to do. I can't see throwing good money after bad. Hate see us go in reverse.

Might go to the end of the year. The best of both worlds would be working with the sheriff and our own police department.

Bo Lewis- We have all this equipment no sense in wasting it.

Jackie Davis- We could recoup our losses by selling the items we have purchased. We do not have the revenue to support our own police department.

Matthew Yancy- How does it differ if the Sheriff's office is paying our way?

So it's okay to have the sheriff to fund our town but not having overhead. A police department is the sign of moving forward and growth. A police department is the sign of growth. Money is not the only important thing. If we can stretch this out for now so we know where we are and where we are going. I could not place a vote until more information is had.

Larry LeMond- Go back to the NHCO Sheriff's department for the short term.

Barry Downing- We should not move to fast.

Norma Spencer- Meeting every Wednesday is necessary to get this done.

Barry Downing- If you cannot give up a Wednesday night then get off the council.

Larry LeMond- I will meet with David Doughty right away, and also ask about a full time officer. I will also ask if they will use our car so it doesn't go bad.

Barry Downing- Allow the sheriff's office to use our equipment while we are checking out options. We do not need to move to fast.

Matthew Yancy- Where would our car be housed?

Barry Dowling- motion to talk to David Doughty (Sheriff for NHCO) about supplying us with deputies until the end of the year and pay any outstanding bills and try to hold off hookup of the ID Networks equipment.

2nd Norma Spencer

Uanimous

Absent- Wesley Travis

Matthew Yancy- At what point is there a time that the public has a chance to give input on the subject?

Larry LeMond- There are two public comment periods at each meeting to hear comments from the public.

We will discuss and explore all options open to us.

The next Scheduled meeting of council will be September 26th at 7pm.

A motion to adjourn from Barry Downing with a second from Bo Lewis and it was unanimous.

Stacey Sparrow
Clerk/Treasurer